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NOVEMBER 1901 VOL XIV NO 1 M.N 157

# THE KEY TO A MILLION AND A QUARTER HOMES

NEW YORK

AUGUSTA, MAINE.
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#### PRIZE STORIES.

The following conditions govern the awarding of cash prizes for Nulshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have compiled with all these requirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for anyone to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

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1. Only nersons who are regular paid up yearly subscribers to "Comfort" and who send with every manuscript at least four yearly subscribers (together with 25 rents to pay for each subscriber so sent) may compete for the prizes.

2. All contributions must have the number of words they contain yatuly noted thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with non-deplume if desired; must be written on one side of the pare only, enclosed in the same envelove as the letter and remitance for new subscriptions, and addressed to Editor Nutstrali, Story Club care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

3. All sovies must be strictly original with the contributors, and must not have appeared in print before. Competitors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adrenture, lore, war, peace; or city or country life, or of erpriences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 2,000 or less than 1,000 movis.

4. No manuscript will be returned under Any Circumstances and comfettions will be sent by check as soon as avards have been made.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Short Story Prize Offer.

The Publishers of "Comfort" reserves the right to purchase at their established rates any stories submitted under the foregoing after, which failed to secure a prize.

13. Will be given for subscriptions sent in under the foregoing after, which failed to secure a prize.

#### PRIZE WINNERS FOR NOVEMBER.

Howard M. Strong, First Prize. Ernest Jarrold, Second Prize. Kathryn R. Harris, Third Prize. Hubert Edmunds, Fourth Prize Col. Prentiss Ingraham, Fifth Prize.

#### Pearls of Price.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOWARD M. STRONG.

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HERE was a neatness and dispatch about the man's lying which commanded instant attention and gave him the floor after his first recital. The little crowd of passengers narrowed around the waiting-room stove and forgot their de-

layed connection, while he related the thrilling experience of himself and friend aboard a Chinese man-of-war during the battle of Yalu River.

"Just time for one more, pardner," said the red-faced man in the yachting cap. "If your throat's dry, have a look at this."

The "look" at the proffered flask had its direct result. The raconteur's tongue ran even more rapidly and he spoke with much greater

"My baptismal was something like Reichardt Wemys; but I have since contracted sufficient aliases to fill a city directory. The Duke of Grandtly has always been a favorite title, standing as it does for some of my most successful operations-instance the affair at Brookline.

"Having annexed a splendid string of matched pearls in London, we had hurried across the Atlantic in order to dispose of them for something like their true value. Dempsy was playing valet to my 'ludship' when we arrived in Boston. Over in the Back Bay district they rose to me like hungry trout after a red fly, and in two weeks I was completely swallowed, title and all.

"It was about this time that Dempsy grew jealous of my delightful position, and urged me to have done. Sentiment has always been my weak point, and on account of a Miss Greyton, for whom I had contracted a violent passion, I delayed operations until Dempsy threatened in his vulgar fashion to make a spill of the whole lay.

"Not without some compunction, I finally exhibited the pearls to Miss Greyton's amiable father, pleading my penury and family pride. An offer of five thousand was made on the spot. By deftly concocting a pedigree for each pearl, I succeeded in forcing the price up another thousand.

"The following day, an expert having passed on the pearls, Mr. Greyton wrote a check for six thousand dollars, and accompanied me to the bank in order that I might be identified. Furthermore, he confided to me that the pearls were intended as a present for his daughter on her twenty-first birthday.

"Dempsy received his share of the money and straightway vanished. Knowing well that they were nothing but paste, and poor paste at he would return sooner or later. I made myself comfortable and waited. Much of my time was spent at the Greytons, for Miss Louise insisted on having the history of each pearl repeated until she, herself, was familiar with every detail. It was a terrible tax on my imagination and memory, but I managed it creditably and never told two stories about the same pearl.



# Enameline

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LIQUID-BETTER YET! FIRE PROOF!!

"Dempsy had been gone almost a month pinched tonight. Got it straight." when I received my first call from the beautiful Mrs. Park-Simons.

SAME PRICE

"'I have come to you for help and advice in a great difficulty,' were her first words.

"'My dear madame,' I replied, 'you may rely on my secrecy and discretion.'

"'Thank you,' she cried gratefully. 'The truth of the matter is, I foolishly borrowed Miss Greyton's pearls, intending to wear them last night. They have been stolen from my room. I do not mind the loss if it is possible to replace them at once. We sail for Europe in three days. Can you remember just how they looked? I dare not tell Miss Greyton; she prized them so highly on account of their associations-the length of time they have been in your family, and all that.'

"I expressed a belief that the jewelers of the city might be able to duplicate the string from their various stocks. After the most urgent solicitation on the part of the lady, I consented to undertake the commission, my instructions being to spare no expense and never acquaint Miss Greyton with the deception.

"Scarcely had Mrs. Park-Simons departed when the familiar face of Dempsy arose from behind a divan. He winked several times in quick succession.

"'You villain!' I cried, the truth suddenly flashing across my mind, 'you lifted those pearls yourself!'

"Dempsy gravely shook his head.

"'Where are they?' I demanded.

"From one of his pockets he withdrew a small green ticket and held it before my eyes. The pearls had been pawned-pawned for fivehundred dollars.

"'The old fence knew they were stolen," Dempsy pleaded, vainly endeavoring to stay my wrath. 'He wouldn't give me a cent more. But if you want 'em for the lady, there's a turn that 'll bring the old boy up standing.' And with that he slid out of the room, reappearing later in the day with a policeman's uniform and a forged warrant for the arrest of the pawnbroker.

"It was a game we had often played before. and, as anticipated, everything worked smoothly. We cornered the pawn-broker in a little room back of his shop, and there Dempsy opened the seance.

"'I's pinched,' he growled, 'an' I've blowed. The cop wants you an' the pearls.'

"'You have long been suspected of these transactions,' I observed, flourishing my warrant before the trembling little animal. This affair will doubtless wind up your career for all time. You are the most dangerous fence in the city. Produce the stolen pearls.'

"'Take them, my friend,' he said; 'but don't say anything about it. I don't want to get a

bad reputation.' "'Impossible!' I replied. 'The law must

take its course.'

"The old fellow slyly introduced a hundred dollar bill in my hand and winked knowingly. "'Well,' I hesitated, 'perhaps this time we can let the matter drop, after restoring the property.'

"But where do I come in?' Dempsy complained. 'What's to prevent my leaking?'

"It took fifty dollars to purchase Dempsy's silence, but the old pawn-broker was only too glad to escape so easily.

"While I was shedding my policeman's uniform at our rooms, I saw Dempsy fingering the pearls, and slyly chuckling over our little piece of roguery.

"'How much will you tax the grand dame for the dewdrops, pard?' he questioned.

"'A sufficiency,' I replied. 'Clear out now, will you. she's almost due

"Mrs. Park-Simons winced at the price, but she was a thoroughbred and cleared the bars at a bound. There was no paying on the installment plan.

"Not long after this transaction, Dempsy's sharp eyes discovered that we were being shadowed. Some of our English friends had doubtless crossed the water on a hunting expedition. At all events the city would soon become too warm for our comfort, so we diligently turned our attentions to time tables and sailing lists. In this condition of mind I went to make a farewell call on Miss Greyton.

"'I am so glad you have come,' she said. 'I have forgotten the history of one pearl, and you must drill me in it again.'

"She produced the string of pearls, and at the same instant I made a startling discoverythat. Cutting short my visit, I started on the hunt of Dempsy. He was just entering the union station when I laid hands on him.

"'You old thief!' I panted.

"'Not so loud,' he cautioned, a dangerous

glitter in his eye. "'You have them,' I asked.

"'You don't need to guess again,' he grinned. 'Thought I'd better load up. We're goin' to be "'Give them to me, and light out,' I whisper-

"'Not on your life,' he sneered. 'This was a little deal of my own.'

"'Surrounded as we were on all sides, I drew my revolver and pressed the muzzle against his breast. For an instant he hesitated; then I felt a small packet slipped into my coat pocket.

"It was just ten o'clock when I again boarded the car for Brookline. The Greytons I knew would by that time have departed for a neighboring function, and the servants would all be in bed. The coast seemed clear for my little game of philanthropy-or whatever you may choose to call it. Effecting an entrance. I proceeded to Miss Greyton's apartments and secured the case containing the fake pearls. It was my intention to restore the genuine string and then follow Dempsy to pastures new. Just as the case opened in my hand, a voice sounded at my side.

"'I found it very hard to believe that you were a common thief,' Miss Greyton said quietly

"Instinctively my hand closed over my revolver, and I sprang toward the door. The moon was shining in at the open window and a glance showed me that the young woman had sunk down on a couch, burying her face in her hands.

"'You have nothing to fear,' she said, as I tried to creep away. 'The detectives are now watching your rooms. They made me their only confidante. I sent a warning to you by a faithful messenger. Humiliating as the confession is. I would do anything in my power to shield you from the law and to assist you to escape.

"A moment longer I stood silent and confounded. Then came the words hot and incoherent. I told her of my life, my sorrows, of the injustice I had suffered, of my fall from a position of honor and trust. I concealed nothing. She listened patiently. Taking courage, I detailed the episode of the pearls and explained my presence there that night.

'Thank God!' she cried out, 'you are not all bad. There is at least a spark of manhood which has not smouldered out. There is just one thing more and then I want you to go-out of my sight and out of my mind forever. Promise that you will try to live the life of an honest man, deceiving no one, and striving to make some heart happy in this hard, cruel world.

"It is needless to say that I promised. 'It only remains for me to restore the pearls,' I said, fumbling at Dempsy's package.

"'Nothing would induce me to touch them again,' she said. 'Take them away.'

"By this time the package was opened, but instead of the pearls there was a glittering array of diamonds.

"'My mother's!' cried Miss Greyton. 'Oh, where will this terrible business end!'

"Well," asked the man with the lobster eves and yellow suit-case, as the narrator arose and began to button his coat, "where did it end anyhow? Did you both escape?"

"I have never seen Dempsy since," Mr. Wemys

replied shortly.
"I suppose," interjected another listener, that Dempsy exchanged those pearls, and still has the originals?"

"Naturally."

"He did not," said the red-faced man with the yachting cap and flask. "The Park-Simons' gang took the originals back to England with the rest of their loot; in fact, they were arrested while trying to privately dispose of them. It's an old game of theirs. I was cabled up the American end of the case know so much about the affair, Mr. Grandtly, or Wemys, or whoever you are, that you must come along with me. I insist! The other wrist, too, please. Thank you. Would you prefer the baggage car or a day coach? That was our train whistling." 36

#### The Magical Mixtures. U

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ERNEST JARROLD.

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AM to be initiated into the Ancient Order of Nocturnals tonight. my dear," said Harold Brown to his wife across the dinner table.

"How many societies does that make, Harold, that you now belong to?" asked Mrs. Brown, with a sigh.

"Oh, that's only six benefit organizations, besides my three clubs,"

was the reply. "Of course my duties to these institutions deprive me of many pleasant hours in your society, my dear, but you must remember that in the event of my death you will receive a sufficient sum to keep you in comfort, indeed, I may say, in comparative affluence."

"Yes, I know all about that, Harold," said Mrs. Brown, who like nearly all married women never seriously considered the idea of her husband's death. "Still, your lodges and clubs keep you out so late at night that I'm afraid your health will suffer."

"Oh, I think not," replied Harold as he arose from the table and put on his overcoat. "Now don't sit up for me, because I shall not be home until two o'clock at least."

With a hasty parting kiss Harold bade his wife good by and the door closed behind him; then began another one of those long, dreary evenings for Mrs. Brown which had been so frequent for nearly three years. Somehow the savor had gone out of life for her. She recalled with deep regret the evenings eternities away, when Harold lay upon the lounge while she played his favorite nocturnes and etudes. She remembered distinctly the time when he had joined the Married Men's League, and the doleful tolling of the church clock as it marked the slowly passing hours while he was away. And when, three months later, Harold had announced his election to the exalted office of Chief Sword-Swallower of the Sons of Rest, she had felt no elation. Indeed, she resented his preferment as another encroachment upon her privileges as a wife. It meant to her one less trolley-ride a week, one more evening shy at the theatre. But, as time went on her husband became more lax in the discharge of his domestic duties, and assumed the office of Grand Polisher of the Armor-Bearers. She had mildly protested at this distinction, but Herold partly won her over with the argument that the office would help him in his business and give him a wider acquaintance. This argument the wives of "j'iners" have heard very often and with the unreasonableness of women have never believed.

By this time Mrs. Brown began to realize that lodge-joining had become a habit with her husband. He talked of nothing else. The house was littered with pamphlets and papers concerning lodges. Harold became positive that lodges of various kinds would ultimately solve the great question of co-operation. emancipate the laboring man from his thralldom, and teach capitalists a powerful lesson in Christian charity.

In order that he might spread these ideas among the ignorant masses Harold became a member of the Ancient and Honorable Order of After-Dinner Speakers. When Mrs. Brown objected mildly Harold told her that it was necessary for him to improve his oratory and the after-dinner-society would furnish him with the opportunity to do so.

Up to this time Mrs. Brown had believed. like the faithful wife she was, that Harold's arguments were unanswerable. Having complete confidence in his discretion and judgment, she had never even suspected that his logic was deceptive and his actions regarding lodges somewhat reprehensible. But the mention of the after-dinner speakers aroused her to serious thought on the subject.

She reasoned to herself: What right had her

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She saw, with a fluttering heart, that her cheeks were not so rosy as they had been, and there was a pallor on her face which she had never noticed before. Was that a wrinkle in her forehead? Yes. And there were several little crow's feet near her eyes. Mrs. Brown also noticed with dismay that her hair was not | your lodge dues and assessments, not oneso carefully arranged as it might have been, and she had placed no roses in the clustering brown tresses. Her dress was neat and attractive, but it was not of the color that Harold liked. She was deciding to remedy all time is taken up looking after my medicines these defects so far as possible, when her thoughts were disturbed by the ringing of the door-bell and the appearance of Ellen with a letter in her hand.

"Madam", said Ellen, "there's a leddy down stairs that axed me would I give you this." The letter read as follows:

DEAR MRS. HAROLD BROWN:—The bearer, Mrs. Roger Van Rensselaer, is a person of eminent respectability who desires to see you on a matter of business. You may rely absolutely upon her trustworthiness.

Yours sincerely, REV. S. H. TAYLOR.

St. Lukes' M. E. Parsonage.

Seated in the parlor, Mrs. Van Rensselaer be-

gan at once: "Permit me, Mrs. Brown, to express my thanks for your very cordial reception. My husband died about two months ago, leaving me in reduced circumstances. Since that time I have been forced to earn my own living. I

have been so fortunate as to meet the celebrated Mrs. Wisdom, originator of the Elixir of Life, the Essence of Physical Immortality, the worldremowned Lilac-Blossom Butter, and a dozen other remedies for beautifying and rejuvenating the female person. I have become an agent to present her discoveries to the public. You know, my dear Mrs. Brown, that male physicians are lamentably ignorant of the ills to which we week women are subject. Mrs. Wisdom is a pupil of the Yogi's of India, a graduated physician, and a woman of extraordinary gifts. Her remedies have this advantage, that if they do not cure they will do no harm. For instance, I notice that your cheeks home as early as you can, won't you, my love." have a sallow appearance. This indicates that your liver is inactive. I would advise you to take one teaspoonful of Mrs. Wisdom's Deodorizer (\$2 per bottle) on rising in the morning, he jumped on a car. and one teaspoonful of Corpuscle Tonic (\$3 per of Marvellous Secret (\$5 per bottle) in each her chair, she soliloquized: pint of water. This remarkable remedy was found by Mrs. Wisdom in the Delphic Temple in Delhi, where the celebrated oracles were made. After bathing, wash carefully with with a rough towel and apply Emollient Lotion No. 1 (\$1 per box). Allow lotion to dry on. Before retiring, apply Emollient Lotion No. 2 (\$1.50 per box), and let it remain on the skin all night. The Lilac Blossom Butter may be used twice a week in place of Lotion No. 2 (\$3 per box; small boxes \$2)."

Here Mrs. Van Rensselaer ran out of breath and enabled Mrs. Brown to ask:

"Have you anything which will remove wrinkles?"

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"Yes, indeed," replied Mrs. Van Rensselaer

eagerly.

"The Blood and Liver Tonic (\$3 per bottle) is warranted to remove moth patches and wrinkles. In connection with this you might | face was covered with a substance which lookuse Mrs. Wisdom's Skin Food. This is an infallible remedy. Used judiciously, together swathed in bandages which resembled boxingwith the Blood and Liver Tonic, the Complexion Bleach, the Corpuscle Tonic, the Excelsior Soap, and the various emollient lotions, it is sure to make your skin like a rose-leaf. Then he said: Excuse me, I forgot to tell you that the Skin Food comes in two sizes, price \$1.50 and \$2.00."

When Mrs. Van Rensselaer went away half an hour later she was in a very pleasant frame of mind. She had made a bargain with Mrs. Brown which included all of the tonics, lotions emollients, bleaches, and other preparations in her catalogue.

The next day a large box arrived by express at the house, containing nearly forty bottles and hoxes of various mixtures. The clock, the vases, and the various ornaments were removed from the dining-room mantels, and in their places were arrayed the bottles and boxes. Each bore a flaming legend in gold letters.

Mr. Brown gazed in amazement at this formidable array when he came in to dinner.

"Are you starting a drug store, my dear?" he asked his wife.

"Oh no," she replied with charming ingenuousness. "But, Harold, I have not been well for some time. I have not said anything about it to you, for fear that you might feel impelled to stay at home and thus neglect your lodge duties, which I know are important and imperative. Still, I have consulted the renowned Mrs. Wisdom, and she says I am in a really

husband to neglect her in the way he did? so much recently that my nerves and muscles Philanthropy began at home, and if anybody | have become flaccid. Mrs. Wisdom says that was entitled to be entertained and instructed her Skin Food is an infallible remedy for this weakness. You will notice, my love, that those naughty wrinkles near my eyes are going away, that perhaps she was to blame. Impossible! and I have used the Blood and Liver Tonic only once. Just think of that, darling."

Darling grunted his disbelief, and Mrs. Brown resumed:

"Really, I am delighted that I went to see this charming woman, Harold. In the course of a month I shall be as youthful and charming as I was before you joined the Nocturnals."

"But, my dear," said Harold, "isn't this rather expensive?"

"Why no, you silly fellow. That's the charm about it. It isn't one quarter so expensive as quarter. Besides, it keeps me busy in the long hours when you are away educating the masses, and I do so want to make myself attractive in your eyes. You would hardly believe how my in their proper order. In the morning I must take the Deodorizer for the coarse pores in my hands. At noon I must not forget my Corpuscle Tonic, besides the Marvellous Secret for my general health and-

"Yes, yes, I suppose so," said Harold impatiently. "But you can tell me the rest tomorrow. I am in a hurry. The Special Commandery of the Armor-Bearers meets to-night, and I must bid you good-by."

Harold raised his wife's chin for the customary parting kiss, but she sprang away exclaim-

"Harold, how careless of you! My lips are covered with Mrs. Wisdom's Lilac Blossom Butter. It has been on for only three hours and it must remain for twelve hours at least to prove of any service. You naughty fellow, I'm ashamed of you."

Harold had never been repulsed before by his wife, and he was as much surprised as if a trolley-car had struck him.

"All right," he exclaimed as he strode toward the door. "I can assure you that I will not offend in a similar manner again soon."

Scarcely had he reached the foot of the stairs, when his wife cried over the balusters:

"Oh, Harold, won't you please stop at Gazzam's on your way down town and get me a small bottle of Mrs. Wisdom's Pepsin Gastric Promoter. Get a small bottle for \$2, that's a dear. I want it for indigestion. You know I have had no exercise to speak of since you joined the After-Dinner Society. And you'll come

Harold made no reply, but banged the door so hard that all the windows rattled. He could have chewed up a piece of barbed wire as

His wife went back to the dining-room and bottle) at noon time and before retiring. In laughed until the servant thought she had an the morning use in your bath one teaspoonful attack of hysteria. Throwing herself back in

"Ha, ha! That Gastric Promoter broke his heart, poor fellow. And when he didn't get the kiss, I thought I should burst out laughing in his face, he looked so glum. I never Mrs. Wisdom's Soap (25 cents per cake). Dry heard of such remarkable medicine before. It is working wonders."

Harold came home unusually early that night. He had a half-defined idea that his wife's mind was affected, and felt a trifle remorseful. But in the morning she greeted him with the old-time affectionate smile, a trifle marred, perhaps, because it shone through a thick covering of grease-paint mixture called Emollient No. 2.

For a week Mrs. Brown talked of nothing but Mrs. Wisdom's magical remedies, until Harold was driven to desperation. But the climax was reached when one morning he came home at 3 o'clock and found his wife lying in a reclining chair apparently asleep. Her ed like whitewash, while her hands were gloves.

Harold was a man of action when roused. He shook his wife roughly until she awoke.

"Nellie, I'm getting sick of this greasy lotion, marvellous emollient the deodorizer, skin-food nonsense, and I'll quit the Sons of Rest."

"But how about the Armor-Bearers?" asked Mrs. Brown.

"Well, I'll let them go, too. I'm getting tired of them anyhow."

"How about the After-Dinner Speakers and the Nocturnals?"

"Look here, Nellie. If the Corpuscle Tonic and the Lilac Blossom Butter go into the sewer, I'll give them all up."

"You dear boy, of course they shall all go if it will please you. But there is no use in throwing the bottles away, because they contain only coffee and blueing water. I bought only the labels and the empty bottles from Mrs. Wisdom."

"What!"

"Yes, you great goose. The Lilac Blossom Butter was only tomato ketchup, and the Skin Food rye flour.'

Then they laughed, Harold a little shamefacedly. But when Mrs. Brown went into the bath-room a minute later, there was a little clean spot upon her rounded cheek and upon dangerous condition. I have remained in-doors | Harold's lips a suspicious whiteness.

#### Brown's Memorable Drive.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY KATHRYN R. HARRIS.

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ROWN was thoroughly outdone. Here he was six miles from home. the rain falling steadily, his sisterin-law expected on the down train in half an hour, and not a conveyance obtainable. It

would not have been such an uncompromising situation if they had not telegraphed Sister Lou was very ill, and to come prepared for an invalid. The liveryman lent a sympathetic ear, but was helpless to cope with circumstances. Every buggy and surrey in the stable had gone to camp-meeting that day, and would not be in until after the evening service. There was absolutely nothing left in the stable.

"But I tell you, man, I am obliged to get home tonight," insisted Brown, "for my wife is alone and expecting me. She would never imagine a state of things like this, and if I should wait until morning there would be two invalids on my hands instead of one. Haven't you a spring wagon or something on wheels?"

"There is just one wheeled thing left, Brown the hearse."

"The hearse." Brown echoed the words mechanically, looking out at the rain and chewing his moustache dejectedly. Then grim necessity bred an awful inspiration in his brain. "Why man, what better? It would be the

very thing for a sick person, a regular ambulance in fact, and no better protection from the weather could be afforded. Besides, it will be night and we will probably not meet a soul on the way. Why not use that?"

"But the thought of it!" remonstrated the liveryman.

"Oh. the thought of it amounts to nothing," said Brown, who was not troubled with an over supply of imagination, "it is a question of ventilation. Can you arrange that?"

They pulled the black object from its place and examined it, finding that by proper adjustment it could be made to accommodate the living as well as the dead.

"Hitch her up," ordered Brown without further parley.

But the man still hesitated. "How about the patient herself? Do you suppose she will be willing to ride in it?"

"If she is as sick as they say, she won't know the difference. Besides it will be padded up with quilts and such things inside, and it will be so dark she will never see the outside. Of course I don't expect you to tack on the plumes and other regalia like a high noon funeral, but rub it down as decent and sober as you can. Then come down to the depot and help me load up. After that I can manage."

"Well of all nervy undertakings! I've been in the business a long time, Brown, but this takes the ribbon. You can have the thing and I won't charge you a cent for the funeral."

In less than half an hour Centerville's one conveyance for the dead was at Brown's disposal, and that victor over contending circumstances, anxious but elated, mounted the high seat and drove down to the deserted depot, halting in the deep shadow of the building, where the light from the one street lamp near by could not penetrate.

When the train came in it was a delicate task, and the success of the experiment seemed to depend upon getting the invalid into this improvised ambulance without arousing her suspicion. But so ill was she indeed, that when the crucial moment arrived she most opportunely lost consciousness, and Brown and the man he had taken into his confidence, stowed her away without encountering any serious difficulty.

So out into the thickening darkness drove Brown, perched alone upon the front of that gruesome vehicle, with no mourners to share the tedium of the journey, and only old Jacob, the rat-terrier, to bring up the procession in the rear. The rain continued to fall and the five miles of gloomy woodland which stretched before him looked dark and menacing.

Brown thought of something now which had not occurred to him before in his anxiety to reach home that night—that the man who murdered old man Jackson a few days before was said to be a fugitive from justice in that very woods. Indeed, a posse from town that day had scoured the swamps in search of him, and returned to report the discovery of footprints in a bog some miles below. What if, rendered desperate by hunger and pursuit, this escaped criminal should turn robber as well as murderer and fall upon unoffending travelers. True, it would be a very desperate character indeed who would attack a hearse with any hope of reward, but in the dense gloom of this night he would not be able to distinguish the character of the vehicle. Besides, Brown was totally unarmed. He was no coward but he recognized his limitations.

But there is some comfort to be found in every extremity, and the one reflection which

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Racine, Wis.

Racine, Wis. Dr. Shoop, Box 304.

rendered this one endurable to Brown was that Sister Lou lay mercifully unconscious of the situation. He would call a halt now and then, and go back to examine how she did. He found her the last time just as he had left her the first-almost as still as a corpse in reality, her white hands lying pitifully inert by her side, her young face wearing the pallor and repose of death itself. He wondered casually if what his wife had said was true, that her misunderstanding with Lester, and the broken engagement following had brought on this illness. Surely the girl was not so lamely constructed. The idea of allowing a silly love affair to affect one's health.

Brown could not remember that he had ever lost a meal on the subject, but then his wife had sensibly said "yes" when he asked her and they had never dallied about and given themselves trouble quarrelling over foolish differences. When two people suited-Brown rejected the word he had once applied to such compatibility-when two people suited each other as Lester and Sister Lou, why on earth could they not come to a settled determination, and abide by it.

But there was one thing very apparent now, and that was that Lester and Lou had probably had their last quarrel, for if Brown was any had their last quarrel, for it Brown was any judge, the girl in the hearse might as well be there for the last time for all the good any further treatment was going to do her. With this sad reflection Brown adjusted the door so as to admit the air properly and climbed back to his seat in front.

They had reached the most treacherous piece of the road by this time, and with the added difficulties of water and darkness, all his attention was required to direct the cumbersome

tion was required to direct the cumbersome









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vehicle in a line of safety. So engrossed were his thoughts upon this purpose that the escaped murderer had dropped entirely from his mind, when of a sudden a voice from the darkness called "Halt!" and a threatening shot rang out into the air. Brown obeyed—in fact under the circumstances it was the easiest thing to do, for the hearse had just run upon a snag somehow and hung fast, and the horses refused to move. "Who comes here?" demanded the same voice

approaching.
"Nobody that will be of any service to you," returned Brown peering out into the darkness to locate the criminal. "I have got no money of any consequence and certainly nothing else

of any consequence and certainly nothing else you could desire."

"Who said you had? It is you I want. Throw up your hands and advance."

"Well as for throwing up my hands, that is easy enough," acquiesced Brown complacently, "but what earthly good it will do you is more than I can make out. I have got no weapon and you can't see two inches from your nose a night like this." night like this."
"Come forward!" was the impatient com-

"Don't know but you've got the advantage of me there stranger, and had better do the politic act yourself. Here's the old thing hitched up on a stump and she won't budge an inch."

There was a moment's lull in hostilities, during which the man was joined by another, and

they both advanced upon the hearse.

"He is either crazy or up a tree," Brown heard the first one remark to his comrade.

"No, I'm not," denied Brown indignantly, "strike a match and see."

"Oh, you don't come any little game like that over us my man. Come down from your perch over us, my man. Come down from your perch and give up. We are going to take you dead or alive."

"Oh, you are, are you? Well maybe you want another corpse along with mine. You can take us both together." With which startcan take us both together." With which start-ling announcement Brown quickly descended from his seat, and taking from his pocket the dry box he had used before that night, struck a match before they realized his intention. As the brief light flashed up revealing himself and the hearse, the two men fell back in extreme astonishment and awe. The discovery was a shocking one. "Why Brown, is it you?" It was the second Why Brown, is it you?" It was the second

man who spoke, recovering himself, and there was a familiar ring in the voice which caused Brown to strike another match and stare at him

through the circle of light.

"Lester, you idiot! I thought this man the criminal who shot old man Jackson, and yourself his accomplice. What on earth did you take me for?"

"The same, of course. We are out in search

"The same, of course. We are out in search of him. What a terrible mistake! Suppose I had killed you?"

"Well it is no worse than you have probably done already." Brown was thinking of the girl in the hearse and how hopeless she looked. Moreover he had suffered wrong and the weap ns of revenge were at hand. His purpose was formed instantly. For once in his life Brown rose to the level of the dramatic.

"Lester," he said in lower tone, "can you not guess who lies here? There are other weapons as fatal as the pistol shot."

Then the match came into play again, while Brown threw open the door and lit up the interior of the hearse, disclosing the girl Lester loved lying pale and still within.

Nobody ever knew what Lester said. The shock was so unexpected and so far beyond

shock was so unexpected and so far beyond what Brown's limited imagination had pictured that for a time he thought the man had lost his reason. But now the redeeming event of his reason. But now the redeeming event of the night's thrilling experience occurred, for Sister Lou, having long since partially recovered consciousness, was roused to a fuller realization of life by hearing her lover's voice proclaiming her name in accents of despairing tenderness. It was a strange but fortunate delusion, however, to which she awoke.

"Yes, dear," she whispered weakly, "I know it was a sad misunderstanding but here in Heaven we shall be happy now—always."

Then she fell backward and slept naturally.

"Well," said Brown, "her idea of Heaven is certainly different from mine, but all the same we won't tell her any better until we get home."

But it was not until many months afterwards, when she was safely enjoying her share of earthly happiness as Mrs. Lester, that he dared reveal the secret of that memorable

#### The Great House-Bear Sweepstakes.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HUBERT EDMUNDS.

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SEEN most all kinds of races there is," said - the old man with the grizzled whiskers. "I've seen hoss races, foot races, an yacht races, an' sack races, an' lots of other kinds, but I allow the excitinist one I ever

seen was a race betwixt a cinnamon b'ar an' a log house.

"Perhaps it warn't a race exactly in accordance with the rules of the Racin' Association. There warn't no time-keeper, nor no officials at the gates to take tickets. It was a good deal of what they call a 'scrub race', but as I said, it was excitin', an' the stakes was middlin' high, bein' four human critters' lives, each man holdin' his own stake so to speak, an' eventually all of us winnin'-that is, we saved our lives, but nothin' more. In fact, we lost by the sport.

"It was this way. I'd been prospectin' up on the Little Bassamette for a long time without findin' color, an' I'd got kind of tired of proddin' the buzzum of Mother Earth with a pick without any response on her part, so I kind o' settled down nigh the trail an' built a log shack an' planted a little garden, allowin' that some of my feller bein's might come along hungry, an' if they did I could feed 'em, an' if they arrove when I was dry an' they had the means of dispellin' my drought I was so much

to the good. Anyways I was livin' there as but just then there happened what the circus happy as Adam in the Garden before Eve came people call the 'most spectacular feature' of the an' begun to holler for a new Easter apron even whole outfit. little while

ery little while.

'Well, one day after I'd been there a year or two, three fellers came along and camped down two, three fellers came along and camped down on me, an' they allowed they was prospectin' for gold, too. I told 'em there wasn't gold enough in the county to fill a hen's teeth, but they larfed me to scorn an' allowed they knowed a heap more about gold than I did. Anyways they went out every mornin' with a pick an' a spade, an' a pan an' a flask of amalgam, an' every same mornin' they allowed they'd strike it rich before night; but 'when night come o'er the plain an' moonlight o'er night come o'er the plain an' moonlight o'er the sea,' as we used to sing in Sunday school, they'd allow they hadn't made progress enough to report on.

"Well, they kep' at it for three or four weeks m' weil, they kep at it for three or four weeks an' was just about ready to agree that I was more'n half right, when, lo an' behold you they struck a lead of pay rock not more'n twenty rod from the shack an' as they opened it up it appeared to run right towards the house, an' every blast they put in brought 'em nearer as well as showin' better color as they

nearer as well as showin' better color as they proceeded.

"In course that night there was a celebration at the shack, kind of impromptu in its nature, but as spontaneous as spontaneous combustion himself. I happened to think of a demijohn that an Englishman with megaphone clothes an' half a pair of spectacles had left a few months before, an' I added the remainin' contents to the festivities an' after that everything tents to the festivities an' after that everything

tents to the festivities an' after that everything 'went as merry as a marriage bell.'
"I hadn't paid no attention to their diggin' an' prospectin', so I didn't know which way the lead run 'til they told me that night, an' they allowed they was goin' to foller right along 'til they struck a big vein, an' they also suggested that there was a possibility that unless there was a change of course in the lead they was follerin' that my log shack would more'n likely be wasted on the desertair. I didn't like that particularly well, because when that house left the surface of the earth I was a homeless wandere an' liable to be took up next time the sheriff come along as a vagrant, which warn't sheriff come along as a vagrant, which warn't

sheriff come along as a vagrant, which warn't no particular cause of rejoich'.

"We drank up all the Englishman's booze an' smoked all my tobacker, an' all at once an idea struck me—why couldn't we hist the log shack up an' put it on rollers an' move it up the hill into the thick bush out of the way of blastin', in that way savin' the bother of buildin' a new camp which'd take a heap longer'n to move the old one. The others allowed it was a good scheme, an' we arranged to have a movin' party consisting of ourselves as soon as we got returns from the white settlement where we sent the jug next day with a hurry-up order we sent the jug next day with a hurry-up order tied to the handle. "While we was waitin' for the demijohn, an'

more especially the contents, we fixed a place all ready for the shack about seventy-five or a hundred yards up the hill, an' laid down poles to make a kind of track to roll the mansion up

"In due time we got our liquid encouragement, an' then we moved out all the furniture, consistin' of a barrel of potatoes, a ham, a coffee-pot an' a couple of buckets of nitroglycerine—you see in them days they hadn't begun to mix glycerine with dope an' makin' dynamite an' rendrock an' all those things, but we just used the liquid glycerine an' you bet it was a mighty particular job to handle it too. One of the men took the two buckets over into the timber just beyond where we was goin' to set up housekeepin' agin, an' when he came back we histed the shack up an' put rollers under an' started to 'roll the old chariot along' as one of 'em kep' a singin', an' we got a pretty good move on her when it was suggested that we better tap the demijohn at this stage of the game, an' no one objectin' we proceeded to do "In due time we got our liquid encouragegame, an' no one objectin' we proceeded to do

"As I swung the jug up to my shoulder I piked a bear out of the slant of my lamps a-eatin' out of one of them buckets of giveerine.

It's sweeter'n honey you know an' bears is 'tarnal fond of honey, an' this particular cinnamon seemed to think that a table had been prepared before him in the presence of his

enemies.

"I didn't speak out loud, but I called the boys' attention an' with a degree of unanimity seldom equalled an' never excelled we proceeded to evacuate that propinquity, an' of course when we all let go, the house started to trundle back down the hill agin'.

"The cinnamon havin' devoured the glycerine in both buckets an' havin' still a appetite for further sport looked up just as the shack started to roll, an' perhaps havin' an idee that there was more grub aboard, the b'ar started to investigate. Of course, the house kep' agoin' faster 'n' faster an' so did the b'ar, an', after a bit we fellers seen the beast warn't after us, so we turned 'round to see what we should see. we turned 'round to see what we should see

we turned 'round to see what we should see.

"Well, what we seen was the shack runnin'
down like a train of cars an' the b'ar gainin'
every jump, an' after a bit the brute got near
enough to make one big jump through the
door makin' himself a passenger so to speak,

"Quicker'n a wink after the b'ar secured inside passage for himself the house struck a boulder that interfered with further progress, an' the gait she was goin' gave it considerable of a jolt. The result was that some of the logs in the roof fell down on the bearskinful of in the roof fell down on the bearskinful of nitro glycerine, an' the result was something to make the children lay down their playthings. There was a flash an' a roar like about nineteen thunderstorms an' a earthquake all in one package, an' then the circumambient atmosphere was dark with splinters an' little tufts of hair an' minute chunks of b'ar meat, they warn't recognizable individually as sech, but was inst like dust, but in course we knew but was just like dust, but in course we knew what it was.

"By good fortune I'd kep' the demijohn in my hand when we all started to run, so things warn't so bad as they might have been, al-though in course we had to build a new camp

"There you have an account of a race novel in its inception an excitin' in execution, and the best feature of all is-true."

#### A Dream Omen.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY COL. PRENTISS INGRAHAM.

Copyright, 1901, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher



F you are killed in Cuba, Donald, I believe my heart will break, for you are all I have to love."

"I will put you to the test, Mildred."

"How do you mean, Donald?"

"You know I am not superstitious?"

"Far from it, for I verily believe you believe nothing, you do not see."

"My soldier's training has made me practical, and skeptical as well. I do not believe in ghosts, yet, as you have said if I am killed in Cuba-and there is

as fair a chance for me as for others-that it would kill you, I say, if my soul, spirit, or call it what you may, can appear to you after death, I, or it, shall do so the moment that I fall or

#### A BOTTLE OF MEDICINE FREE.

Any of our readers can secure a trial bottle of Swanson's "5-DROPS" free of charge by cutting out the coupon which appears in their advertisement in this issue and sending it with their name and address to Swanson Rheumatic Cure Co., Chicago. We advise you to send for a bottle of the state bottle at once before they withdraw their offer.

"How does that put me to the test, Captain Donald Gray?"

"Why, I will know if your love for me is so great, that when you see me dead, feel that I have come to you in spirit form, then will I discover if your words are true, that my death will kill you, Mildred, or whether, after a brief period of mourning you will forget your dead soldier and marry another fellow."

"If I believed you were in earnest, Donald Gray, I could not love you; but let me tell you now, as you are going away, that love with me is my whole existence, and for you to die would mean that I would quickly follow you to the grave. So remember, if your spirit self comes to me I shall take its coming as a warning that you are dead and bid me follow you into the Great Unknown."

"I shall be content, Mildred, to cross the Great Divide, so long as you accompany me inferent Divide, so long as you accompany me in-

Great Divide, so long as you accompany me into the realm of Ghostland, although I confess I would like for both of us to linger here where I would like for both of us to linger here where things are tangible, real, in the flesh rather than in the spirit. Then, too, I do feel anxious about leaving you for another," and handsome Donald Gray, Captain of Cavalry, U. S. Army, smiled half in earnest, half in dread. "Donald Gray, you are a brave man—you do not fear to die!" suddenly asserted, rather than asked Mildred Carroll, with almost startling earnestness, while she gazed into his eyes with a look that seemed to penetrate to his heart.

a look that seemed to penetrate to his heart.

"I believe, Mildred, that I come of a race in whose make-up fear found no part."

"That has been your record, I know, and I am well aware that you are daring far beyond discretion and have won your promotions, all of them, from Cadet to Captain."

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You may die any minute—anywhere. Heart troubles, You may die any minute—anywhere. Heart thouses, dangerous as they are, can be instantly recognized by all. No doctor can tell better than you if your heart is out of order. If you have any of the following symptoms, don't waste any time. Get my Heart Tablets at once. Fluttering, palpitation, or skipping beats (always due to weak or diseased heart); shortness of breath from

going upstairs, walking, etc.; tenderness, numbness or pain in left side, arm or under shoulder blade; fainting spells, dizziness, hungry or weak spells; spots before the eyes; sudden starting in sleep, dreaming, nightmare;

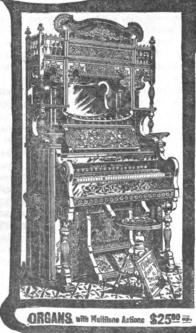
# Disease

choking sensation in throat; oppressed feeling in chest; cold hands and feet; painful to lie on left side; dropsy swelling of the feet or ankles (one of the surest signs) neuralgia around the heart; sudden deaths rarely result

They will restore you to health and strength as they have hundreds of other men and women.

FREE To prove how absolutely I believe in them, to prove that they will do exactly what I say, I will send a box free to any name and address sent me. One trial will do more to convince you than any amount of talk. It will cost you nothing, and may save your life. Send for a trial box and enclose stamp for postage.

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SCENE IN THE SLOCUM LABORATORIES, NEW YORK CITY. Dr. Slocum Demonstrating to Medical Men, Scientists, Statesmen and Students the value of the New Slocum System of Treatment for the Permanent Cure of Consumption, Catarrh and all Pulmonary and Wasting Diseases.

Are your lungs weak? Do you cough? Do you have pain in chest? Do you spit up phlegm? Is your throat sore and inflamed? Does your head ache? Is your appetite bad? Do you have night sweats? Are you losing flesh? Are you pale, thin and weak? Do you have ringing in ears? Do you have hot or cold flashes? Is there dropping in throat? Is the nose dry and stuffy? Have you a coated tongue?

These symptoms indicate that you may have in your body the seeds of the most dangerous malady that has ever devastated the earth—consumption.

Wou are invited to test what the Slocum Sincerely.

You are invited to test what the Slocum System will do for you.

They make thin, coughing consumptives strong in body, in mind, and in lung, and bring to a stop those who are hurrying to the grave. They lengthen life and make it worth the living.

Wait and be sure that I was an Fight.

Sincerely.

BR. T. A. SLOCUM,

DEAR SIR:—Pardon me for not writing sooner and thanking you for the medicine you so kindly sent. It has cured me of a bring to a stop those who are hurrying to the grave. They lengthen life and make it worth the living.

Wait and be sure that I was an Fight.

Sincerely.

DEAR SIR:—Pardon me for not writing sooner and thanking you for the medicine you so kindly sent. It has cured me of a bring to a stop those who are hurrying to the grave. They lengthen life and make it worth the living. These symptoms indicate that

Consumption, the bane of those who have been brought up in the old-fashioned beliefs that this disease was hereditary, that it was fatal, that none could recover who were once firmly clasped in its relentless grip.

But now known to be curable, made so by the NEW discoveries of that man whose name has been given to this new system of treatment.

Now known to be preventable and curable by following and practicing his teachings.

The new Slocum system of treatment will cure you of consumption and of all diseases which can be traced back to weak lungs as a foundation.

It is not a drug system, but a system of germ destruction and body building.

Not guesswork, but science.

Not a step backward, but a stride out of the old ruts.

In plain English, a system of modern scientific disease curing.

The Slocum System of Treatment consists of Four Preparations, which act simultaneously and supplement each other's curative action.

The ailments of women and deli-

The ailments of women and delicate children are speedily relieved and cured.

**New Cure for** Tuberculosis **Consumption Weak Lungs** Catarrh and a Run-Down System.

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DR. T. A. SLOCUM,

DEAR SIR:—I write to thank you for the Remedies that you sent at my request, and to tell you that I obtained wonderful results from them. A sore spot in my left Lung that has been there two years has been entirely cured, and my Throat and Chest give me no more trouble. I shall take pleasure in recommending your Remedies to everyone.

Yours very gratefully,

MRS. JOHN MOPPS.

DR. T. A. SLOCUM. TRENTON, TENN., Feb. 12, 1901.

DEAR Sir:—I willingly certify that I have used your wonderful preparations and all the dreadful symptoms have been destroyed. I followed your instructions in taking the Ozomulsion which is a perfect food for the Lungs and it did all that you claimed. Excuse me for not writing sooner; I merely wanted to wait and be sure that I was all right.

Sincerely. LUTHER CHRISP.

OF TONICS BARROWN ON PARTY DE THINKING

THE WAY TO HEALTH.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—The Slocum System of treatment for the cure of Consumption, and nearly all the ills of life, is medicine reduced to an exact science by the world's foremost specialist, and our readers are urged to take advantage of Dr. Slocum's generous offer.

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By their timely use thousands of apparently hopeless cases have been permanently cured.

The Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil is needed by some, the Tonic by others, the Expectorant by others, the Ozojell Cure for Catarrh by others still, and all four, or any three, or two, or any one, may be used singly or in combination, according to the needs of the case. Full instructions with each set of four free remedies represented in the illustration.

WRITE TO THE DOCTOR.

Send your address in full to DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 98 Pine St., New York, and the Four Free Preparations will be at once forwarded to you with full directions for use in any case. When writing, please mention reading this in Comport and be sure to give name and post office and express address in full.

"And am depending upon the Spaniards to put stars in my shoulder straps, for if they will help me to get a Brigadiership before I am thirty-five, I will forgive them many misdeeds." "Then to win your stars do not sacrifice life, for dead men are not promoted, Donald; but now to my warning, for such it is." "Well, Mildred, out with it, for I'll heed it, if only to save you, for you know what you said."

"And meant, for once more I repeat that your death would kill me, and—and twice in a dream, Donald, I have seen you fall dead under Spanish fire."

death would kill me, and—and twice in action, Donald, I have seen you fall dead under Spanish fire."

"Dreams go by contraries, Mildred."

"You are laughing at me, I can see, but let me tell you that I saw you fall, while leading your men up a hill, and amid dense tropical undergrowth. You were on foot, the nature of the ground not admitting of a mount, and you carried your sword in your left hand, for your right hung by your side, broken by a bullet.

"I saw it, oh! so vividly in my dream, not once, but twice, Donald, and it so impressed me that after dreaming it on another night, the very next in fact, I arose and sketched the scene, and yesterday I painted it, just as all appeared be fore me."

"Have you this painting, Mildred?"

"Yes, and the sketch."

She left the room for a few moments and returned with a hastily drawn but well executed sketch im pencil, and a painting of the same scene, for she was an artist of considerable interest.

"A fine, stirring picture, Mildred, and on

"A fine, stirring picture, Mildred, and one to remember. I will keep the sketch and do you have the painting framed, if only to show

you have the painting framed, if only to show years herice how dreams go by contraries."
"Oh, may it prove so, Donald; but I have told you to warn you for my sake, if not your own, to be careful of your life. You will promise me, Donald?"

"Yes, I promise, Mildred. Now sing me the song of the soldier." After my dream it seems like an omen of

"Omens of evil I have no fear of," he answered lightly, and seating herself at the piano she sang the song he had asked for, her voice quivering as she uttered the words:

"And his eyes were fixed upon the cannon's blaze And heavily he drew his breath; For he felt that short were the soldier's days— And dark were the shades of death."

She bowed her head upon her hands and burst into tears as the scene of her double dream swept suddenly before her. A few moments after farewells were said, and Donald

In the pleasant parlors of a charming little seaside resort on the shores of the Chesapeake, a gay party was assembled enjoying in the cool

a gay party was assembled enjoying in the cool retreat the early days of July.

Of that party of men and women, a few of the former in uniform, "waiting orders" to go to Cuba, where the American army had already landed, the bright particular star was Mildred Carroll, a beauty and an heiress, and a sad co-quette it was said, as she had refused many brilliant offers. for she had confided only to a

Cuba.

She would have refused this particular song, only the one who asked for it was a young officer soon to join his regiment in Cuba, and she yielded, while she had the feeling not to give way to any superstitious dread that would force its way into heart and brain.

She had reached the lines.

She had reached the lines:
"For he felt that short were the soldier's days,
And dark were the shades—"

when she sprang to her feet with the cry:
"Great God! I saw him fall! There! there he
stands before me, and—"?

With a low, pathetic cry she sank upon the floor in a deep swoon. For several days she remained in a deep stupor, to suddenly awaken to perfect consciousness and say distinctly: "He is dead! I saw him fall."
"My child, you are dreaming," said the physician.

physician.
"If I am I am wide awake this time. I have twice had that same cruel dream, but the third time I was awake. I was singing his song. Would to God I had been dreaming. No, no, I saw the same scene that I dreamed of twice. I saw him carrying his sword in his left hand, leading his men and storming a steep hill, and I—save him full."

leading his men and storming a steep hill, and I—saw him fall."
"Poor child, she is raving," said her mother.
"I am not raving, mother, for I saw all that I say. It all came suddenly before me and then he kept his word and appeared before me in spirit form. Go to my easel there, and look at the painting hidden beneath that silk scarf—yes, that is it, so do not tell me I am in delirium, for that is the scene I beheld, save that I saw Donald fall dead there, a bullet in his heart. You will find it so when the news comes, and those who were near him will recognize the scene, for it was engraven on my heart and brain and I will follow him soon, yes, into the Land of Shades."

yes, into the Land of Shades."

The last words were barely audible to those

The last words were barely audible to those who had gathered around her, and soon after she sank again into unconsciousness.

Another day brought the news: "Captain Donald Gray was killed while leading his men in a desperate charge upon the Spaniards, intrenched on the top of a hill. He had been already twice wounded but would not leave the field."

several weeks more and a brother officer on sick leave brought home the body of Donald Gray. He told of the thrilling charge up the steep hill, and how nobly Captain Gray had

led his men, adding:
"I saw him fall and to my dying day I shall never forget that scene." Judge Carroll arose and handed to him an

unframed painting, with the remark: "My daughter painted this—did you ever see the scene?"

"My God! it is the very spot where Gray fell, and more, among his traps in camp I found a pencil sketch the very counterpart of this painting. How am I to understand this, Judge Carroll?"

#### One of the World's Wonders.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



OVERS of Tom Moore's charming and poetical tale of "Lalla Rookh" will remember his reference to the beautiful "Nourmahal," who "Nourmahal," who o was the "light of the Harem." They may not know that the real "Nourmahal" was the peerlessly beautiful and wonderfully fascinating Mumtaz-i-Mahal, in whose memory her devoted husband, the whose memory her devoted husband, the Shau Jehan, erected more than two hundred years ago a tomb that is to this day looked upon as one of the most beautiful, if not the most beautiful structure in the world. The skill of the architects of later years have not devised or designed any-

thing so beautiful as this great and stately marble tomb on the bank of the Jumna River in

far away India.

Shau Jehan was a grandson of the great
Akban and his harem contained no woman
who could compare with Mumtaz-i-Mahal in
beauty of face and form and grace of manner. She possessed all the subtle charm of a Cleonatra and, if history is true, she was a far more beautiful woman than was Cleopatra, whose charm did not lie in remarkable personal beau-

charm did not lie in remarkable personal beauty but in a wonderful and compelling fascination of voice and manner.

When death deprived Shau Jehan of his lovely Mumtaz-i-Mahal while she was still young and fair he was inconsolable, and he resolved to erect to her memory the most beautiful tomb in all the world. Possessed of enormous wealth and power he ransacked all India and Asia and other parts of the world for materials for the building that was to eclipse anything the eye of man had seen. Rare marble and precious stones were transported hundreds and thousands of miles in slow moving carayans to the sands of miles in slow moving caravans to the bank of the Jumna. Jewels and all kinds of precious stones were brought from all counnis painting. How am I to understand this, dudge Carroll?"

"My daughter painted it from a scene she day were commanded to put forth their utmost

chosen few the secret of her engagement to Captain Donald Gray.

Urged again and again to sing, for she possessed a voice of rarest melody, Mildred yielded and was so obliging that she sang from a plantation skit to a selection from the latest opera, ending with the very ballad that Donald Gray had asked for the day he went away to Cuba.

She would have refused this particular song, only the one who asked for it was a young offi-

skill Mumtaz-i-Mahal.

Some idea of the tremendous outlay of money and time and labor in the erection of the tomb may be known from the fact that twenty thousand men were employed constantly for a period of twenty-three years in building the splendid tomb. Shau Jehan did not weary of his labor of love in all those years. He was a lover of all that was beautiful in the world of art and nature, and he took infinite delight in watching the splendid building slowly approaching its magnificent completion.

The Taj Mahal, which means "the crowing of Mahal," is in the great garden that was once the pleasure resort of Mumtaz-i-Mahal. This garden is nearly a quarter of a mile square, and it is surrounded by a high wall with an entrance gate that is itself a wonderful piece of architecture, and something worth going far to see. The great tomb itself stands upon a double terrace. The first terrace is of red sandstone with a facing of hewn stone. This terrace is twenty feet high and eight hundred and twenty feet broad. Above it is another terrace of shining marble eighteen feet high and three hundred and thirteen feet square. On this terrace is the tomb of snowy white marble. It is one hundred and eighty-six feet on each side, and from the foot of the first terrace to the graceful ornament on the top of the dome the distance is about two hundred and fifty feet. It is impossible to give any adequate idea of the great beauty of the carvings, the interior decorations and the bewildering beauty of the tomb. decorations and the bewildering beauty of the

An avenue of marble bordered with rare plants and streams of crystal clear water ex-tends from the great entrance gate to the tomb and the surroundings are beautiful beyond description. Tourists who have gone thousands of miles to study this wonderful bit of ancient architecture have felt themselves repaid for their journey, and have come away feeling that the claim that the Taj Mahal was the most beautiful building in the world was a just one.

Shau Jehan survived his beloved wife The Snau Jenan survived his beloved wife for thirty-five years, and when he died he was laid by her side in the great tomb. One may read on his tomb these words: "Defend us from unbelievers." Thousands of unbelievers rom unbelievers. Thousands of unbelievers have visited his tomb and have come away respecting the love and devotion that could inspire the building of such a monument to testify to the love he bore his wife even if they could not believe in his religion.



N Englishman has discovered a way of copying an engraving on a plate from a book without the use of a photographic camera. A cardboard that has been coated with some secret phosphorescent sub-stance is exposed to sun-light for a time and is then

placed behind the engrav-ing to be duplicated. A photographic dry plate is placed on the other side, and the book is wrapped in a black cloth. After from fifteen to thirty minutes, varying with the thickness of the paper the plate is developed and a fairly satisfactory negative is the result.

#### Men, Women and Things.

CONDUCTED BY JENNIE MELVENE DAVIS.



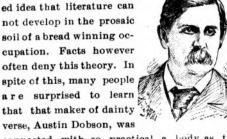
6

President Arthur Hadley of Yale is a graduate of the class of 1876. He is a young man to stand at the head of a university that has just celebrated its two hundredth birthday. Yale has numbered an army of fifteen thousand in its alumni

record. It is interesting to review the history of this great factor in the intellectual life of America. Vale received its charter on the ninth day of October, 1701. Its name was given in honor of Elihu Yale who gave his fortune to the trustees of the infant college. Elihu Yale was born in New Haven during the troublous days of the Indian raids. His father decided to send him to England for safety and at the age of ten the forlorn little lad sailed for England with a Bible and a scant supply of clothes. Eventually he entered the service of the powerful East India company and finally rose to be its president. He never forgot his boyhood home and the fortune he had amassed in England was finally the cause of his name becoming a household word in the home of his youth. Many of the leading names in the political, literary and scientific world of the last two hundred years can be found on the roll of Yale. For four days in October the glories of Yale have been told by the most eminent of her living alumni. The topics were: Yale in its relation to Christian theology and missions by Prof. George P. Fisher; Yale in its relation to law by Thomas Thatcher, while Prof William H. Welch spoke on Yale in its relation to medicine, Justice Brewer of the Supreme Court, Edward Clarence Steadman the poet, and Presidents Northrup and Gilman each spoke of Yale and its great work. The celebration was one of the most interesting anniversaries ever observed in America. Pres. Hadley may well feel proud of the position that he holds and Yale may feel pride in the energy, tact and ability of its young president.

Many millionaires give money to favorite institutions, colleges and philanthropies in which they are interested but few are able or willing to give the time which to them more than to most people means money. Morris K. Jessup has given so liberally of both his time and his money that his pet project, the American Museum of Natural History, is taking rank among the great museums of the world. Mr. Jessup is a native of Connecticut who acquired millions in the banking business of New York. For a time he interested himself in the work of the House of Industry, of the Young Men's Christian Association and in the direction of hospitals. In 1881 he became the President of the Natural History Museum and from then until now the work has grown and broadened through his personal interest. The relics and history of all the Indian tribes of North America have been collected under his direction. Many of the expeditions have been organized and paid for by his generosity. Other wealthy Americans have paid the expenses of similar expeditions to Honduras, to Greenland, and to every country from the Arctic circle to the Antarctic wherever interesting relics of ancient peoples, of animals or of minerals can be found. The scientific value of this work can not be overestimated and it is the personal work of Mr. Jessup that has developed the interest that has made these researches possible.

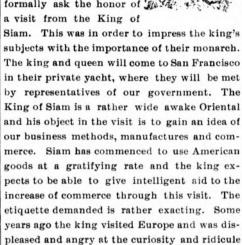
It is a generally accepted idea that literature can not develop in the prosaic soil of a bread winning occupation. Facts however often deny this theory. In spite of this, many people are surprised to learn verse, Austin Dobson, was



connected with so practical a body as the English Board of Trade. Mr. Dobson has been in the government employ since 1866. He was but a lad of sixteen when he commenced his never seem to agree, but all his work has been and silk culture. Twenty-two acres devoted granted a tardy pardon.

done under the influence of this unpoetical occupation. Among Mr. Dobson's well-known books are: Vignettes in Rhyme; Proverbs in Porcelain; At the Sign of the Lyre; Carmina Votera. In addition to these books of verse, Mr. Dobson is a well-known magazine writer on various topics and has written a number of prose works. These are mainly biographical. Mr. Dobson retires on a pension. He also receives a pension of two-hundred and fifty pounds granted him by King Edward for distinguished literary services.

The King of Siam is shortly to pay a visit to the United States. His name is as monumental as the crown that figures in a pagoda-like manner in his photographs. It is safe to say that his name will not be treated flippantly for it is Chulalongkorn I. Our consul-general at Bangkok was instructed by his majesty's representatives to request that the United States formally ask the honor of a visit from the King of





he excited from the crowd.

Andrew Jackson Cassett is the energetic president of the longest railroad system in the world. The Pennsylvania operates more miles than any other line and it is due to the aggressive policy of Mr. Cassett that it has this dis-

tinction. Mr. Cassett has been enjoying a brief vacation abroad. His son is military attache of the American Legation in London, while his sister is recognized as an artist of ability even in Paris, where she makes her home. Mr. Cassett rose to the head of the great railroad system by all the steps of the ladder. He has evinced a most remarkable ability to forecast possible moves on the part of rival lines and to place his own road at the front in spite of all opposition. All in all, Mr. Cassett is a type of the successful business man of large affairs.

The Inter-State and West Indian Exposition which opens at Charleston, South Carolina, in December, promises to be a most interesting exhibition of the resources of the New South. The grounds consist of a beautiful park and a fine old plantation which was turned over to the exposition managers by its owners. A lake of thirty acres has furnished a fine opportunity for landscape gardening. Eleven buildings are grouped around a plaza which is known as the Court of Palaces. The Cotton Palace is the dominating building of the group. The name Old Ivory City is to be applied to the buildings. The electric display will rival that of Buffalo. Twenty states and cities have separate buildings. The states and cities are to reproduce their most famous or historic buildings. Virginia is to reproduce Mount Vernon, New York reproduces Sunnyside, the home of Washington Irving, while many of the southern states reproduce their finest old colonial mansions. Kentucky is to reproduce the beautiexhibit the progress they have made. The return to Egypt, there to live as a private gen-

to a "Midway" will furnish the amusement that the American people demand.

Emma Goldman, the Anarchist lecturer who

was arrested in Chicago for alleged conspiracy to assassinate the President, is well known both in the United States and Europe. She has a short, strong figure like the Russian peasant type. Her face is pale but waves of color pass over it when she is speaking earnestly. Her brown hair is brushed smoothly a way from a low, broad forehead. Her eyes are dark gray and have all the fire and enthusiasm of the dreamer, the idealist. Her mouth and chin are determined. The whole impression made by her face is that of quiet self control over enthusiasm. It is the type of face found among the women students of Russia. Emma Goldman was born in that country but was educated in Germany. When she was fifteen she returned with her family to St. Petersburg. Her parents were quiet people, content with orthodox ideas. The young woman found companions among the revolutionary students of Russia and this free association and discussion made her an anarchist. At the mention of Russia her face will light up, for she declares that is the only nation where men and women are equal and where mental equality is possible. In her words the Russian woman has the greatest freedom and is the "chum" of her men friends without sentimental side to the friendship other than that which would be held between man and man. Emma Goldman was living with her family in Rochester, New York when the Chicago Anarchists were hung in 1887. This affair confirmed her in her views on the subject of anarchy. Her family had been in fair circumstances but reverses drove Emma Goldman to seek employment in a factory. The hard side of life that she met hardened and embittered her theories and she became prominent as the leader of a strike. Since then she has spoken in many places but always asserts that violence is not the weapon of the anarchist. She declared publicly "If a man came to me and told me he was planning an assassination, I would think him an utter fool and refuse to pay any attention to him. The act is noble but it is mistaken." She also declared that conditions in America had not reached a state that demanded violence. "Anarchy's best future lies in America" declared this woman only last January. She had become a professional nurse although her desire was to be a doctor. Her lectures and violent harangues finally landed her in a prison and after serving her sentence. she went to Europe. She took an advanced course in nursing in Vienna and then proceeded to follow out her political ideas in Paris. A Congress of Anarchists was to be held there but it was prohibited and finally ended in secret meetings. Emma Goldman attempted to give lectures but was finally driven out of France and came back to the United States.



One of the pathetic figures of the drama of history is Arabi Pasha who has recently been pardoned by the English government after years of exile from his native Egypt. At one time he was the central figure in European eyes. He was born on the border of the great

and had all the wild spirit of the true son of the desert. When the Egyptian army was reorganized and native officers replaced the foreign ones, Arabi was given a command. In 1881 he led a revolt against the government and became dictator. England interfered and after Alexandria had been bombarded, Arabi and his army fled to Cairo. He was forced to surrender and pleaded guilty to rebellion. He was sentenced to death but the Khedive commuted this decree to perpetual banishment, and he was sent to Ceylon. He seemed old and broken and some time since begged that the English government would allow him to return to Egypt. With trembling voice and broken ful old Federal Hall, a mansion that inspired spirit he said that his eyes were clouded with the song, Old Kentucky Home. In a separate the shadows that would soon close them to the building the colored people of the South will light forever. Pathetically he said: "I want to negro exhibit is under the direction of Booker | tleman and there to die among my people." Washington. Two new industries peculiar to The English government evidently believe that duties. Details of trade and poetry would South Carolina will be shown, i. e., tea culture the fire has gone from his spirit and have

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Lady Sarah Wilson who is now visiting the United States has won much fame through her experiences in the Boer war. She went to the front as war correspondent and figured conspicuously in the siege of Mafeking. She spent the nights in an underground bomb-proof shelter. During the day she acted as nurse and endured all the privations of the soldiers. She was captured by the Boers but exchanged for a woman horse thief that they were anxious to obtain freedom for. It seemed rather ironically amusing that the English lady of title was made a ranking equal in exchange for a horse thief.







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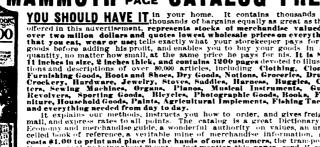
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is more primitive, allittle dug-outs commonly used in the interior though they are quick to appreciate and use any tool or implement of the counter-balanced by the care and painstaking whites which may implemented to the counter-balanced by the care and painstaking labor expended on their beautiful snowshoes,

tire process of construction. The builder was an Indian named Yess Bay Johnny, whose cances were famous for miles up and down the

First, of course, a suitable log had to be found, as near to the salt water as possible. This is never an easy task even in a primeval growth. The tree finally selected, and which slowly grew into a shapely boat under his skillful finexecution.

In sewing and beading their moccasins of moose and deer skin, the white man's steel by Johnny, his squaw or "Klootch," and sevneedle is used, but in place of our thread they

inside the canoe. This brought the water to a boiling point which process was prolonged by adding other hot stones at intervals. When sufficiently steamed, the sides were sprung out, the thwarts inserted, and the canoe turned

At odd moments during the building, the bow piece or figure-head, (which protrudes high above the line of the gunwales, and is always a separate piece of wood) had been carved and secured in place. These bow pieces are frequently highly carved and decorated, and may be symbolic of the owner's totem. The cance being thoroughly dried, the thin-

ning down process was resumed, and now each stroke of the chisel was made with the greatest

:D

A MARINE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF T

NDIANS are natural craftsmen, and their workmanship has a dis-tinctive touch all its own. tinctive touch all its own. So noticeable is this that regardless of the part of the country from which an article of their manufacture may come, it is at once recognized as Indian. This in no way implies that the work of the different tribes or nations is ferent tribes or nations is the same—only that it is similar in a general way. Being familiar with the

handicraft of the Penobscots of Maine, it was with much interest that I studied and compared them and their work with that of the northwestern prove and expedite their

It was the writer's good fortune to have spent some months in the vicin-ity of a few Hudson Bay Posts in the northern British Columbia, and on the Alaskan coast. These trading posts were in the remote and wild portions of that province, where the factors of that

of that province, where the factors of that great company and an occasional wandering prospector, are the only white men with whom the natives of that region may come in contact. Unlike the Indians of Maine and eastern Canada, who make pretty but too often useless articles for trade, these people make only the things which are of service to them, and the variety of ways they utilize the materials nature affords was ever a source of unfailing inture affords was ever a source of unfailing in-

Their watertight baskets of birch bark and woven cedar root were marvels of primitive ingenuity, and far superior to those made by their eastern cousins, whose work savors too their eastern cousins, whose work savors too strongly of things civilized, in both shape and

Some of these canoes will comfortably seat thirty persons, and are forty feet long with a six foot beam, capable of making the journey from Sitka to Vancouver, a voyage of more than a thousand miles, on which high winds and heavy seas are looked upon as inevitable.

During a trip to the Behm Canal, southeast-ern Alaska, I was afforded the opportunity of watching one of these big boats during the en-

CO. ST and 289 WEST CHICAG

150 to 166 AND 87 and 289 WEST

over to drain and dry.

stroke of the chisel was made with the greatest of care, that no blemish might mar the smooth finish of the surface.

Generally when within reach of a trading post, paint is applied to the outside to prevent the light cedar craft from becoming heavy and water soaked; but in this instance Johnny was

prefer a strand of sinew from along the backbone of the caribou. Of course nothing can but in taining their likes they prefer the skins to the best iron flesher obtainable at the posts.

I have watched the women decorating the skins to the best iron flesher obtainable at the posts.

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I have watched the women decorating the skins to the best iron flesher obtained by the way, are much more industrious than the men, and it was noticeable that their women, by the way, are much more industrious than the men, and it was noticeable that their laughter and song. This application, one is led to believe, is not through fear of the men, as observation seemed to indicate that the squaw were the rulers of the lodge. I have seen an irst equaw grab a lodge pole and clear stain was at first carried on with the axe and song. This application, one is led to believe, is not through fear of the men, and song. This application, one is led to believe, is not through fear of the men, as observation seemed to indicate that the squaw wrest and longs alike, regardless upon whom her vigorous blows might fall.

Good snowshoe makers are more common in the west, perhaps, while the east can boast of better canoe builders, though fine canoe modificated in the result of the properties of the still the special plants and the properties of the still the special plants and the properties of the still the special plants and the properties of the still the special plants and the properties of the still the special plants are properties and dogs alike, regardless upon whom her vigorous blows might fall.

Good snowshoe makers are more common in the west, perhaps, while t

#### Old Violins.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



USICAL critics often disagree, but it is prob-ably the universal opinion that of all ways of expressing God's melody, after the human voice, comes the violin. Of course by this we mean a good voice and an old violin, and poets, artists and musicians all sing its praises. The exact origin of the violin is unknown—our present instrument is what has

from times unrecorded. Mythology dates its birth to the time when the Nile overflowed and left on its banks a dead "cheli" (tortoise). The intense heat of sun dried the flesh and left in the shell nothing but perves and cartillers. and left on its banks a dead "cheli" (tortoise). The intense heat of sun dried the flesh and left in the shell nothing but nerves and cartilage which contracted rendering it sonorous. Orpheus in walking along the shore struck his foot against the shell and was so charmed with the sound that it gave him the idea of the lyre. Consequently the tortoise was a model for sharpe, and the dried sinews of dead animalsfor strings. Hence the origin of hiddles and catgut is classic, as well as picturesque. Orpheus and Apollo are pictured with fiddles, but tracing a bow has been in vain. A century ago at Florence an important discovery was supposed to have been made. A figure of Apollo was found playing on a kind of violin with something of the nature of a bow in his hand. Further investigation, however, proved that this bow had been added to this ancient piece by the hand of a modern restorer of art.

Three-thousand years before our era a king of Ceylon, Rawanon, invented a four stringed instrument played with a bow, but this is only a tradition.

Historically, the early fiddle period shows

Three-thousand years before our era a king of Ceylon, Rawanon, invented a four stringed instrument played with a bow, but this is only a tradition.

Historically, the early fiddle period shows the instrument being struck or strummed by a plectra, and it was not until the early French period that a bow was used to sustain tones. This instrument was called a Ribee and was pear shape (similar to our guitar) with first two and afterward three strings.

There is no relation between the European and Asiatic fiddle and the instruments of the Chinese and Persians are not considered links in the genealogical fiddle chain.

Germans called their instrument "geige" from the northern word geiga meaning trembling. This term for violin came probably from its association with dancing as it was the instrument used to accompany the dance. An Anglo-Saxon fithele may be seen among other relies in the British Museum; it has four strings and no bridge. It was not until the end of the 15th century that viol manufacture spread through Germany and Italy.

Probably the most ancient viols in existence are those by Hieronymus Brensius of Bologna. There are three of these, which are tables printed in Roman letters. In workmanship they are crude. Gasparo da Sato rejected the early crescent shaped sound holes and originated that which has been in use for three centuries.

All viols about the time of 1520 had pieces of gut tied around the neck and fingerboard to mark the divisions of the scale, but these frets were optional evidently, as many did not have them.

Just where the instruments with four strings

Just where the instruments with four strings

Just where the instruments with four strings tuned in fifths were made is a fact unknown. Brescia, the cradle of violin manufacture, is the town usually associated with its advent. Cremonese makers then came into prominence. They chose their material more for the acoustic properties than for the beauty of the wood, although many are works of art. The violin is made up of fifty-eight separate parts: The back, in one and often two parts, of maple or sycamore; the belly, of the finest quality of Swiss pine; the sides of maple, in six pieces,



OLE BULL.

bent by heated irons; the linings, necessary to secure back and belly to sides, of lime tree or pine, are twelve in number; sound-post, for support, of pine. Probably no two sound-posts were made alike or placed alike. Italians and French call this part of the instrument the soul, Germans called it the voice, and it is, in truth, the nervous system of the violin.

The bridge is made of different qualities of wood. If the instrument has a very brilliant tone it requires a soft wood. If on the contrary it has a mellow sound, it requires wood having solidity of fiber.

The neck was made of sycamore, finger board of ebony, and nut or rest, purfling pegs, blocks,

The neck was made of sycamore, finger board of ebony, and nut or rest, purfling pegs, blocks, strings, button, and tail piece constitute the remainder of the fifty-eight parts. Strings were frequently made of silk, steel and flax, but animal chords are considered the very best. The varnish forms an important part of the make-up. The best is that the early Italian makers used, but the composition of this Cremonese varnish is unknown. Many have tried

# WE TRUST YOU



#### Oak Chair

This chair is of solid oak (not stained) with a highly polished antique finish, handsomely carved and turned, and an embossed leather (cobbler's) seat. It is large and very strong; will last a lifetime, and is well worth \$5 of anybody's money. Order one quick and let us prove our statement. FREE for selling one dozen Hold Fast Skirt Supporters.

More than 55,000 ladies have earned premiums worth \$170,000.00.

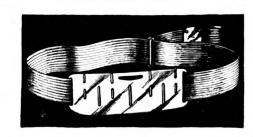


#### 27-Piece Silver Set

This set, consisting of 6 knives, 6 forks, 6 table-spoons, 6 teaspoons, butter knife, sugar shell and pickle fork, is packed in a tasty velvet covered cabinet, satin lined, and makes a beautiful display in a china closet or sideboard. Our reputation for good premiums only is behind the quality of the plating. The design is the very latest copy of solid silver. This set will make a very nice present for your lady. FREE for selling one dozen Hold Fast Skirt Supporters. for your lady. FREE for Fast Skirt Supporters.

Oak Chairs, Smyrna Rugs, Silver Sets, Tea Sets, and One Hundred Other Premiums

Freight Prepaid to You



## NO MONEY REQUIRED

These handsome and useful premiums given Absolutely Free to you for introducing to your friends our great "Hold Fast" Waist and Skirt Supporter, which is the only automatic supporter yet invented. Requires no sewing on of hooks, buttons or anything else. All that is necessary is to put the Supporter on and it "does the rest." It is what everybody is looking for. Every lady and girl in the land needs one. Every Supporter sold brings two more customers. They only cost 35 cents, so are within the reach of everybody. We do not ask you to invest one cent of your money. If you would like to get one or more of our handsome premiums for using a few moments of your time in our interest, all that is necessary to do is to write, saying you would like to earn a premium. We will then send you, charges paid, the Supporters. When you have sold them you send us the money and obtain your premium which we send to you freight charges prepaid anywhere in the United States. So, from first to last, you do not invest a penny of your own money. You take no risk. We trust you with our goods and take back what you can't sell.

We have premiums for selling one-half dozen up to one gross.

We send a large premium list with first lot, containing 100 offers, all useful as well as ornamental, and we wish you especially to note that when you have earned the premium it is sent to you frepaid, if you live in the U. S., so you are actually out only your time. Such an offer has never been made before.

Better write us today, and be the first to show the great invention in your town. Address this way:

## The Colver Co.

Dept. A, 815 Schiller Bldg.

NOTE. If you would like to see our Supporter before ordering a quantity, we will send you one, postage paid, on receipt of 35 cents in stamps.

Your credit is good with us, we trust you.



#### Smyrna Rug

Our rug is 2 ft. 6 in. wide, 5 ft. long, fringed ends, both sides alike. They are genuine Smyrnas, which is a guaranty of the fastness of the colors and the beauty of design. Order one and you will want more. Order one so selling one dozen Hold Fast Skirt Supporters.

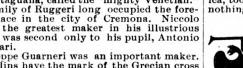
Over 1,000,000 ladies now wear the Hold Fast Skirt Supporter.

LARGE CATALOGUE OF PREMIUMS MAILED WITH EVERY ORDER



32-Piece Tea Set

Consists of 6 plates, 6 cups, 6 saucers, teapot and lid, sugar and lid, 2 bread plates, 6 sauce dishes, cream pitcher, slop bowl; total, 32 pieces. Handsomely decorated as shown above. The value of this offer is apparent to all well posted merchants and makes it unnecessary for us to say anything further, except that: FREE for selling two dozen Hold Fast Skirt Supporters.



known maker though his instruments are destitute of originality. Jacob Stainer was the greatest in his country and he followed the model of Nicollo Amati. So his were not strictly German violins. One story that comes to us concerning Stainer was that he became a Benedictine Monk and in his retirement made the famous "Elector Stainers," but this is inaccurate. Stainer was an apprentice organ builder, but on account of ill health took up the manufacture of violins. He died insane, leaving a widow and eight children.

Francois Medard and Tyrversus were of the early French school and they modeled their instruments after those made at Brescia and Cremona. Boquay and Pierray are the only later makers deserving of praise. Others, in order to produce artificially results obtained only by time, used acids and baked the wood to darken it.





been to one of these places, though, and go for the first time, let me

to discover the secret, and frequently there have been frauds advertised as the original mixture, but Cremones variable is an art lost. Thomas Dodd were made by two Germans, the two Manager of the Manager of M

made. in a Chinese restaurant, does not know what possibilities really lie in the leaves of this plant. I go there frequently to drink it because I like it, but more especially do I go there for tea it I find myself.

watch the bowl in front of you as if it were leaves of this plant. I go there frequently to drink it because I like it, but more especially do I go there for tea if 1 find myself likely to suffer from one of those splitting head-aches such as almost every one has sometimes. I have never found the remedy to fail me.

If you have never been to one of those or the first time, let me

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9.)



CONDUCTED BY DIGITUS.

#### CONDITIONS.

To have one's hands read in this department, by Digitus, one of the finest living palmists, it is necessary to observe the following conditions:

Impressions of both hands must be sent, fully postpaid and having the name, address and nom de plume of the sender enclosed in the package also.

The package must in every instance be accompanied by the names and addresses of eight new subscribers at twenty-five cents each, the whole amount, \$2.00 being remitted, with the package, addressed to Comfort PALMISTRY CLUB, Augusta, Maine.

No notice will be taken of impressions and requests for readings unless the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

for readings unless the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank paper over a candle or similar flame, until they are heavily coated with the smoke. Then lay these pieces down, smoke side uppermost on a pad of cotton. Now place the two hands, palms downward, one on each sheel of paper, pressing firmly and steadily down, but taking care not to move the hand. Keep them so for one minute and lift carfully, so as not to disturb the impression. Have ready some fixatif, which can be bought at a drug store or an art store or made with gum arabic and water in an atomizer. Spray this over the impression before they are moved and allow them to dry. Then they are ready to send.

Smoked paper impressions are the best. But if it is desired to send a plaster cast, take plaster of Paris and dissolve in water to the consistency of thick cream. Pour this into a large shallow dish and when it is hardening place the hand, well-greased, palm downward, in the plaster, pressing downward. Several minutes will be required to get this impression and great care must be taken in removing the hand, not to break the plaster. Casts are exceedingly difficult to send without breaking and should be very carefully packed in a box with the name of the sender written on it. Putty is sometimes successfully used in place of plaster. A good photograph if sufficiently well taken to bring out all the lines, can also be read, although in all cases the smoked paper is the best, if properly treated with fixalif.

#### Bear in Mind that all the above conditions must be observed.

Also, that letters not complying with them will go into the waste-basket. Readings cannot appear for several months after impressions are sent.

CANADIAN reader says she cannot af-ford to send impressions of her hand and A ford to send impressions of ner hand and comply with the necessary conditions, but would like to get Hargett's Book on Palmistry and asks how much it costs. The book is \$2.00, which is just what it costs to have your hand read here, and in the latter case you can pay for the reading by getting subscribers for Comfort. Would it not be better, then, to spend your two dollars here?

O. A. E. M. sends some good impressions of O. A. E. M. sends some good impressions of her hands which are very much lined and seamed, indicating a life full of change and interest. There is a strong life line, which is very much crossed up to the age of thirty-five by other lines which indicate interference in matters of both head and heart. This person is bound down to the wishes of others a great deal in early life, but the latter part of her life will be marked by more independence and judgment. A new influence will first come into the life at about twenty and there will be some serious break in her love affairs at that data which will appear to the life at a source of the life at a s to the life at about twenty and there will be some serious break in her love affairs at that date which will cause her a great deal of grief and pain. She will marry, however, soon after that, the marriage going on happily until about the age of thirty when there will be a break, probably by the death of the husband. The lines are not so distinct as I could wish at this point, and it is possible that she will make up some difficulty with this husband at that time, and in which case the match will last until about the age of fifty. If the first husband dies at this period, however, she will marry again very soon, and in either case she will live much happier after the age of thirty-five than she ever did before. Her fate line is uncommonly strong and clear, although it is crossed by many interfering lines between the age of thirty and fifty. She will always have enough of this world's goods and in old age will be quite wealthy. She will always have enough of the world's goods and in old age will be quite wealthy. She will always be attractive to the opposite sex as long as she lives and will have many admirers. She will be popular in every sense of the word, and have many of the qualities that help to make a public speaker. If she should take to the stage or the public platform, she would be a great success, as she has great magnetism and all the qualities which insure her popularity. She will travel a great deal, although I do not see any long journeys in store for her. She is of a restless disposition and cannot bear to remain quietly in one place. She is ambitious, and her ambitions will be realized in most instances. She will be subject to headaches and nervous affections and in matters of the heart she her ambitions will be realized in most instances. She will be subject to headaches and nervous affections and in matters of the heart she will be rather unstable. Still she has so many good qualifications that she will rise superior to trouble of any kind and affairs will constantly improve with her up to the end of life. The latter half proving by far the most happy and successful.

successful.

C. P. J. has also a feminine hand, indicating a nervous temperament and restless disposition. She has sent only one impression of her hand and that of the left so that it is possible her right hand would modify my reading somehow. She is distinctly feminine in taste and in thought, but a little lacking in good judgment, and will always do better to depend upon others for upon others for

leadership. She will live to be very old and will

enjoy good health up to four score years or more. There will

come a decided change in her life

at about the age

red !

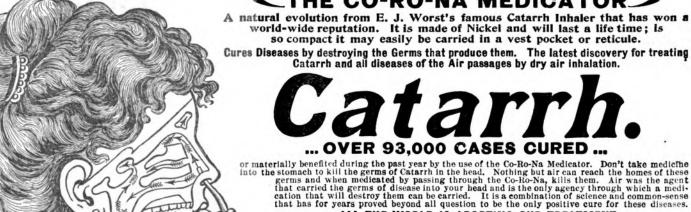
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of forty-five and again about ten or fifteen years later, when unexpected events will happen, possibly leading her into foreign countries, or

on A. E. M. countries, or making some studies. Comconnection therewith. Her fate line is excellent, rising at the wrist and going straight up
to the base of the middle finger. Nothing
could be better, for although there are some
cross lines and worry lines they do not affect
the main line and she will be successful in a line and she will

# SENT ON THREE DAYS' TRIAL FREI



Cleveland, O., March 25, 1901.

E. J. WORST, Ashland, O.

Dear Sir:—My family and myself have used one of your Catarrh Inhalers for several years and always with prompt and pronounced effect. It is a wonderful remedy which I feet fully warranted in recommending to my friends. We cannot do without it. Please send us two new Inhalers complete, as one of our friends wants one also.

Signed S. P. SPRENG,

Editor Evangelical Messenger.

Hayes, Ala., 1901.

L. J. WORST,

Ashland, O.

Dear Sir:—Enclosed find price of the Medicator. I have been using it for two weeks and would not take \$1,000 for it if I could not get another. I can sing, something I have not been able to do for two years. I always had to stopping ing to clear my throat. My husband is surprised at my improvement.

Yours truly,

(Signed) MINNIE COLLINS.

ACENTS WANTED.

ALL THE WORLD IS ADOPTING OUR TREATMENT.

Every foreign country and the Islands of the Sea are eagerly calling for our treatment. Nothing has ever benefited the people like the Co-Ro-Na Medicator. CATARRH, HEAD-COLDS, Pains and Roaring in the Head, Bronchitis, Sore Throat, Headache, Partial Deafness, La Grippe and all diseases of the air passages yield as if by magic. This is a pocket physician, so simple that a child can use it anywhere, at any time, while the effect is such as to reach even the most severe cases. The principle of inhalation is the most perfect yet devised.

Not Sold by Druggists.

SPECIAL OFFER.

To demonstrate how easily, quickly and completely the CO-RO-NA Medicator will cure you, we will mail to any reader naming the paper, a CO-RO-NA Medicator complete with medicine for one year, and full directions for a quick, home cure. If it gives perfect satisfaction after 3 days trial and you are pleased in every way, then send us \$1.00 to pay for it. If not, return it at the expired time which will cost you only 3c postage. In this way you can test this unequalled treatment absolutely free; then if you are not convinced that it will cure you, you still have your money. Can any offer be fairer? You're taking no chance.

## Address, E. J. WORST, 17 ELMORE BLOCK, ASHLAND, OHIO.

position in some way. She will also have some serious disappointment in matters of the heart at a very early age, but after that her life is exceptionally free from troubles of that sort. She will travel a great deal and I think will go abroad more than once, but will die in her own country. She is fond of music and pictures, is neat and tidy and of a pleasant disposition, so that she will always have plenty of friends. On the whole hers is a fortunate hand and she need not worry about her future career.

need not worry about her future career.

I have indicated that the above hand is more or less marked with worry lines and as this will undoubtedly bring the question as to what are worry lines I will give you the following defini-tion according to Heron-Allen. "Rays across the hand from the Mount of Ven-

worry lines I will give you the following definition according to Heron-Allen.

"Rays across the hand from the Mount of Venus always denote worries and troubles. Across the line of fortune with a star in the triangle, they denote loss of money; continued to the line of head, a ray indicates a consequent loss of reason, or, at any rate, danger to the mental faculties. Cutting the line of Apollo it betokens a worry or loss of money early in life, by reason of the ruin or misfortune of one's parents; if it starts from a star, it shows that the misfortune was caused by the death of a parent. The age at which these troubles occur is shown by the place at which the line of life is cut by the worry line. If the worry line terminates at a point or star upon the lines of head or heart, or upon the Mount of Mars, it denotes that the worry has brought about an illness. If the line goes straight to the heart, it indicates an unhappy love affair; if an island appear in the line, the consequences are likely to be, or have been, serious, if not shameful. A fork from Mount Venus to the heart line, but not crossing it indicates an unhappy marriage or even a divorce. A worry line from a star in the mount, indicates quarrels with relations, ending in ruin if it goes up to the Mount of Apollo, but if it goes up and joins with the line of Apollo, it is a prognostic of good fortune rising therefrom. A line from the Mount of Venus, just cutting the line of life, indicates marriage at the age whereabout the line is found. Rays across the hand just cutting the line, generally indicate an illness caused by the line whence the ray takes it departure, at the age at which it occurs upon the line; thus, from the Line of Heart it means an illness caused by the heart; from the line of Head an illness caused by the heart; from the line of Head an illness caused by the heart; from the line of Head an illness caused by the heart is means an illness caused by the heart; from the line of Head an illness caused by the heart or brain; from the Mount

Both the subjects indicated above have good mounts of Mercury, indicating intelligence, high spirits, eloquence, industry inventive genius and promptitude in action as well as a love of the occult and a fondness of travel. A high Mount of Mercury will give, with pointed fingers, brilliant oratory; with square fingers, clearness and reason in expounding; with spatulate fingers, force and vehemence in argument and dogma; with long fingers, detail and parentheses; and with short fingers, brevity and conciseness. The great difference between the eloquence of these subjects, and of those whose prevailing mount is that of Apollo, is that the oratory of the former is sophistical and clever, rather than naive and direct like that of the latter; it is this that makes them such good begritters.

always have short nails.

Such subjects are good ath-letes, are agile, clever at games of skill, sponta-neous in ex-pedient, sharp in practice, with a great capacity for serious



general way in everything she undertakes. She will marry young and I think against the wishes of her family, at least there will be opposition in some way. She will also have some serious disappointment in matters of the heart at a very early age, but after that her life is exceptionally free from troubles of that sort. She will travele agreet deal and Lthink will go.

tudes and successes of others, constantly drives the Mercurial subjects to take up and try a great variety of subjects."

I trust all readers will remember that when I give predictions of events to happen at a certain age, I mean at any time within two or three years more or less of that age. It is im-possible for me from a page, inversion to possible for me, from a paper impression, to

ive exact dates.

I trust also that they will remember that it I trust also that they will remember that it must be several months before I can read a hand and have it appear in these columns. Two months elapse between the time of my reading and the publication of COMFORT. The edition of this paper which goes to its regular subscribers, is upwards of a million copies every month, and even with the most improved and the largest presses in the country to press from, it takes several weeks to get the edition off the press. This means that all copy has to be prepared at least two months in advance of publication day; so that you must not be surprised or anxious if you do not hear from your reading for several months; I shall, howyour reading for several months; I shall, how ever, hurry them along as fast as possible an hope to hear from you all as often as may be.

Tea in a Chinese Restaurant in America.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

and the tea is strained out between the side of

and the tea is strained out between the side of the bowl and the cover so that not one single ground goes into the cup.

How the 'do this so easily has always been a mystery to me, for the bowl is boiling hot to handle. I have got so I can pour for myself, after a fashion, but I always burn my hand in the act, and generally make a drop on the ta-ble.

The bowl holds enough to fill the cup about four times. You can have sugar and cream to put in the beverage, if you insist on them, but the waiter looks at you in horror when you use them, as if he were looking at a desecration. In time, after you have drank the tea a few times clear, you come to feel that way tion. In time, after you have drains the tea a few times clear, you come to feel that way yourself. There is a stimulating, refreshing taste to the liquor drank clear that nothing else has. It is strong, oh, so strong; but I have never found any hurtful results to follow from follow from drinking it, while many a time it has cured for me a headache which threatened to make me helpless for hours. This may be in part because the tea is of a carefully selected brand, because the tea is of a carefully selected brand, but I think it is largely in the making. Students of the art of domestic chemistry tell us that in the five to ten minutes of brewing only the wholesome properties of the tea leaf are set free by the hot water, and the tannin and hurtful elements come after that time, if the water is allowed to stand upon the leaves. is allowed to stand upon the leaves.

The Singhalese, who make a delicious drink

The Singhalese, who make a delicious drink from the black teas raised and cured in their

island, always insist on having two teapots, both hot, and as soon as the liquor has stood seven minutes on the grounds pour it into the second empty pot, from which it was afterwards poured to be drank. The Ceylon tea is very different from the Chinese, though. It is a very heavy golden colored liquid, and needs both sugar and cream to bring out its best qualities.

#### Six Steel Pens Free.

Millions of people use steel pens and we have bought an immense lot which we want to introduce into new families. Will send six of different kinds, fine, coarse and medium, to all who send two cents for mailing expenses. Lane & Co., Augusta, Maine.

AGENTS, credit, Flavor Powders, etc. Big Profits, Ex. Pd. Terms Free, Martens Co., Box 40, Sta. L. New York.

600 Second-Hand BICYCLES \$3 to \$8.
Bargain list free. Dept.17F, MendCycleCo., Chicago.

\$5 A DAY Selling Flavor Extracts. Sample Free. C. S. HORNER CO., 1409 Penn Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

\$8 Paid Per 100 for Distributing Samples of Washing fluid. Send 6c. stamp. A. W. SCOTT, Cohoes, N. Y.

Learn TELEGRAPHY.—Typewriting Course FREE. Whiteman's Telegraph School, Chatham, N. Y.

WRITERS WANTED to do copying at home.

WE PAY \$20 A WEEK and EXPENSES to men with rigs to introduce our Poultry Compound. Send stamp. JAVELLE MFG. CO., Dept. 17, Parsons, Kansas.

AGENTS COIN MONEY selling Gumstickum, a mucil-age-paste; regular 25 cent quart package for 10 cents, to introduce. Bd. Madigan, Clarksville, Iowa.

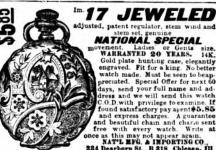
LADIES WANTED to work on Sofa Pillows. Materials steady work guaranteed, experience unnecessary. Send stamped envelope to Miss S. McGee, Needle Work Dept., Ideal Co., Chicago, Ill.





I wish every person in the U S. suffering with FITS, EPILEPSY OF FALL-ING SICKNESS to send for ING SICKNESS to send for one of my large-sized 16-ounce bottles FREE.

DR. F. E. GRANT, Dept. 54, Kansas City, Mo.



PNEUMATIC RAPID-FIRE RIFLE.

FREE FOR CLUB OF FOUR. A New Style All Steel Combination Rifle for Birds or Came

Rifle for Birds or Came

using shot that can be obtained anywhere at a trifling expense, also shoots darts making it desirable for outdoor target practice or parlor amusement or it can be used in any part of the house with perfect safety, making a practical and entertaining form of evening amusement for the boys and girls as well as older folks. There is no smoke, odor or dust from this gun, it is endorsed by army officers as the best mechanical rife ever produced and the possession of one of our accurate shooting air rifes makes a boy manly and affords him an excellent means of successfully competing with his chums for marksman's honors as well as teaching him the use of a rifle. Remember this is a combination gun, so your boy should have one be he old or young. If he is sick in the house he can shoot darts and keep out of mischief or go into the woods for game and get robust and healthy besides.

SPECIAL. Send at once for sample copies of our big monthly and subscription blanks and canvass among the neighbors. For a club of four yearly subscribers at the popular price of 25c. each, \$1.00 in all, we will send one of these King Pneumatic Rifles as a present, all charges paid, guaranteeing absolute satisfaction, or we will send one rifle as above for \$1.17. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Remember the above is a real gun, nearly three feet long. It looks like a gun and shoots like a gun.



BY EVERETT G. WHEELMAN.

OUBTLESS you will think our illustration is a queer one, but according to the London Graphic, the amusement sensation of London the past season was the bicycle performance of Charles Jones on a miniature bicycle track 40 feet in diameter and 5 feet 3 inches in width. The track was set at a level of 60 degrees, and was open towards the stage, presenting the appearance of a slanting park paling. A round the track two performers, Messrs. Jackson and McKay, drove their bicycles at full speed, and then the principal cyclist, Mr. Charles Jones, executed a series of difficult and seemingly dangerous feats upon the track. The effect produced by the cyclists when whirling around is singular, they and their machines being almost parallel with the stage level. To perform in such a position the feats of riding without the use of the hands, standing on one side of the machine, sitting side-saddle and without handle-bars, must be matters requiring great nerve and practice, but they were all performed with ease and safety by this remarkable cyclist. He capped the series by lighting a cigarette and divesting himself of his upper garments while going at full speed and without using his handle-bar. We have had some brilliant feats of cycling skill over here, in the circus ring and on the vaudeville stage, but nothing to equals that.

American manufacturers are shipping wheels to all parts of the world. In France and other foreign countries the riders have developed a fondness for the American machines, which is a strong and fitting indorsement of the quality and stability of American work. Our wheels are much lighter in construction than those of the foreign make, but they are found equally durable as the heavened work our wheels are much lighter in construction than those of the foreign make, but they are found equally durable as the heavened work. OUBTLESS you will think our illustra-

and stability of American work. Our wheels are much lighter in construction than those of the foreign make, but they are found equally durable as the heavy and more cumbersome types which the foreign manufacturers seem so partial to turning out.

Cycling has been established upon such a firm and permanent basis in this country that it seems likely that another year will see almost every individual who is capable of propelling a machine the owner of a bicycle. And the bicycle following is now growing at such a rapid pace that in the near future the wheel,

back the same day furnish good exercise and

fresh outlooks.
All sorts of impossible inventions continue All sorts of impossible inventions continue to emanate from the patent office, but the prospect of another radical step forward on present approved lines is obscure. Advancement is not an abstract condition which exists as a natural course, and the improvement of the bicycle cannot be said to cover a century, but was rather confined to two decades. With the public clamoring for prices lower than the cost of a good bicycle, there was a flood of inferior wheels, cheap in all save prices, assembled from a fortuitous medley of unrelated parts and pieces. The sale of assorted parts has decreased, which means that with wheels of established reputation within the reach of all, the profit in home made work is lost.

So give the bicycle its due. It will live though a few immunes deny it the right. It will bear the same relation to the motor bicycle that the horse does to the automobile. Society

that the horse does to the automobile. Society will resurrect it as a fad; indeed it may even now be bent upon it since King Edward of England is an enthusiast.

And now, paste the following good advice in your hat:

Cycling companions should not be chosen

Cycling companions should not be closed. lightly.
Scorn the scorcher.
Linger not over the laggard.
Let every member of the party be "in form," instead of spoiling it all by attempting great things in an unhardened condition. From forty to fifty miles a day is all that should be attempted, even by those capable of one eightymile day.

Best and shortest are not necessarily syn-

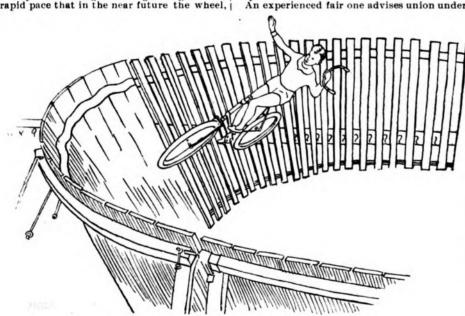
onymous when it comes to routes.

Don't carry much on the handle bars.

Enough luggage for two may be carried in one of the triangular cases which fits into a diamond frame. A woman's wheel is not built that way, so she gets along with as little as possible. If a change of attire is desired at the end of the route it should be expressed in a bag or trunk.

A woman, a splendid cyclist, says two men and two women form the ideal party, standing the best chance for a pleasurable trip in every

An experienced fair one advises union under-



BICYCLE FEAT WHICH INTERESTED ALL LONDON.

though it will not supplant the horse, will at least be quite as common.

Cycling has now passed its fad period. Some years ago, when every available hall in the big cities was turned into an academy for the instruction of the novice, bicycling received a big boom; in fact, during '97 and '98 nearly every person of high and low degree had a wheel. The approval of society upon cycling enlisted new recruits, and for a season or two all other sports waned. This definite approval by the smart set succeeded in giving a much needed impetus to the cycle pastime and industry, which was responsible for calling widespread attention to the general utility of the

needed impetus to the cycle pastime and industry, which was responsible for calling widespread attention to the general utility of the bicycle; and now that the fad element has abandoned its enthusiasm a good, substantial, sport-loving crowd persistently cling to the bicycle for the genuine, healthful enjoyment to be derived from its proper use.

It is less than a half-dozen years ago when the suggestion of women riding bicycles was warmly resented by many; but the gradual and sure spread of the sport and the introduction of good, suitably constructed bicycles for women removed some of the leading obstacles, and this class gradually took to bicycling with as great unconcern, and possibly with as much real enthusiasm, as the men. Since the days of the old high wheels, when the riders of the ordinary type were regarded as "curios" upon the public highways, the manufacturers have been aiming to make the bicycle as perfect a machine as possible, and their efforts in recent years have scored signally, for the type of bicycles on the market this season embraces the best methods of construction and a high degree of finish.

Cycling is robbed of a greet deal of its pleas-

the best methods of construction and a high degree of finish.

Cycling is robbed of a great deal of its pleasures by riders following daily the same roads and viewing the same surroundings. The pastime becomes a monotonous grind if riders will insist daily on a circuit of the park, a ride through the quiet sections of the city, or the like, when by gaining the city limits and dashing into the suburban territory the real benefit becomes pronounced. It is not essential to participate in tours of long duration to enjoy bicycling. Short trips into the country and

though it will not supplant the horse, will at | garments of either light wool, silk or linen garments of either light wool, silk or linen mesh—never cotton—a corset-waist, heavy stockings the shade of the dress, comfortable, low shoes, shirt-waist of pongee silk, washable ties and an Eton suit of goods heavy enough to "stay down." The broad-rimmed felt hat may be of a lighter shade. Tan or gray are the choice in colors. Thus attired a woman is both comfortable and attractive.

All moist apparel should be thoroughly dried before the fire during the night; if put on in the morning damp it is as uncomfortable as it is unhygienic.

In rural districts and the smaller towns \$2.00

In rural districts and the smaller towns \$2.00

In rural districts and the smaller towns \$2.00 a day is said to cover expenses.

Side path tags are necessary in touring New York State. They sell at from fifty cents to one dollar, and entitle the purchaser to use the sidepaths anywhere in the State during the calendar year. Non-residents may purchase them of any County Side Path Commission. Without one a cycler on a sidepath is liable to arrest.

New bread, pastry and alcoholic drinks should be rigorously eschewed.

The machine itself should start out with a

thorough overhauling, the tool-bag should be carefully stocked and a compact tire repair kit "aboard."

#### CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections: also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 847 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

260 that tells all about Mngle Lanterna and Stereopticous—bow to perate them—bow much they cost BOOK —bow men with small capital can make mong until them. Sent free.

McALLISTER Mrg. Optician, 49 Nassau St., N. Y.

# Health, Vigor, Strength

FOR ALL WHO DESIRE IT

Dr. J. M. Peebles, the Grand Old Man of Battle Creek, Mich., Cures So-Called Incurable or Hopeless Cases Through the Wonders of Psychic Science

Dr. Peebles, the grand old man of Battle Creek, in whose brain originated PSYCHIC TREATMENT, has so perfected his method that it has revolutionized the art of healing, and it can almost be said there are no hopeless or incurrable diseases. This system of treatment has brought thousands upon thousands back to health after they had been pronounced hopelessly ill by the best local physicians. His cures have been proclaimed PHENOMENAL by the many thousands who have had a chance to watch the near neighbor, friend or relative pronounced at Death's door by the local doctor, brought back to perfect manhood or womanhood by this eminent doctor and his associates. These wonderful cures are brought about through a system of treatment originated by Dr. Peebles himself, the great authority on Psychic Phenomena, which is a combination of mild magnetic remedies and Psychic Power, making the strongest healing combination known to science. This method has been so perfected by the doctor that anyone may use it in their own home without detention from business or the knowledge of anyone. Mrs. J. W. Anderson, St. Johns, Wash, suffered for years with pain in the ovaries and uterine weakness; she was entirely cured by this treatment. Mrs. C. Harris, of Marionville, Pa, says she cannot express too much gratitude for the results received from Dr. Peebles' treatment for falling of the womb and general exhaustion. Geo. H. Weeks, of Cleveland, Ohio, sends heartfelt thanks for restoration to health after suffering from nervous prostration and insomnia for years; he says he now enjoys excellent health and restul sleep every night. G. D. Young of Wimer, Ore. says: "For years I bore about my body the piteous spectacle of disease and death stared me in the face. I now thank heaven I am a well man, and I owe this great victory over disease to Dr. Peebles and his corps of assistants." Mrs. Bell B. Bond, of Dunkirk, N. Y., who was cured of asthma, dropsy, heart trouble and female weakness in a very few months, writes that she recommends Dr. Peebl



#### DESPAIR NOT, THERE IS STILL HOPE FOR YOU!

No matter what the disease is or how despondent you may feel because you have been told there is no help for you, there is still hope. Hundreds of suffering women have been cured by Dr. Peebles' methods, after being told there was no help for them unless an operation was resorted to. The same may be said of men who are debilitated from excesses and early indiscretions. Indigestion, stomach and bowel troubles, catarrh, liver trouble, rheumatism, kidney trouble, heart trouble, lung and bronchial trouble, dropsy, in fact, any and all diseases yield to this wonderful system. If you are unfamiliar with this treatment, which is annually curing thousands of those pronounced incurable, do not fail to send at once for literature giving full information concerning this grand treatment. It costs nothing whatever, and the information gained will be worth much to you even though you do not take treatment. If you are sick and discouraged do not fail to have the doctors diagnose your case: they will confidentially consider the same, send you at once a complete diagnosis of your condition, and also literature on this grand system of treatment, together with Dr. Peebles' essay, "The Psychic Science in the Cure of Disease." All this is sent absolutely free. If suffering, write to-day. Address

DR. PEEBLES' INSTITUTE OF HEALTH, Dept. J, Battle Creek, Mich.



Of course every little girl loves a boll, but how delighted she would be with a whole family of Dolls with which to 'play house.' Besides the Boy and Girl Dolls here pictured, there is a Grandpa and a Grandma boll, Grandpa in full military uniform, and Grandma in the costume of the olden time. The large dolls are nearly two fee the small ones 15 inches. They have rosy cheeks, beautiful hair that will not break, eyes that will not fall in, and are hand tressed in bright colors that will not fall words can never the delight which any child will feel in possessing this Doll farm will give these four beautiful dolls absolutely free for selling or boxes of our Laxative Stomach Tablets at 25 cents a box. Write and we will send the Tablets by mail postpaid. When sold sen money.(31.25) and we will send you the family of four dolls a Address.

NATIONAL MEDICINE CO.

Premium Dept. 6 L, New Haven, Conn.





#### A GOLD WATCH FREE



ARTHUR MFG. CO., 260 Arthur Bldg., Attleboro, Mass.



NATIONAL FARMER, Augusta, Maine.

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BEST TRAP IN THE WORLD for CATCHING FISH, ANIMALS, AND ALL MANNER OF CAME.

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did satisfaction. SPECIAL OFFER. If you will send the name and address of a friend for a special year's subscription at 25c, we will send this magazine a full year to the address you furnish and one No. 1 Claw to you as a free gift. Or you may send us a club of two trial yearly subscriptions at 25c, each per year and we will send our magazine one year to each subscriber and one No. 2 Claw to you as a free gift.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscribis to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the writer's
to name and post-office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest, will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them, and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach six hundred and fifty words. Contributors must write on one side of the paper only.

#### \$10 CASH PRIZES \$10.

The following cash prises will be paid monthly: 1st. For the best original letter
2nd. "second best original letter
3rd. "third ""
4th. "fourth " "
5th. "fifth " "

Competitors for these monthly cash prizes must comply with all the above rules, and in addition must bring at least two new Cousins into the Comport circle: that is, they must send two new subscribers with each letter, together with 50 cents for the yearly subscriptions.

These cash prizes will be announced monthly in this department.

partment.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in
Ider this Prize Offer.

Ni communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva,
re of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

#### CASH PRIZE WINNERS.

Mary W. Early, 2.50 George Jones, Maud B. Rodgers. 1.50 Mrs. Icey Hough Douglas,

EAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS: November is here again. The farmer has gathered in his crops and made his preparations for the coming winter, and the busy housewife is planning for Thanksgiving Day; but however much of bustle and life there may be in the air we cannot refrain from a feeling of deep sadness when we remember the excitement which overswept our whole country last November on account of the Presidential elections and our joy when assured that our beloved President McKinley would remain at our head for another four years. Alas! how soon were our hopes frustrated and our joy turned into deepest mourn ing by the dastardly murder of him whom we loved so well and trusted so implicitly! We feel that we have met with an irreparable loss, but we can only echo the dying words of our President "It is the Lord's way. His will be done" and leave it with Him who in his infinite wisdom can cause even this terrible calamity to work for our good.

Our first letter this month comes from our

western coast, and from a cousin who has been silent in our circle for many a month, so we welcome gladly his story of the Cliff House, illustrated by his own ready pencil.

ed by his own ready pencil.

"As the shores of California grow clear above the horizon, the traveler on board an ocean steamer nearing San Francisco Bay, finds his attention attracted by a large, castle-like building standing prominently on the verge of the rocky wall bordering the sea. This is the Cliff House, the most famous ocean resort on the Pacific Coast. The course lies quite near to it, as the vessel approaches the Golden Gate, and a fine opportunity is afforded to note its imposing situation, graceful architecture, and the general charm and attractiveness of its surroundings. It is placed on the outermost edge of the ocean's bank, with the surf perpetually dashing upwards at its base; on one side the cliffs stretch in an urbroken line, on the other is a long sweep of sandy beach, and in the background, at a still higher elevation are a finely kept park and gardens, all of which combine in impressing the scene on the observer as one of surpassing beauty.

"The place is several miles from the main part of San Francisco, but is easily reached by the motorlines and boulevards. On favorable days thousands congregate to enjoy the sea breezes,



THE CLIFF HOUSE.

stroll along the beach, gather shells, or seek amusement at the music-hall, dancing pavilion or other places for public entertainment. The largest buildings for salt-water bathing ever built are beated have

when the glorious sun, amid a blaze of color, sinks to repose in the liquid bosom of the great ocean, he is touched by the beauty and sublimity of the scene, and turns homeward, his heart filled with reverence toward the Great Author of the seas and the Universe."

NEAL D. MCCALL, San Francisco, Cala.

Now we will go "across the sea" to Venice, and learn a little of lace making in that wonderful old

city.

"The tourist in Venice is bewildered with 'the embarrassment of riches.' There is the grand Cathedral of St Mark's, the pathetic Bridge of Sighs, the palace of Desdemona, the buildings rendered famous as having been the homes of great poets, the Brownings, Byron and Goethe, and other points of interest too numerous to mention; but the round of sight seeing would be incomplete if the traveller failed to visit the royal factory where the celebrated Venetian point lace is manufactured and sold.

"As far back as the fifteenth century this lace commenced to be manufactured in Venice, a document of 1493 making mention of it in describing a rich marriage toilet. There are various kinds of point lace,—the Raphael, the Mosaic, the round, the square, the raised, the rose, and the Venetian



WORKING AT PILLOW LACE

point or rosaline which is a combination of all the others. These varieties are known as needle point lace, and are the finest that are produced.

"Pillow lace, which is made with bobbins, pins and a pillow or cushion is much easier to make than needle point lace. It can be made very solid and elegant, and is used chiefly for linen and upholstery. This kind of lace is chiefly made in the islands that surround Venice. Its invention is generally credited to the Flemings. In a Flemish picture attributed to Qentin Matsys (1485) introduced a girl working with pillow, bobbins, etc., somewhat similar to those now in use.

"From the infancy of Flemish art, active intercourse was maintained between the low countries and the great centres of Italian art, so it is not strange that the lace making of Venice should have been imitated by the equally industrious and artistic Flemings, and accordingly we find lace making well established in Flanders by the end of the sixteenth century.

"The Venetian 'filet' (net) guipure lace is said to have originated with the fishermen of the Adriatic sea who in repairing their nets showed the artistic taste that characterized all Venetians, and their stitches taken alternately formed a kind of lace which is supposed to have been the foundation of all lace making.

"Colored laces are a specialty in Venice, being made in that city alone. They are made of silk thread, and in rich Persian effects.

Comparatively few of the lace makers work in the factory, much of the work being done in the country around. Visitors are taken into a room where lace makers are at work and it is sad to see how pallid these workers are, and to reflect on the fact that they are wearing away their eye sight and their very life blood in producing these exquisite fabrics. It recalls Hood's pathetic 'song of the shirt'. For remuneration they re-



ceive daily a sum equivalent to about twelve cents of our money, and for this pitiful 'mess of pottage' they sell their birthright of health and eyesight. Their paltry earnings, however, are somewhat increased by the little fee which visitors generally give them. The women who show and sell the laces to customers are dressed in black velvet over which they gracefully drape the beautiful fabric, thereby displaying it to the best advantage."

MARY W. EARLY, Lynchburg, Va.

Now back to the charming vistas of California.

Now back to the charming vistas of California, and this time our steps are guided by one who has frequently led us of late into this delightful region.

and this time our steps are guided by one who has frequently led us of late into this delightful region.

"Journeying southward from Monterey, down into the luxuriant Carmelo valley, famous for one of the oldest missions in California, one finds what is most rare in this state during the summer time, a deep, clear creek winding and bubbling through the land. For some miles of the devious way leading to this creek the tall pines and oaks grow thickly and when one leaves their cool protection the sunlit view that stretches out before is variable and magnificent.

"Below the road lies the warm valley above and about which the colors of nature are so deep and rich, yet delicate. The sea and sky of Italian beauty, the foliage of brightest hues and the soft coloring of the fine old mission so in keeping with the whole. Near by still stands the old garden of the padres, with its sweet Castilian roses and somber, stately fig trees with their heavy fruit glistening and mellowing in the southern warmth. Farther down the valley flows the green-bordered little Carmelo river, and just beyond its banks is the lane that eventually leads to the creek.

"Passing through the old gate from which vines and shrubs have been cut back all in vain one enters among flowering chestnuts and other sweet smelling trees and vines in such profusion that the atmosphere resembles the warm fragrance of a green-house. Before reaching the creek, however, as though to make one more appreciative of its beauty, one is obliged to leave the green and perfume of the lane for a road about which the trees stand far apart and even the rampant, brilliant lupines seem shy of blooming. This dusty little way is however quickly traversed and before one suddenly appear huge redwoods, the most beautiful of all California's native trees, massive yet fernike in their gracefulness, lofty, yet with drooping boughs bending far downward to the earth. Rising from the damp, shadowy brink of the creek and growing to such immense height that the reflection of their fronds that eventually leads to the creek.

"Assing through the old gate from which vines and shrubs have been cut back all in vain one eners among flowering testunuts and other sweet smelling trees and vines in such profusion that the care and the swirling eddes in search of fish, reappearing from time to time on the crest of some wave to take breath. A giant sea lilion, Ben Butler he was called, made his home and held sway on these rocks for years, until he died during a storm; his body washed ashore, was mounted, and is now on exhibition in a nearby museum with many other creatures and curios of the deep.

"Tourists pronounce the view of beach and sea which is obtained from the Cliff House to be one of the finest in the world. Beautiful it is without doubt; and, when one has drank his fill of the balmy sea breezes, followed with his eyes the grae afful ships fading into the misty distance, listened to the heavy roar of the beating surf, and watched the long lines of rhythmic breakers, rolling showevard, he feels that he could not wish to behold anything more inspiring. And finally,

pleasant, peaceful shores, and although they have long been gone from here, some to find rest in the mission churchyard near by, yet there remain many who can tell of the happy hours spent here in the days of long ago."

MAUD B. RODGERS, San Francisco, Cala.

Our next letter brings with it a strong whiff of the delightful odors of Thanksgiving Day.

OUBTLESS most

Our next letter brings with it a strong whiff of the delightful odors of Thanksgiving Day.

OUBTLESS most of you cousins may be found at dinner of you cousins may be found at dinner of your cousins may be found at dinner of your cousins may be found at the property of the poor gobbler whose bone you are picking. So let us now, since Thanksgiving day will be filled with other matters, spend a few moments in investigation into his private life.

"In early springtime, when meadow and upland are yellow with buttercups, and the air is full of nature's song and fragrance, a turkey hen will often be seen to leave the main band and go off by herself, feeding and occasionally uttering a strange calling sound which means to those who understand her that she is either going to her nest or is in search of a place to make one. She will occasionally look back to see if she is followed, and if she finds she is, she will either feed off in a different direction, or go back and join the main band. Her nest is easily found, however, by keeping concealed and watching her closely.

"A turkey hen generally lays one egg every two days. When her nest contains some twelve or fifteen eggs she begins to sit. It requires about twenty-eight days for the eggs to hatch, and then she comes off with as pretty a brood of little brown fowls as ever ran at the calls of a mother. These little birds are very tender for a few days and if exposed to excessive cold or wet weather will drop off like magic. But after they are two or three weeks old they feather out and grow strong.

"The turkey, unlike most domestic fowls, is of a roving disposition, and when the little birds are strong enough to endure a day's journey it is better to let the old hen out where she can roam at will. Then it is a sight to see the little ones follow her, for they are constantly as busy as bees, running here and there in search of a bug or young grasshopper and never seeming to grow tired.

"As a mother the turkey hen is very shrewd. She will always take her little flock t

Here is an amusing incident of the World's Fai written by a new contributor.

"I was always much interested in the Turks, so when I went to the 'World's Fair' at Chicago I was on the lookout for these, to me, terrible people. I saw them many times on the grounds, and well might any one dread their anger. But the one whom I saw from my hotel window made me sure that I would always give a native Turk a wide berth.

"One day, while resting from sight-seeing, I felt like the little boy at the circus when they told him

"One day, while resting from sight-seeing, I felt like the little boy at the circus when they told him to sit down.

"I came to see, and I am going to see!"

"So I sat watching the world and his wife pour past my window, when along came an old Irish woman and her boy 'a wearin' of the green' and in Irish holiday attire, and, like myself, they were trying to make one pair of eyes see as much as ten. All at once their gaze fell on something up street. My eyes followed theirs and I beheld Mr. Turk, petticoat, big knife and all; and a huge Turk he was. My little Irish couple stood stock still and gazed with wide eyes and open mouths.

"Now Mr. Turk did not like to be stared at, so he got angry 'and in a voice like thunder he scolded them; he ranted around them, and brandished his knife over them, while they shook as if they had the ague. Finally he moved on, but they did not stir until he was out of sight; then they seized hands and ran as though they feared he was pursuing them.

"And I, well, I had been scared, but after the

"And I, well, I had been scared, but after the danger was over I laughed till I cried, and many a laugh I've had since at the expense of that nice little Irish woman and her Turk."

MRS. ICEY HOUGH DOUGLAS, Shelburn, Ind.

I wish I had a prize for the following letter, for it is interesting, but we have had so many letters from this vicinity that I am afraid that I must keep my prizes for fresher subjects.

keep my prizes for fresher subjects.

"When visiting the quaint old city of Williamsburg, one is struck with its antique appearance and historic reminiscences of early days. Next to the college, the glory of Williamsburg is Bruton church, and a brief history of its infancy would perhaps be interesting.

"Bruton Parish sprung from several successive parishes. When, in 1632, Middle Plantation, subsequently Williamsburg, was laid out, a parish church of the same name was erected. Horlop parish later united with this as Middletown parish. In 1674 Middletown was joined to Marston, and the united parishes became known as Bruton Parish—which name has ever since been retained. In 1677, the vestry determined not to repair the upper or lower churches in the parish, but to build a new brick church at Middle Plantation. An agreement was signed to build the brick church 'for £150 and



of tobacco or £5, payable to the minister; for burial in church 50 pounds of tobacco, payable to the parish; for funeral sermon £2, payable to he minister; for registering christenings and burials, 2 pounds of tobacco each, payable to the clerk of the parish; for digging a grave 10 pounds of tobacco, payable to the sexton. The minister's salary was fixed at 1,600 pounds of tobacco and cash annually.

bacco, payable to the sexton. The minister's salary was fixed at 1,600 pounds of tobacco and cash annually.

"The establishment of the college in 1693 and the removal hither of the capitol in 1694 affected the church, and a new one was built, about 1715, to hold the congregation, in shape almost an even cross. The pulpit was at the southeast corner, and was reached by a flight of winding stairs. The chancel was at the east end. The pews were rectangular, and the pew of the governor was near the pulpit, and had a canopy over it. White-washed walls, oil painted manogany seats, and stone-flagged aisles were features of Bruton in common with other churches of that period. The present brick wall was built in 1752. New repairs were ordered in 1769, and the church altered to its present proportions. An organ, undoubtedly the first church organ in the United States, was secured and placed in the loft. Since 1837, the high pews and stone-paved aisles and pulpit and chancel have passed away. Modern improvements have changed the interior, which now presents a very beautiful appearance.

In the churchyard sleep many who were well

changed the interior, which now presents a very beautiful appearance.

In the churchyard sleep many who were well known in their day.

It may be well to notice that in this church is a baptismal font taken from the church at Jamestown, and claimed to be the first of its kind in this country, it having been brought over to America by Smith and Hunt. The ancient clock, whose hands have long ceased to toil, looks down from the steeple from which the tuneful notes of the old bell may yet be heard, calling the people forth for worship."

H. H. HALL, Williamsburg. Va.

There my dears, my lap is empty, and we must

There, my dears. my lap is empty, and we must scatter to our various interests, hoping that next month will find me again the possessor of a full letter bag. Goodby.

AUNT MINERVA

St. Vitus Dance. One bottle Dr.M.M.Fenner's Specific cures.By mail.Send for Circular, Fredonia, N.Y.

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Sir Thomas Lipton did not have much fear of the hoodoo of a name when he named his yacht Shamrock second.

Dooley declared that the best way to end the Boer war was to say it was ended. Recent events lead to an appreciation that this may be the only way.

Since the first of last June \$15,974,872 has been given to the colleges of this nation. Let us be thankful that Americans show their belief in education in such a practical manner.

The old Puritan Thanksgiving is still the great home festival. Our ill luck, our miseries, our misfortunes are always too evident. It is well that we set aside one day in which it is our duty to search for something pleasant, something to be thankful for. The American home is the grandest place on earth and it is natural to turn in that direction when the call goes forth to return thanks.

It is claimed by some observers that the telephone and the trolley car are the electrical agents that are scattering the population of the cities into the country. Not that we have grown to love Nature. No, we have loved her all the while, but the benefits of the city were too evident and isolation was too high a price to pay for space and pure air. Electricity has changed the condition and people have returned to the country.

The Sultan must feel that these are new times. He can hark back not so many years when his policy kept all Europe guessing and when no one called him to account for the harassing of Greece. Now he is obliged to pay the hustling Yankees indemnity and after a startling bluff at France and rumors of a general European imbroglio, the poor old Turk is forced to back out. The "unspeakable Turk" is becoming able to understand the voice of command.

Germany has again raised the tariff on breadstuffs imported from the United States. She has not raised enough grains this year for home consumption and as a result the price of bread bears heavily upon the poorer classes. It was the same condition that brought on the "Corn Law" agitation in England some years ago. The fierce fight against a tax upon food finally resulted in a better feeling against tariff laws in general and resulted in England's becoming practically a free trade country. Germany is next to the United States one of the highest "protective tariff" nations of the world but she needs to watch the effect of hunger upon her policy of taxing necessities as well as luxuries.

Norway extends the suffrage to women. This became a law in October and now all tax paying women have the right to vote at city elections. In many ways the people of Norway enjoy a right in directing their own affairs. Men were not allowed universal suffrage in cities until a recent date. At first the voting was limited to tax payers. The suffragists of America are much encouraged because President Roosevelt is on record as favoring woman suffrage when he was governor of New York. Calm observers of the current of events believe that universal suffrage for women is one of the lines in which the new century will develop. The believers in woman suffrage hail an event like that in Norway as a great victory but the unprejudiced observer feels that it is only an-

other indication of the inevitable tendency of

For what gift or blessing should we be most thankful? Each will answer the question in his own way and according to his own personality and environment. An American millionaire whose name is a power both at home and abroad gave a greeting that carried in its kindly wish much material for thought. He gave his picture to a charming young married couple blessed with abundant vitality, enthusiam and joy in life but with no superfluity of worldly wealth. Across the face of the of worldly wealth. Across the lace of the photo, were the words "Wishing you health and happiness". These two words compass the good of this life that money can not purchase. "Health" and "Happiness" and if you have the first it is not so difficult to achieve the last. The words meant so much between, above and around the lines. It was the best thing that the man of millions could wish for his friends and the two little words hold the entire circle of blessings that make life worth while.

America seems to have developed a perfect epidemic of anniversary and exposition occasions. We seem to be intoxicated at the fact that our history has grown to such length of years that we can have centennials, bicentennials and countless fifty year celebrations and can indulge in the grown up luxury of looking backward. Side by side with this pride in the past is our commercial instinct to enliven the resurrection with all the wonderful advance shown by our material progress. England has just finished her celebration of the one thousandth anniversary of the death of King Alfred the Great. A real millenium occasion does make our little jubilees seem extremely modern and "to-day-ish". Canada has become inoculated with our exposition habit and is discussing the plan of holding a Pan-British Exposition at Toronto. This is to show the advance of the provinces of Canada and also that of all the colonies under the English flag. The colonies of England are almost as young as the United States and such an exposition would furnish an excellent means of comparison of progress between the rebellious daughter and the more dutiful children. America seems to have developed a perfect

Many attempts have been made by our government and by private individuals to preserve the sites and scenes that mark events in our history. Although a society has been organized and the matter brought before Conour history. Although a society has been organized and the matter brought before Congress, no effective measures have been taken to preserve the oldest historical ground in our country—Ticonderoga and Crown Point. At both these places are heaps of ruins where once stood the two greatest forts of the continent. Before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, Samuel de Champlain had fought a great battle with the Iroquois at Ticonderoga. In 1609, no history had been made in America except the little settlement at Jamestown. Around Ticonderoga clustered all the romance of French settlement. That fort and old Fort Frederick at Crown Point were strongholds of the French until 1758. During the Revolution the stirring scenes of Burgoyne's campaign were enacted at Ticonderoga and Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys made themselves immortal by their capture of the old stronghold, "In the name God and the Continental Congress." The scene of all these stirring memories is at the mercy of any vandal who cares to cart away the stone and the ruins have lost much of their beauty by such acts. The purchase by the government and the establishment of a state park would preserve the most historic spot in America from further desecration. The state of New York would do well to acquire the property even if the nation did not, for it is ground around which all that is most romantic in New York history has been enacted as well as deeds of the greatest heroism. as deeds of the greatest heroism.

Thanksgiving Day comes to the people of America in this November with a peculiar sadness and also a feeling of real thankfulness and hope. The sad event that threw the nations of the world into mourning is too near to be forgotten or to have lost its grief. The national calamity saddens all causes for personal individual joy in a season of thankfulness. It has been a year of great and unbounded prosperity to the individual. "God bless all our gains" say we, but 'God bless all our losses" better suits with our degrees. God can bless this loss of its loved and honored chief to the American people. We may find that reckless license of speech and press is not liberty. The American press may learn the lesson that no belittling or lack of personal respect to the head of our nation can help political ends. Both parties need to learn this lesson by heart. We may learn that all defiance of organized lawful authority and law is anarchy. Our three thousand cases of lynching during the last few years do not show a high moral sense of the majesty of the law. If it needed the death of a man loved by the people at the supposed instigation of anarchy to create a respect for the man loved by the people at the supposed instigation of anarchy to create a respect for the forms of law, no victim of lesser degree could have so far enforced it. The shock has set the nation to thinking. We may have a feeling of thankfulness that our great martyr shall not have died in vain if these ends are reached. It is a heavy price to pay and such knowledge is dearly bought, but the American people may feel thankful that there are evidences that the knowledge has been gained. knowledge has been gained.

The nations of Europe have watched the colonial expansion of the United States with an observing and a jealous eye. No voice was raised to demand that the converse of the Monroe Doctrine should be observed and that if we insisted that European nations should not colonize or control America we should observe the same spirit toward the old world. This discussion began, however, when the United States sent a war vessel on the outbreak of the Venezuelan-Columbian dispute. With great uniformity, the European papers have read in that act a desire on our part to finally absorb all of South America. This is imperialism come home to roost. The same papers declare that it will be impossible for the nations of Europe to conform to any such political ideas, and that the United States will have to sacrifice Saint Monroe ou the altar of our overwhelming desire to rule. It is strange at this late date to find the purpose of the United States so misunderstood. We gave a clear demonstration in China that the motives of the roe Doctrine should be observed and that if we onstration in China that the motives of the United States could be and were disinterested.

Germany has protested most bitterly against our assuming any big-brotherly against our assuming any big-brotherly attitude in South America. The United States should exercise an arbitratorship over South American affairs. They are too near us in South America for us to be indifferent as to results. The South American republic owe their chance to obtain liberty to the power of the United States that said "Stand off" to the harpies of Europe who were anxious to join the battle. It is not for them now to dictate a course to us, especially when that course has long been a matter of understood policy. derstood policy.

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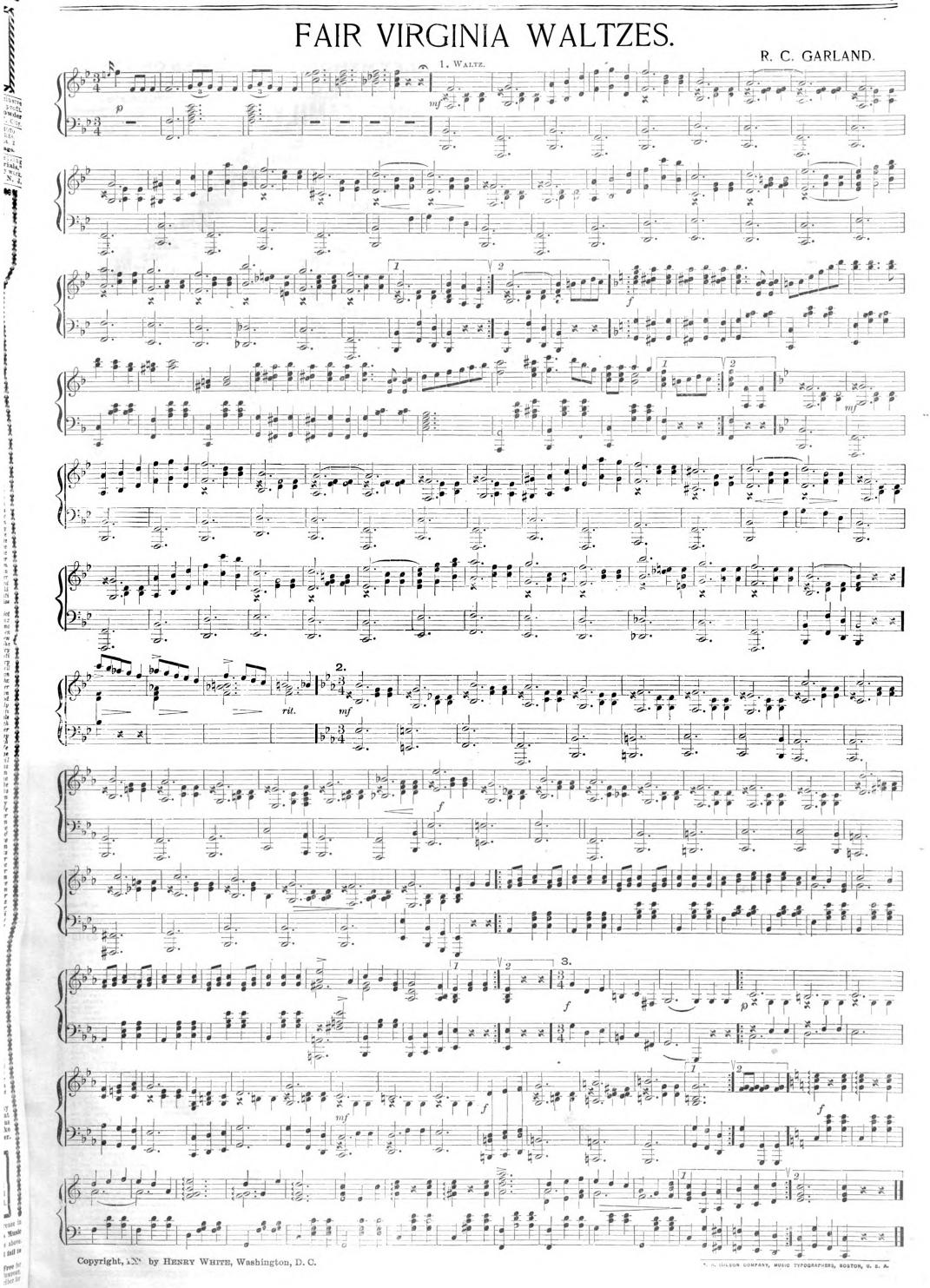
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HE following letter on pecan culture comes from a reader in Savannah, Georgia, and I am sure will be read with much in-terest by those living in parts of the country where nuts can be successfully cultiva-

successfully cultivated:

"A few years ago while yet quite a young man, almost the first thing I did for myself when starting in life was to obtain the first thing I did for myself when starting in life was to obtain the finest pecan known and set an orchard. I obtain that were far superior to any obtained from elsewhere, the large size, fine quality and thin shell being considered, also they were from isolated trees, so they were certain to reproduce themselves.

"I planted the nuts in the spring, soaking them in chemicals in order to get them to germinate quickly, as I knew thin shell nuts would not stand being water-soaked all winter and germinate. When the trees were one year old I transplanted them, previously analyzing the ashes of pecan wood to see what fertilizer they needed, and found potash was what it craved and by experimenting found the common potash such as soap is made from was best and cheapest. I use one pound potash and ten gallons water—use one gallon in setting the tree and the same quality the following season, making holes with iron rods and pouring in the water.

"Some of the trees bore at four years. All at

wild nuts to m a k e a pound you can imagine
the size.
Pecans will grow wherever a common hick-ory will thrive. Ten acres is a fortune here fortune here and one to have not affected by any disease or pests and safer than a bank ac-count or insurance policy. The pecan makes a beautiful shade for lawn also." We have

letters re questing further recipesand suggestions for the care of the hair.

The white of egg, though excellent for cleaning the hair, tends to darken it. For blonds it is better to use borax and warm water, in the proportion of one teaspoon borax to a cup of water. Rub it into the roots of the hair with a circumfactory and its set. proportion of the proportion of the hair with a piece of flannel until every particle of dandruff has been removed. Then dry thoroughly, allowing it to hang loose for an hour or two. The next day, rinse with warm water and then with cold and again dry thoroughly and comb with a coarse comb.

cold and again dry thoroughly and come with a coarse comb.

This simple wash should not be used oftener than once a month. Borax should on no account be used by those whose hair is gray or white, as it will tinge the ! ir yellow. A little indigo put into the rinsing water for gray hair imparts to it the most clean and beautiful approximate and in no way injures the hair.

and adding a lump of camphor, and if the hair is inclined to be dry, a teaspoon of cocoanut or

olive oil.

Ammonia should be omitted from any recipe if the scalp is very dry. During the hot weather many people suffer from loss of hair, due to overheated heads which weaken the scalp. If this occurs, use the following hair wash every morning for a fortnight, and then three times a week.

week:
One ounce each of oil of sweet almonds, spirits chloroform, laurel water and spirits semary. Mix carefully and put into roots of

To prevent the hair falling after severe headache, excessive perspiration or weakness of the scalp caused by illness, try the following lotion, which must be well rubbed into the roots of the hair three or four times a week for a month or six weeks:

month or six weeks:
Eight ounces eau-de-cologne; one ounce
tincture jaborandi; one-half dram oil lavender and the same quantity of oil of rosemary.
In the case of long-continued ill-health, or
when, from any other cause, the hair has been
rendered extremely stubborn and dry, the best
means for restoration is treatment with a glycerine lotion diluted with elder flower, rose or
lavender water. lavender water.

lavender water.

Often after severe illness, or when one has been "out of sorts" for a lengthened period, one's hair is apt to come out in handfuls, and get thin with alarming rapidity. In cases such as these there is usually but one thing to be done, if a permanent cure is to be obtained, and that is to have the hair cut quite short, and to keep it so for a year or two, using, meanwhile, with scrupulous regularity, some tonic lotion, and adding, if possible, the occasional stimulus of electricity. This "electric" treatment can be administered by one's maid or one'sself; or, if the hire or purchase of a proper battery is impossible, usually every first-class hairdresser nowadays has the necessary apparatus for the purpose. atus for the purpose.

Friction, either by hand or brush, is also an excellent accessory means when the hair has been cut; and strong rosemary tea, or a very diluted solution of the essential oils of rosemary or thyme, is often advantageous as facilitating friction. A very good friction wash can be made by the addition of a little pure spirit of wine or good rum to the rosemary or thyme oil.

mon potash such as soap is made from was best and cheapest. I use one pound potash and ten gallons water—use one gallon in setting the tree and the same quality the following season, making holes with iron rods and pouring in the water.

"Some of the trees bore at four years. All at five or six and at nine years bore as much as two hundred and seventy-five pounds per tree. The finest nuts you ever saw, about twenty-five nuts to pound and when you consider that it takes one hundred and when you consider that it takes one will be to the many and try to prevent the mischief spreading further by a proper system of medical and hygienic treatment, rather than to fly to dyes as a means of concealment. But a simple and often very efficacious "darkener" is provided by mixing a teaspoon to a teacup of Condy's fluid in soft water. Applied with a sponge thoroughly, it will generally be found to darken the hair very considerably.

One of the

of bleaching dyes is per-oxide of oxide of hydrogen. The simple peroxide can be obained at almost any druggist's. The use of this will gradually gradually lighten the tint of the hair, until it becomes a pale flaxen. But it is only right that I t h a t I should warn my readers that if its use is per-sisted in till this result is attained, considerable injury to the hair may result by impairing its tex-ture; it will also cause it

of the hair, that we will devote our space this month to answers and hints as to the care of woman's greatest ornament.

Few people realize that the hair needs as careful attention as the face.

A soft bristle brush and a coarse comb are the only implements to use on the hair. Never use a fine-tooth comb as it irritates the scalp. Keep the head clean by shampooing.

The growth of hair in a healthy scalp is eight inches a year. If one uses curling irons daily, especially in the summer, some nourishment should be supplied. A good recipe is one ounce each of lavender water and glycerine, two ounces clarified honey and four ounces two ounces clarified honey and four ounces rectified spirit. Mix the honey and glycerine together, then add the lavender water or cologne, and last the spirit.

A recipe which gives a glossy appearance to the hair, as well as strengthens it, is: Two drams castor oil, five ounces rectified spirit, a little attar of rose and two drams cochineal tincture. Put a few drops into the palm of the hand and then rub the bristles of the brush across it and so apply to the hair.

The white of egg, though excellent for clean—

The white of egg, though excellent for clean—

The white of egg, though excellent for clean—

The water of woman's greatest ornament.

Wath some people its only action is to make the hair is naturally dark, rather coarse, and inclined to be wavy. The peroxide should be exercise no action whatever; whilst to the hair is naturally dark, rather coarse, and inclined to be wavy. The peroxide should be applied to the hair itself, and not to the scalp.

The fluid should be obtained in small quantities, and be kept in a dark blue bottle, well or applied to the hair itself, and not to the scalp.

The fluid should be obtained in small quantities, and be kept in a dark blue bottle, well or applied to the hair itself, and not to the scalp.

The fluid should be obtained in small quantities, and be kept in a dark blue bottle, well or applied to the hair itself, and not to the scalp.

Millian Manner

corked, in a cupboard, as it has a tendency to rapidly decompose if exposed too frequently or too much to the action of light.

Before applying the peroxide, the hair must be thoroughly washed in hot water, containing a small quantity of borax, soda, or ammonia, so that it may be entirely freed from grease or dirt. Unless this be done, the bleaching fluid will produce little or no effect.

When the hair has been well dried the per-

When the hair has been well dried the peroxide should be applied with a small sponge, the more complete distribution being effected the more complete distribution being effected by means of a soft, clean, long-haired brush, kept for the purpose. The morning is the best, and, indeed, the proper time for applying the wash, as the action of light, more especially that of sunlight, is very helpful.

Three or four applications will generally be found sufficient to give the desired hue to the hair, and then the operation need not be repeated, as a general rule, for a month or even six weeks. Then the same course of treatment, cleaning the hair, and so forth, must be gone

white, as it will tinge the ! tir yellow. A little indigo put into the rinsing water for gray hair imparts to it the most clean and beautiful appearance and in no way injures the hair.

Brunettes cannot do better than to use the rosemary wash for cleansing the hair, which it not only does effectually, but checks any falling off of the hair, especially if this is occasioned by excessive heat of the scalp or severe headaches.

Boil from six to eight minutes one pound of rosemary leaves in a quart of water, stirring

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bright colors. This silk is worth a good price by itself. But agreem if your ODER ONE to the will sell many in your location. I make this offer besides giving you a large and elegant piece of Plush.

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Great American Givers.

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cance from the fact that it was stimulated by

and through wise administration as well as its

nominated and accepted are those

The unparalleled gift of thirteen million dollars to the University of Chicago has placed the name of John D. Rockefeller highest on the roll of

est on the roll of

living philanthro-pists. It is indeed unmatchable in the history of

wealth and past benefactions. And this great charity derives additional

luster and signifi-

A great many | Professor S. A. Weltmer, the renowned scientist articles have re- of Nevada, Mo. This great benefactor is the cently been writ- originator of the Weltmer Method, which is ten regarding the known throughout the civilized world as Welt-Hall of Fame and merism. It is the method that heals diseases the names that and afflictions without the use of the surgeon's should be there knife or medicines of any kind. Professor S. A. entered. If the Weltmer spent twenty years of his life in names that will be metaphysical researches, and more than \$250,000 in spreading the knowledge of his science to man-kind. Weltmerism is now so perfected that it has of living men and within itself the absolute possibility of curing diswomen who have eases of every nature, no matter whether the disdone Humanity ease is that chronic kind which is termed incurable the greatest ben- or hopeless. It also has the indorsement of men efit, we have a and women of national reputation, such as United name to propose States Senators, Congressmen, Mayors, etc. Rethat should re- cently a lady who is very prominent in literary ceive the unani- circles and also a sister of a United States Senator, vote of all concerned. It is the name of wrote a letter to a high official in Washington, in | than pleased if those afflicted, no matter what the | fession.

struction of tissues, no waste of energy under treatment, as is common to the methods of the physicians of all schools. Its resultant effects are immediately apparent. I have daily observed the recovery of patients which challenge the credibility of any but an eye-witness. Permit me to say of myself, after a year's hopelessness and the verdict of the physicians, no hope unless in a capital operation, having lived on liquid foods for a year, my lungs so involved the cough was incessant and life a continual agony, I am now able to eat anything my appetite craves. I have no cough whatever, I can walk three miles with ease, whereas I could not walk three blocks without a hemorrhage. I can do six straight hours of literary work per day without fatigue. I have seen an elderly woman cured of shaking palsy of pronounced type in three weeksfully developed cancer in six weeks. Professor S. A. Weltmer is a scientific writer of exceptional skill. The author of many books, one of which has had the phenomenal sale of twenty-three editions of 5000 copies each within two years. He editor of the Weltmer Magazine. Weltmerism will positively cure diseases when all else fails. Professor S. A. Weltmer is very anxious to have the knowledge of his great method in the hands of every man and woman in our land; he will be more

which she said in part: "Weltmerism is the phil-

osophy of the natural. It defines the law of the

restoration of the lost functions of the body. It is

a philosophy based on truth, which touches every

phase of human action. It is, however, wholly a

said by those who know him best that he gives more time to his benevolences and to their consideration than to his business affairs. He employs secretaries, whose time is given to the investigation of requests for aid, and attend-ing to such cases as are favorably decided up-

out his associates in the refining business, except Samuel Andrews, with whom he established the firm of Rockefeller & Andrews, the real beginning of the Standard Oil Company.

The growth of the business in such hands with the marvelous demand that instantly sprung up all over the country for the pressile.

with the marvelous demand that instantly sprung up all over the country for the new illuminant by leaps and bounds, and in 1870 the Standard Oil Company was established with John D. Rockefeller as President. He was also made President of the National Refiners' Association. In 1872 the capital stock of the Standard Oil Co. was increased to two and one half millions and its business envented in one half millions and its business amounted in one year to over twenty-five millions of dollars. Ten years afterwards in 1882 the Standard Oil Trust was formed with a capital of seventy millions, afterwards increased to ninety-five millions. When John D. Rockefeller had reached the age of but thirty-one the word millions became associated with his name. His undertakings were colossal in every sense of the word

In 1892 came the memorable fight culminaton the decision of the Supreme Court of Ohio that the Trust was illegal and the business was divided into separate organizations of which Mr. Rockefeller continued to be the leading spirit. The Standard Oil Company thus organized controls today the petroleum markets of the world. The census of 1890 stated the value of the expense of petroleum controls. ed the value of the exports alone of petroleum in various forms at \$50,000,000. It has grown enormously in ten years. The Standard Oil Company pays average dividends of 50 per cent. annually and in organization and achievements is the greatest single achievements. the world has ever known. It is more than pleasant to be able to record that such great power placed in the hands of a single individual has been consistently used for the benefit of his follow men.

vidual has been consistently used for the benefit of his fellow men.

The list of Mr. Rockefeller's benefactions would indeed fill a large volume. He is a giver in every kind of charity, public and private. "Always reticent about his gifts, it is impossible to learn exactly how much he has given, or to what purpose." About five years ago he presented Vassar College with \$100,000,—a like sum to the Rochester University and the same to Spelman at Augusta in honor of his wife's family. Says a recent writer who knows his family well and has spent days in his charming home circle: "Mr. Rockefeller's private charities have been almost numberless. He has aided young men and women through college, ed young men and women through college, sometimes by gift and sometimes by loan. He has provided the means for persons who were ill to go abroad or elsewhere for rest. He does not forget when his apples are gathered at Pocantico Hills (his magnificent estate on the Hudson) to send hundreds of beyrels to the Pocantico Hills (his magnificent estate on the Hudson) to send hundreds of barrels to the various charitable institutions in and near New York, or, when one of his workmen dies to continue the support to the family when it is needed." Some of us become too busy to think of the little ways of doing good. It is

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Neither the farmer nor shopkeeper sells the same customer twice if he was dishonest in making the first sale. The same is true in every business, honesty is a more important factor than energy in building up and successfully conducting a business, and no business is continuously successful that does not acquire a deserved reputation for honesty and general integrity.

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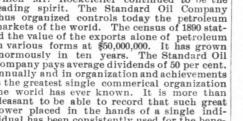
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what the large born used on a Phonograph is for, it is to increase, modulate, magnify and carry the sound so that he will be a strong and clear and distinctly heard at a great distance. Thus it is that a Megraphone is used to carry the voice can be carried to the Nickle Metal "Phone" which is so arranged that the notes coming from the Harmonica are carried around the bell of the Phone which produces the most melodious notes that can emerge from a Silver Nickle horn. Any one who can play a common mouth organ can operate this great wonder and by manipulating the hand over the mouth of the Phone the most startling and beautiful effects can help be compared to the produce of t

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cance from the fact that it was stimulated by the grandest possible motives.

"Mr. Rockefeller is a deeply religious man," remarks a recent writer, "and he has made his gifts as an obligation of religious duty as it seems to him." Their religious significance, however, in this particular instance, does not in any degree impair their value. Chicago University while nominally under the patronage of the Baptist church is a great unsectarian institution for the education of both sexes, and through wise administration as well as its is the greatest single commercial organization

institution for the education of both sexes, and through wise administration as well as its remarkable endowment, is already third in attendance of our great universities. It opened its doors to students on October 1, 1892. The youngest of American universities has been fortunate in other endowments from public spirited men of the west also, and possesses in the Yerkes telescope the largest instrument for astronomical observations in the world.

Mr. Rockefeller's first gift to the Chicago College was the round sum of \$600,000, in 1889, conditioned on the pledging of \$400,000 by others before June 1, 1890. In September, 1890, seeing that the conditions had been fulfilled, the Standard Oil magnate placed another million dollars at the disposal of the foundation. In February, 1892, he gave one million dollars in five per cent. bonds of this government, and in December of the same year another million of the same variety—two millions in one year! His giving of millions has stimulated the giving of other millions, in one instance an entire million from one source. The building and endowment of the University of Chicago seems like a dream of wealth. But it is a day of great things and the motto of the founder of our great enterprises is "to-day, not to-morrow." Thus an institution which is third in size among the great universities of the world, and in certain particulars of equipment is first, has sprung into being in less than a decade at the bidding of one man.

John D. Rockefeller is one of the plainest, simplest, most unassuming and it may be addbidding of one man.

John D. Rockefeller is one of the plainest, simplest, most unassuming and it may be added God-fearing men now living. He was born in the Empire state, at Richford, Tioga County, on July 8, 1839. He comes of an old and honorable French family that emigrated to this country in 1650 and his forebears on both sides took part in the Revolutionary War. His father was not only a physician but also a man of er was not only a physician but also a man of business capacity. His mother, as is the case with all great men with scarce an exception, was a woman of rare common sense and execupility." The story of his life is the story successful American business man, pure tive ability."

and simple.

His educational opportunities in the High School were supplemented only by a summer course in the Commercial College and at sixteen John D. Rockefeller had begun life in earnest. After much difficulty by personal application at all sorts of business houses, he succeeded in obtaining a position as assistant bookkeeper in the forwarding and commission house of Hewett & Tuttle, at a salary of four and simple. house of Hewett & Tuttle, at a salary of four

dollars per week. The habits inculcated during this experience The habits inculcated during this experience of three years' industry, energy and economy, enabled the future oil magnate to start in business on his own account before he was nineteen years of age. He had by this time saved nearly a thousand dollars. His father loaned him a thousand more at ten per cent. interest which was not high in those days even to a son and he formed a partnership in the produce commission business, the firm being Clark & Rockefeller. It is recorded that he worked early and late and that his spare moments were Rockefeller. It is recorded that he worked early and late and that his spare moments were spent wholly in church work and charity. "There was always some person in sickness or sorrow to be visited, some child to be brought into the Sunday school, or some stranger to be invited to the prayer-meetings."

Young Rockefeller's shrewd sense and rare business ability were gradually concentrated on the wonderful new illuminating product, original and improved methods of refining were developed, and in 1865 he sold out his interest in the commission house, and bought





CONDUCTED BY AUNT SARAH.



HE first Thanksgiving Proclamation was is-sued by Governor Bradford, November

Bradford, November 19, 1621.

In a book entitled "Old New England" there is an account of a Thanksgiving service held at Monhegan, by the Popham Colonists, on August 7th, 1621, giving thanks for their safe arrival on the shores of the new Continent. Very little is known concerning that event, and the general sentiment which centers around the celebration of the day, seems to of the day, seems to have its origin in the observation of Thanksgiving by our Pilgrim forefathers of Ply-

There are those who assert that the great celebration of 1621 was not the first Thanks-giving observed by the Plymouth Colony, but that the first really took place when they observed a day of prayer before deciding, in a formal way, and as a body, that Plymouth should be the point of settlement for their new homes. In this service, held by appointment, they were to give thanks for their safe arrival, and deliverance from perils of sea and land, and also "For the birth of the son, born to Susannah White, Dec. 19th, 1620, at six o'clock in the morning."

Within the next three months forty-six members of the colony died, and at one time canded the solor of the standed a corresp a beet carved to need a red candle mum from a potat white chrysis shades can be bounded. Then the menus shades can be bounded to be in the morning of the son, born to Susannah White, Dec. 19th, 1620, at six o'clock in the morning."

Within the next three months forty-six members of the colony died, and at one time sheet carved to need a red candle mum from a potat white chrysis and white chrysis and white chrysis can be bounded as a beet carved to need a red candle mum from a potat and white chrysis and white c

their variety. In the drawing rooms nothing is more effective than Indian corn and diminutive yellow pumpkins, the corn with its long stalks and golden ears stacked on either side of the wide doors or grouped in corners, the small pumpkins with more ears of corn piled at the base. If the red pop corn is procurable it is handsomer still, being so rich in color and blending so artistically with the harvest tints. Vines of cranberry crowded with the tiny red globes can trail across mantel shelves or twine up and down columns, while garlands of red and green peppers, all sizes and shapes and great bunches of ripe wheat and oats or other grain are picturesque in coloring and effect. Dried grasses and cattails, too, add a touch of nature, and boughs of red or russet leaves. Fruits of all kinds—grapes, late pears and peaches, rosy apples and purple plums, mingled with their own foliage are unique and highly typical of the harvest home.

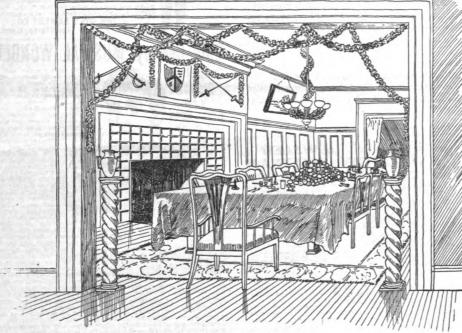
The dinner table is the center of attraction on this day of peace and plenty, and the more enticing it appears the greater success does the housewife feel she has achieved. One cannot fancy what a novel scheme of table decoration may be obtained by a homely method of vegetable design, unless she has seen or tried the plan. This is accomplished by cutting the ordinary "garden truck" into shapes simulating flowers—from the beet a deep red rose; from the yellow turnip, a tiger lily; a white lily or chrysanthemum from the potato with lettuce leaves for foliage, while cabbage, celery, cauliflower and the dozen other kitchen garden products add blossoms to this original bouquet. One of these ornaments serves at each plate as a favor, while a huge group mixed with fruits form a fine centerpiece.

It is a very simple matter to carve these mock flowers, a sharp knife and a little skill being

It is a very simple matter to carve these mock flowers, a sharp knife and a little skill being all that is required. They keep perfectly in a bowl of fresh water if it is found necessary in the busy household to prepare them the day between Them Propings. fore Thanksgiving.

fore Thanksgiving.

To complete the table arrangement, individual candles are to be placed at each plate, the idea can be carried out by having the candle the color of the vegetable blossom and the shade a corresponding flower; for instance a beet carved to represent a red rose would need a red candle and a shade, a chrysanthemum from a potato would take a white candle and white chrysanthemum as shade. These shades can be bought or can be fashioned at home from crepe paper or silk, if one is accustomed to being "handy" with her hands. Then the menus should match, also, each hand-painted with a flower at top to correspond with Then the menus should match, also, each hand-painted with a flower at top to correspond with the favor and candle shade. The bonbon boxes can be similar, or a pretty idea is to have them painted with some emblem of the day, a little Puritan maid in cap and kerchief. Miles Standish and Priscilla together, or the "good chip". Maydowe



FOR THE THANKSGIVING FEAST.

during the winter only seven of their number were well enough to care for the living and bury the dead. When spring came, the diminished band, weak and ill, and sorrowing over the death of loved ones, pluckily began to cultivate their lands.

When fall came and they began to gather in their crops, and make ready their homes for the second winter in the new world, Governor Bradford proclaimed a season of general feasting and thanksgiving, and sent a messenger to invite Massasoit, the friendly Indian chief, and his warriors to celebrate with them. This celebration lasted three days, beginning on Thursday, but the dinner of all, the regular Thanksgiving-dinner was served on Saturday, and no dinner of the present day will out-rank it as regards the quality, quantity, or variety of the foods served. The Indians brought with them as an offering of friendship a supply of fine oysters—which by the way made a new dish for the Colonists—and several fat deer. Men of the colony went out gunning and brought in an abundant supply of wild turkeys. It is not probable that the Pilgrim Fathers and "Mothers" did much in the way of decorating their homes for the occasion as that, would have been scarcely in keeping with the simple Puritan living of those early days, when the Plymouth Colony folk sought godliness in all things, rigidly foreswearing the frivolities of this mundane sphere. But the present generation has grown more lenient as civilization has marched onward, it being no longer a matter reprehensible to take pleasure in the things of beauty that delight the eye.

Today the only question arising in the mind of the feminine householder is what she can devise in the way of decoration that will lend a touch or novelty to the embellishment of her rooms and table when the family circle assembles to give thanks for the blessings that life holds for every one in a greater or less degree.

Chrysanthemums have come to be regarded

Chrysanthemums have come to be regarded as the most appropriate and ornamental flower of the late autumn, especially the gorgeous varieties now produced, but nothing seems quite so much in accord with the spirit of the day as the product of the harvest fields in all

If games and dancing for the young people follow dinner, the favors must partake of a Thanksgiving flavor as well, prim little caps and kerchiefs for the girls, long pipes and big shoe buckles for the youths, or samplers and miniature spinning wheels, and old-fashioned mugs and tankards of pewter. The old-time games always create much merriment, blindman's buff, hunt the slipper, "Oats, peas, beans and barley grows", "Little Sally Waters", "London Bridge", but none is quite so thoroughly characteristic as "Snap dragon" when the lights are turned out and the alcohol lighted on the big tray or platter placed in the centre of the dining room table, while all snatch out the nuts and raisins from the burning fluid, never minding if one's fingers do get a little scorching. The one who manages to pick out the most goodies is the prize winner. Then when all these have been appropriated a small handful of salt thrown on the burning alcohol produces a blue flame and a ghastly hue on all the faces causing a general shout of laughter as the different expressions are noted. The bright girl of the party will have her camera ready and take a snapshot during this flash.

Replying to one of our constant readers who wishes to know what make of stove polish to

and take a snapshot during this flash.

Replying to one of our constant readers who wishes to know what make of stove polish to use to keep her stove in good condition,—we would recommend the Enameline stove Polish. It comes in both paste and liquid form. If your storekeeper does not have it ask him to write to J. L. Prescott & Co., New York, mentioning Comfort, and they will supply him.

Doctor F. A. Mitchell of New Albany, Ind., in a communication, says: I have gotten the best results with five-grain antikamnia the best results with live-grain and fever. It believe they are better than any other remedy. My experience has been most gratifying. A dozen tablets in your family medicine chest will not be amiss in time of pain.



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Fur = Trimmed Double Cape Send \$1.00 returning this ad-

yertisement and giving your name address, number of cape, and your bust measure, and we will send a me to your nearest express office, C. O. D. subject to your approval, for your approval, for balance of 98c. & charges. Write for our Fashion Catalogue No. 71. Mailed Free.

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Wonderful Cures are Effected That Seem Like Miracles Performed--The Secret of Long Life of Olden Times Revived.

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After years of patient study, and delving into the dusty record of the past, as well as following modern experiments in the realms of medical science, Dr. James W. Kidd, 186 Baltes Block, Fort Wayne, Ind., makes the startling announcement that he has



DR. JAMES WILLIAM KIDD.

surely discovered the elixir of life. That he is able with the aid of a mysterious compound, known only to himself, produced as a result of the years he has spent in searching for this precious life giving boon, to cure any and every disease that is known to the human body. There is no doubt of the doctor's earnestness in making his claim and the remarkable cures that he is daily effecting seems to bear him out very strongly. His theory which he advances is one of reason and based on sound experience in a medical practice of many years. It costs nothing to try his remarkable "Elixir of Life," as try his remarkable "Elixir of Life," as he calls it, for he sends it free, to anyone who is a sufferer, in sufficient quantities to convince of its ability to cure, so there is absolutely no risk to run. Some of the cures cited are very remarkable, and but for reliable witnesses would hardly be credited. The lame have thrown away crutches and walked about after two or three trials of the remedy. The sick, given up by home doctors, have been restored to their families and friends in perfect health. families and friends in perfect health. Rheumatism, neuralgia, stomach, heart, liver, kidney, blood and skin diseases and bladder troubles disappear as by Headaches, backaches, nervousness, fevers, consumption, coughs, colds, asthma, catarrh, bronchitis and all affections of the throat, lungs or any vital organs are easily overcome in a space of time that is simply marvelous.

Partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, dropsy, gout, scrofula and piles are quickly and permanently removed. It

#### A Group of Western Writers.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



T is a fact worthy of note that some of the most popular books of last year were written by men living in the west. It is also worthy of note that the writers note that the writers of these books, with the exception of Mr. Maurice Thompson, are newcomers to the field of literature. Each year the west adds a very creditable number of more than merely credita-

Each year the west adds a very creditable number of more than merely creditable nowledge of more than merely creditable books to o ur American literature. If one will take the trouble to inform one's self regarding the books that are called for most at the public libraries, one will find that there is a speedy and growing demand for "The Redemption of David Corson," by Charles Frederick Goss. One does not read many pages of the book before discovering that here is a book written by a master hand, and that it is a book of more than ordinary import. One is not much surprised to know that the author of the book is a minister. He is a pastor of a church in Cincinnati, Ohio, and he was for some time pastor of the Chicago Avenue Baptist Church in Chicago. While "The Redemption of David Corson" is a religious novel it is not in any sense an attempt to settle any of the religious or theological questions of the day. It has the higher and better motive of showing the redeeming power of the gospel, and this it has done in a way that has won for the book the strong commendation of such men as the Rev. Newell Dwight Hillis, pastor of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, who, when he had finished reading the book, telegraphed to the author: "I have just finished reading "The Redemption of David Corson' with wet eyes and a leaping heart." Another noted divine, the Rev. Frank W. Gunsaulas, wrote of the book: "The author has told a story in which the fact of sin is illuminated with the utmost truthfulness, and the fact of redemption is portrayed with the utmost power. There are small things, as to literary style and the suddenness of some turns in the current of events, might be said, but no one can read the book without knowing that he is in the hands of a masterly and sympathetic minister to human souls. There are lines of greatness in the book without knowing that he is in the hands of a masterly and sympathetic minister to human souls. There are lines of greatness in the book which I shall never forget."

David Corson is a young man

Many readers of the book may not know that Edward Caskoden is really Mr. Charles Major, of Shelbyville, Indiana. He may properly be called a young writer as he is not quite forty-five years of age and the best of his the best of his working years are before him. His book takes its title from the following couplet in a poem entitled "The Gentle Armour:"



"There lived a knight, when knighthood was in flower, Who charmed alike the tilt-yard and the bower."

novel. Mr. Major must nave spent many months in reading before he undertook the writing of "When Knighthood was in Flower." When Julia Marlowe read the book, having been attracted by the unusual title, she immediately telegraphed to the author: "I want he dramaattracted by the unusual title, sne immediately telegraphed to the author: "I want the dramatic rights to 'When Knighthood was in Flower.'" She was given these rights and the play proved to be one of the most charming and successful of all of the plays of this charming ing actress.

Mr. Major is western born and bred having

Mr. Major is western born and bred naving first seen the light of day in Indianapolis, Indiana, on the 25th day of July in the year 1856. His native state has given more writers of prominence of the world of literature during the past quarter of a century than any other vestern state.

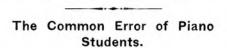
Maurice Thompson was born in Fairfield, Indiana, on the ninth day of September in the

diana, on the ninth day of September in the year 1844. He went to Kentucky to live when he was but a child, and later his family removed by this great "Elixir of Life." Send for the remedy to-day. It is free to every sufferer. State what you want to be cured of and the sure remedy for it will be sent you free by return mail.



tributor to the best tributor to the best
periodicals and
had written several books. His
latest book, "Alice
of Old Vincennes," is far and
away the best book
Mr. Thompson has
yet written and it
gives proof of a degives proof of a de-gree of dramatic power that not even his warmest friends supposed that he possessed as a writer. "Alice of Old Vincennes" is really one of the

of the day. It is a thrilling romance of American life based upon some of the most striking and thrilling facts in our American history. It is a story of love and patriotism in the revolutionary days in the Wabash Valley. The scene is laid at Old Vincennes where Fort Sackville was first occupied by the Americans under Captain Helm, was captured by the British under Governor Hamilton of Detroit, and was finally recaptured by Colonel Clarke after a terrible march from Kaskaskia. These men play important parts in the book, but Alice, the adopted daughter of Papa Roussillon, and her lover are two of the most delightful characters in the volume which is one of great power and beauty.



One of the most common errors among piano students is to think it is easier to learn a piece superficially than to do so thoroughly and well. It comes about largely by a system of shirking systematic practice and the necessary amount of hard labor to overcome the difficulties in the systematic practice and the necessary amount of hard labor to overcome the difficulties in the way. If the student commences musical work with disinclination to take sufficient pains to thoroughly master the work, the habit will continually grow until it becomes a second nature to turn out half-finished and slovenly work, and nothing will show the accomplishment which can only come with plodding, painstaking concentration and intention to understand every part.

Therefore every student should endeavor to start in at the beginning by taking pains, even if progress be more slow. If this course be pursued the student will not be continually going back to remedy defects, for every part of the structure from foundation upward will be strong and substantial. While hurried and careless ways of study bring the result of easy discouragement before difficulties, or a willingness to be satisfied with playing that is full of faults caused by lack of thorough practice.

Those who are interested in vocal or instrumental music will find a valuable offer of the latest and most catchy sheet music on another page. The cost is so trifling that after sending for a trial lot all musicians continue ordering constantly. If not interested yourself call the attention of the musical member of your family to it.

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It will cost you nothing to know the true state of your DO YOU KNOW YOUR EARLY WORK of your health no matter in what way you are afflicted. Write to the doctor at once, giving full name, age and leading symptoms and you will receive a careful diagnosis of your case and an outline of the treatment that will bring you back to health-Address The Batdorf Institute, Dept. A, Grand Rapids, Mich.





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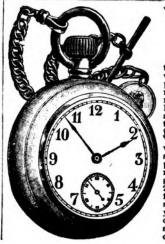
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Thirty Minutes is a short time, but many have earned one of these watches in less time than that. It is one of the very best watches for time ever offered to our readers at no matter what the price asked for it. We know, of course, there are watches that cost more money, because they are in gold or silver cases, but they will not keep any better time, simply because they cannot. This watch keeps not perfect time, we never saw the watch that did, but it keeps as near perfect time as watches usually do. We have such faith in this watch as a timekeeper that we send with every one a guarantee just as binding as that given with any watch, no matter what make. We are willing to give you this watch if you will do us a slight service, which you can easily do in an hour. We wish to increase our subscription list, and we want the assistance of every reader of this paper to that end. We do not want you to do it for nothing, we will reward you for it. You can easily secure this valuable watch if you get four subscribers to this paper, at our special subscription price of 25 cents a year each. Do this, sending us \$1.00, with the names of four subscribers to this paper, and we will send our paper to each subscriber for one year, and we will send you the watch to reward you for your efforts in our behalf. Start out now and see what you can do. Remember we guarantee every watch. If you get five subscribers and send us \$1.25 for the same we will also send you a nice chain. Address

#### Facts from a Unique Land.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



NDER "the roof of the world" lies a little country subject to Britain's rule; where probably more people exist (for some do no more than that) than in any other given space in the Orient, and by hundreds of thouby hundreds of thou-sands, more than can be counted in the same amount of territory in

be counted in the same amount of territory in the west.

The land is infested with all sorts of reptiles and vermin, but that there is "good in everything" we see demonstrated by the snake charmer of Ludia who crones his song or blows his siren whistle for the edification of the foreigner who pays to see this exhibition of—well—mind over matter—in the performance. These shows go on from morning until night just outside hotel doors, in fact in every convenient corner. In this connection it is horrible to realize the fact that in 1892 over 19,000 people died in Ludia as a result of snake bites. Rewards were offered by the government for their destruction but the money was such a temptation to the poor natives, that they went into the business of breeding snakes for the rewards. went into the business of breeding snakes for

There is no greater blessing to these poor people than the palm trees whose sap makes sugar, the ripe fruit solid food and the green fruit milk. From the kernel they obtain a rich oil used for light. The fibre of the nut is converted into clothing, fish-nets and sails. From the bark ropes and matting are manufactured and lest of all the leaves me ketheskets. tred and last of all the leaves m ke baskets, hats and our indispensable palm leaf fans. Thus—a grove of palms is a man's fortune. The religious element in Ludia is strong, followers of Mohammed being the largest in numbers. Hindus and Buddhists also control

followers of Mohammed being the largest in numbers. Hindus and Buddhists also control a large share.

An interesting though small sect is the Pharsees, who, like the Jews in our own country, in many places control the finances. In the city of Bombay some of the richest schools, hospitals, and fountains have been contributed by the wealthy Pharsees. This sect differs in all respects from the Hindu or Mohammedan. They are followers of Zoroaster the Persian Prophet. They are earnest believers in one God whose symbol is the sun, without which our little earth would be a cold dead mass. The intensity and brilliancy makes it impossible to worship the sun directly, so they substitute fire. From this fact they have been termed "fire-worshipers". The purity of their religion is obvious compared with the idolatry of the east. The Pharsee temple contains no ornament or idol, only the altar on which burns the sacred fire which, it is claimed, has never been extinguished since it was brought hither by the exiled Persians centuries ago. In the Pharsee cemetery at Bombay are the celebrated "Towers of Silence" within which is a curving wall surmounted by living vultures awaiting their prey. The funeral procession conveys the body through and within this wall where a few prayers are said by the priest who removes the covering from the body, and almost before the mourners are out of hearing these birds swoop down and devour the flesh leaving only the skeleton. This belief that it is far more beautiful to consign a body to the birds of the air, than to bury it, is an open question.

Buddhism is the predominating religion of Cevlen. Here in the temple of the "Sacred"

birds of the air, than to bury it, is an open question.

Buddhism is the predominating religion of Ceylon. Here, in the temple of the "Sacred tooth" is supposed to lie in state the left eye tooth of Budda taken from his ashes over two thousand years ago and conveyed to this sanctuary. It is seldom on exhibition although the Prince of Wales, it is said, was allowed to inspect it at a safe distance. It is apparently a piece of ivory two inches long and one inch thick, by far too large for any human mouth.

Each year, in July, occurs the "Procession of the Sacred Tooth" with a great display of wealth and reverence. The Hindu's mecca is Benares, where flows the sacred river. One of their chief occupations is keeping themselves clean in the filthy Ganges. Should a Mohammedan or a Christian come in close enough contact to touch a Hindu while he is performing any of his sacred duties, he must hurry away to wash again before proceeding. The Hindu lives on rice, having the greatest reverence for animals and the most fortunate beasts on earth are the cows and bulls which they hold sacred and allow to roam around their temple of red stone situated within a grove of stately trees where five-hundred monkeys are allowed absolute freedom. This is named the "Monkey Temple."

When a Hindu dies his wish is to expire near the sacred Ganges, for this they believe insures their safe entrance into Heaven.

when a Hindu dies his wish is to expire near the sacred Ganges, for this they believe insures their safe entrance into Heaven.

An imposing emblem of Mohammeden power is the minaret, near Delhi, built in honor of a Moslem General Kutub. Next to the Washing-ton it is the highest in the world. This tower is of Indian sandstone surmounted near the ton ton it is the highest in the world. This tower is of Indian sandstone surmounted near the top by a circle of white marble. It is fluted from top to bottom and is in five sections each having galleries of the most beautiful sculpture. This column has stood for seven hundred years and shows not the least sign of a crack in its

Throughout India there are about a thousand shrines excavated out of solid rock in form of caves. On the island of Elephanta is one of the most noted rock-hewn temples belonging to the Hindus. The origin of the place of worship is not recorded but 'tis believed to be seven centuries old.

Another marvel of the east is the Taj, which Mogul Emperor, a Mohammeden built in

Another marvel of the east is the Taj, which a Mogul Emperor, a Mohammeden built in honor of a wife whom he idolized. It was begun in 1630 and occupied 20,000 men for twenty years building it. All India contributed and no mausoleum, probably, on earth is made up of such a collection of gems.

While India is the seat of Mohammedans and Hindus, England and Christianity have absolute power, which without any doubt is the greatest of all blessings. Many of the old tortures and horrible religious customs have been abolished. Schools and hospitals have been established and best of all courts of justice

where there is no recognition of caste dis-tinction and all are defended by a just law.

#### A Midnight Charity.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HE visitor to New York who wants to know something about "How the other half lives" and who is interested in the seamy side of life in a great city, can see strange sights if he will. Some of the saddest and most harrowing of these sights are to be seen at an hour when the favored half of the city are snug and comfortable in their beds with the cheering certainty of cheering certainty of a good breakfast in the morning and all

the morning and all the other meals of the day provided for.
One of the strange sights illustrating the poverty running rampant in the city is the "bread line" that forms in the neighborhood of Tenth Street and Broadway at the hour of midnight. The story of the origin of the bread line is interesting. As long ago as the year 1876 Mr. Louis Fleischmann, owner of one of the largest bakeries in the city, decided that he would give to the poor all of the unsold bread that was "left over" at the close of the day in his bakeries. His business was not so very large at that time but it has grown to enormous proportions so that he now has hundreds of loaves of bread to give away where he had but a few to give in the beginning of this way

mous proportions so that he now has hundreds of loaves of bread to give away where he had but a few to give in the beginning of this way of getting rid of his unsold bread.

Long before midnight the line of hungry applicants for the bread begin to form in line about midway between Fourth Avenue and Broadway. Sometimes there are as many as five-hundred in the line by the time the distribution of the bread begins. Sometimes there may be but three hundred, but the number is usually more than this. Nearly all of them are men. Now and then a forlorn, bedraggled-looking woman or a hungry boy falls into line with the shabby, ragged men. There are no limitations in regard to those who take their place in the line. Any one who is hungry enough to make a silent appeal for bread in this way may do so. No one is denied admittance to the line.

At the hour of midnight a light gleams out up at the head of the line and the tired and hungry applicants begin to move slowly forward for the light comes from an open doorway in which are several clean-looking men in the white caps and white aprons of bakers. Near the men are piles of bread in generous loaves and the grateful odor of good coffee comes from the doorway to add to the already eager appetite of the men in the line. Each applicant receives a loaf of bread and a mug of hot coffee without money and without price. Some of them do not give even the small return of a simple "thank you" for the food they have received, but the great majority of them are courteous and grateful enough to express their thanks.

Some of the men gnaw greedily at the bread and and gulp down the coffee the instant they get

thanks.

Some of the men gnaw greedily at the bread and gulp down the coffee the instant they get it, while others drop quickly out of the line and hurry home with their loaf of bread to a hungry wife and children who are waiting for nungry wile and children who are waiting for the loaf. The distribution goes on until all of the applicants have been served, and it must be that the generous donor sometimes encroaches on his store of newly baked bread for it is not likely that there are always enough of the "left over" loaves to supply the long line that forms

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5 HANDSOME PRESENTS 5

on some of the nights. The distribution of

on some of the nights. The distribution of the bread is an act of benevolence that has brought Mr. Fleischmann the gratitude of thousands. It is probable that many of the loaves go to feed lazy and undeserving tramps who would not work to earn the price of a loaf of bread if the opportunity were offered them, but it is certain that many of the loaves go to poor fellows who are driven by dire necessity to get food in this way and who would work if they could. Helpless children and the very old profit by this midnight charity, and it is to be hoped that the sleep of the generous donor is all the sounder and sweeter because of his kindly generosity.

kindly generosity.

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friend is telling a funny story that is old and stale or not
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and turn him down without any hard feeling. The eye is strongly made of metal, the front is painted in natural life-like colors and the wink is produced by pulling an invisible string from behind and there is a long strong pin to fasten through your clothing. The whole thing is strong and durable and the most talked about novelty today. Every one is wild for one, every young man in the big cities has one and all the girls too. "Just because she made dem Goo Goo eyes" is why you should have one so send 12c. today for a special sample. 6 for 50c.;1 doz., \$1.00. Agents' make big money. Address SUNSHINE, Dept. C, Augusta, Maine.



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bome, store, hotel car company will sight. We have manufacturers to covery, and we wholeesale terms Medium or A for house lamps-dozen, 25 cents; wicks, for hand wide, sample, 5 gross, \$2.50 hall, store, or sample, 5 cents dozen; parlor lamps, sample, accompanied by Morse & Morse &

offer for 60 days the following to agents: per enter in the following to agents: per dozen, 25 cents; per lamps, lanterns, etc., 35 inch wide, per dozen, 25 cents; per gross, \$1.50 gross. Argand wicks for ple wick, 8 cents. per dozen, 25 cents; per dozen, 25 cents; per dozen, 25 cents; per dozen, 25 cents; per gross, \$1.50 gross. Argand wicks for ple wick, 8 cents. per dozen, 25 cents; per dozen, 25 cents; per dozen, 25 cents; per gross, \$1.50 gross. Argand wicks for including the following to agents and the following to agent the property of the property of the following to agent the property of the per per gross, \$2.50, Small or Elamps, lamber of Burns, per gross, \$2.50, Small or El

SPECIAL FREE COUPON OFFER. To all who send this coupon we will send 2 samples of A B or E wick just to prove our wicks are the best in the world. Address COMFORT, Box 859, Augusta, Maine.

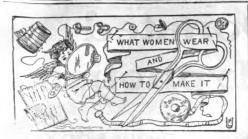
#### LADIES' PEARL PEN HOLDER AND PEN.



One of the most useful articles for a ladies' desk or for general home use is a pen holder with pen. How many times have you hunted for a pen holder in vain?

But it you had one as neat and pretty as this one it would always be in its place and ready for use. This holder has a long fancy Pearl Handle, with Gold Plated and a fine quality, good writing pen it is too. We have a limited quantity of these holders that we are going to give free to our cub raisers. Read the following liberal offer:

CLUB OFFER. If you will send us the name of one person for a year's subscription to our charming monthly magazine we will send it one year to the address thus furnished and make you a present of one of these Pearl Handle Pen Holders and Gold Plated Pens. All charges paid by us. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



beloved bolero, for it is not to be allowed to monopolize favor quite so completely in the future. One of its new rivals, a most quaintly and smartly cut coat, which I have just seen made in English tweed, is cut away at the top in a way I can best describe as decollete, and so gives full effect to the dainty detail of a pretty shirt or blouse, and while a rounded bolero is certainly simulated by me ans of stitched strappings, the coat finishes off with little tabbed basques. It is, at any rate, a novelty, while then, again, there are double-breasted, tight-fitting coats, with basques reaching to the knees, let, destined to create a sensation when worm with a skirt of shepherd's polaid in black and

AKE the most of your well-beloved bolero, for it is not to be allowed to monopolize

che made in fine faced cloth, one in vivid scarlet, destined to create a sensation when worn with a skirt of shepherd's plaid in black and white and topped off by a flat, round hat of the same shade of red felt, with an encircling wreath of cherries dangling invitingly about the brim.

An air of quaintness is given to many of the new coats and jackets by the addition of a set of little circular capes, hardly bigger than the ordinary collar, but so arranged as to fit flatly over the shoulders and bust, fastening at one side with a big clasp or fancy button.

The flowing sleeve, in more or less modified form, is seen on any number of new gowns, as well as outside garments. An especially smart one is shown in the sketch, designed for a dressy bodice, showing an exaggerated flare at

dressy bodice, showing an exaggerated flare at the hand with a deep slash at the back.

The waist belt contrasting with the gown is not in favor just now. A belt to match the skirt and bodice is better liked.

Coats of light or even dead white cloth, three-quarter length, are ex-ceedingly smart, trimmed with mixed black and cherry-colored braidings, and finished at the neck with mili-tary collars. Another equally stylish is of black cloth, unlined, circular in shape and trim-med around the med around the edge with tabs of coral-colored velvet. These long cloaks and three-quarter coats will be more popular than ever during the winter. The very smartest thing in the way of coats is a Russian garment.

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of coats is a Russian garment, three-quarter length, the loose back caught in softly at the belt by a band of folded black satin, sometimes set off by a handsome buckle, while the front is allowed to fall perfectly loose, fastening straight down from the left shoulder in double-breasted fashion. The sleeves are full bishop, with quite a large, loose cuff fastened with handsome buttons.

One of the new features in cloak decoration, whether the garment be of fur, velvet, or cloth, is the application to cuffs and collar of small, whole animals, with a number of dangling feet and tails. It is rather a costly fancy, but is most effective.

whole animals, with a number of dangling feet and tails. It is rather a costly fancy, but is most effective.

The shape of skirts remains about the same, tight-fitting around the hips and flaring out well at the feet. The flounce is used in a variety of forms, single or in sets. The double flounce is very pretty and exceedingly popular. When the material is thin enough to allow, a shirred flounce is pretty with the same mode of trimming arranged about the hips, while



very soft stuffs are shirred around the neck to form a yoke, again into the girdle and at the top of sleeves, if the sleeves are long.

A handsome coat of broadcloth is quite short and perfectly tight-fitting, with little rounded tabs at back and front set off with rather large,

flat brass buttons, exquisitely ornamented with carving. The sleeves are small at the top with quite a bell at the hand, where a tab flares out and is elaborated with a set of the buttons.

Street gowns of corduroy are to be very much worn, and when trimmed with fur and worn with a blouse of white satin or lace are marvelously fetching. A stunning one in pretty gray corduroy caught my attention. The skirt is tight and has a habit back, fastened at the side of the front with flat silver buttons. A nice flare is arranged at the foot by means of a double flounce, showing a pleated frill of silk underneath. The short Eton hangs perfectly loose and fastens across the breast with a large



silver clasp. The coat is collarless, and with it can be worn a flat collar of the same or one of yellow lace, something which would harmonize smartly with the tone of the velvet.

Three-cornered hats are very much to the fore and are really most becoming to a young, pretty face. Those of white beaver are perfectly bewitching. A dainty one I have in mind was trimmed very simply with a small beaver animal, bunched up at one side with the little feet and tail allowed to dangle.

All shades of pale blue are as popular as ever,

All shades of pale blue are as popular as ever, especially in milinery.

# Made Her Beautiful

Every Lady in the Land Can Now Have a Beautiful Skin.

#### A TRIAL BOX FREE.

It has remained for a Cincinnati woman to discover the secret of a perfect skin. She has at last found the key to feminine beauty. All the sighs and heartaches over a poor appearance may now



be banished, for it is within the means of every lady, young or middle aged to have the clearest and most refined complexion so dear to a woman's heart.

and most refined complexion so dear to a woman's heart.

Fannie B. Ralston, 628 Lexington Ave., Newport, Ky., says: "When I began using Mme. Ribault's complexion beautifiers I did not think it possible to clear my skin, my face was in a horrible condition literally covered with red spots, pimples, blackheads, moth patches and freckles. I suffered a thousand deaths, and when I sent for a trial of Mme. Ribault's beautifiers I improved so wonderfully that my friends did not recognize me, so quickly had the change taken place. My skin is now perfectly lovely, and there is not a blemish or wrinkle anywhere."

It is not a face powder, cream, cosmetic or bleach, contains no oil, grease, paste, chemicals or poisons of any kind and is absolutely pure.

Write to Mme. M. Ribault, 2494 Elsa Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio, and she will mail free, prepaid, in a plain sealed wrapper a free package of her wonderful beautifiers and you will always bless the day you wrote. Do not fail to write to-day.



We give every girl or voman one of our relied gold-filled solitairs Puritan rose diamond rings, solid gold pattern, for disposing of 20 packages of Garfield Pepsin Gum among riems as to cents a package; simply send rained; we mail gum; when sold send money and we mail ring, which few can tell from a genuine \$75 diamond; we take gum back if you can't sell. THE GARFIELD GUM CO., Dept. 117, Meadville, Pa.



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A Remarkable Remedy which cures old standing ases of Baldness. Restores gray hair to its natural olor without dyeing, stops hair falling, eradicates andruff, cures weak eyebrows and eyelasines, scan-y partings and all scalp humors, from whatever

rease arising.

FREE Forcer is \$1. per bottle, Lorrimer's Excelsior Hair and Scalp Son, 25c. per barbat we send a FREE THE SCALP SON, 25c. per barbat we send a FREE THE SCALP SON, 25c. per barbat we send a FREE THE SCALP SON, 25c. per barbat we send a FREE THE SCALP SON, 25c. per barbat bow to cure all hair and scalp troubles, and restore gray hair to its natural color without dyeing, on receipt of 5c. to cover cost of postage. Write to-day. Address in full.

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be well treated and have an opportunity to build up with the house. Address with references and reply. PRESIDENT MONROE CO., 195 Monon Building, CHICAGO.

Cloisonne Ware.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



VERLOOKIN G all fanciful legends, Japan and China acquired the art of enameling about the last of the 16th cen-

tury.
The origin of this art is unknown, but all evidences point toward Persia and India and a few other parts of the mysterious east from whence came all valuable contributions to the art world.

The Indian enameling process is called "champleve" and the

"champleve" and the design is hollowed out of a plate of metal, leaving cells separated only by the metal strips—into which is poured the enamel. But the most artistic and delicate work is that produced by Chinese and Japanese workmen, and which compares most favorably with the oldest mosaics. oldest mosaics.

and which compares most tavorably with the oldest mosaics.

From the very beginning to the completion of a piece of Cloisonne the operation is most ingenious. Some pieces are entirely of porcelain, others of different metals. A porcelain piece, a vase for instance, is polished off, removing the glaze from the outside surface so that the enamel may adhere to the surface firmly—then the artist places over the paper design he has drawn a sheet of plate glass and through this follows his design with a flat wire on edge, bending it into the identical form of each blossom, leaf or dragon, as his design may be. In this way he outlines the figures, making little cells or "cloison" from whence arises the name "Cloisonne".

Often in a geometrical design many cells are made upon the same pattern.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)

#### A GIFT OF EMBROIDERY SILK.

A GIFT OF EMBROIDERY SILK.

Embroidery silk will cost you a lot of money bought at the store. We have a great jobbinghouse lot of rich silk bought at wholesale. No high retail price with a lot of middle profits; but we get actual cost price. We want to give the whole benefit to our lady readers. We have prepared a lot of assorted packages containing a liberal supply of bright, rich, new silk in a variety of tones and shades, which would cost a heap of money bought at the stores. We will send our illustrated bargain list and full assorted, large sized silk package for the ridiculously low price of ten cents; or, three packages for twenty cents. Write to-day before the rush. S. W. LANE & Co., Augusta, Maine.





This beautiful plush cape made of Salt's guaranteed silk plush, lined with mercerized sateen, heavily wadded; embroidered and jetted, trimmed with black real Thibet fur. You can easily see material and work

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Flease mention COMPORT when you write an elegant STEM WIND and STEM SET WATCH for selling only \$2.00 worth of Court Plaster.

This is a linely finished watch warranted to keep good time and one that you will be pleased to carry. If you want one of these handsome watches send name and address and we will send plaster. When sold send us \$2.00 and we will send STEM WIND and STEM SET WATCH. Court Plaster sells rapidly as it is used in every lifty. We trust you and deal honestly with you. We take k any you do not sell.

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Won't Turn Silver to Gold, nor Turn Gold to Silver; but it Will Coin Dollars for You. Agents Wanted.



Will Coin Dollars for You. Agents Wanted.

The Electro Polishing Cloth, a wonderful prepared cloth that gives electric brightiness and lustre to every metal it touches. Without any powders or paste, simply by rubbing with this cloth, a brilliant lasting pollsh by the control of the Copper, Plated ware, Bleycles, (Gopper, Plated ware, Bleycles, (Gopper, Bright, absolutely clean, and perfectly free from corrosive tamish or dirt and will last. The Greatest Revolution in the Household.

Takes the place of all Polishes, Powders, Pastes, Liquids and also Chamois Skins at less than one-quarter the cost. It is especially wapted for cleaning and polishing and polishing and the company of the clean and polish just as well when black as when new. No matter how solled the "cloth" may become, the black will not rub off and soil the hands. Can be used until entirely worn out. A moist portion will clean and a dry portion poilsh until the cloth is worn threadbare. Directions with every cloth. Simple and sure. Ready, Quick, Clean, Economical. The Greatest Invention of the Century.

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the Century.

A. Bargain Offer to All. We want 20,000 agents to sell these cloths at fairs, campaign meetings, on the street, from house to house, everywhere. You can make \$100 a month profit, young and old, both sexes. Sells like greased lightning. One sample cloth full size, sani free to anyone who will send only 10 cents for agent's prices. The greatest introduction offer ever made; we will return money if not perfectly satisfied.

SUNSHINE, BOX 551, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

TABLE RICH ART COVER FREE.





This is the month of Thanksgiving, my dears, and I am quite sure that all of us can find plenty to be thankful for if we only look around a little for it. It is the last month of the autumn, and is generally held to be a dreary kind of a month, but we can make it cheery if we will. Now let us see what there is to trouble us in your letters. we will. Now let us se trouble us in your letters.

The first from the pile on my desk is from Cousin Hazel of Milwaukee, Wis., and she wants to know if a Christmas present from her to a very pleasant young man of her acquaintance would be out of place. On the contrary it would be quite appropriate, and I am sure the young man would appreciate it.

Miriam, Otterville, Ill.—After a girl has finished her studies with credit to herself, she may have "beaus". That rule would make the "beau age"

Everglade, High Springs, Fla.—Engraved visiting cards are first in correct usage, though printed or written cards are permissible in less formal society. Have them as plain as possible, no fancy lettering and on white cardboard.

Puss Moss, Laurel, Mon.—Don't let the man come-back who deserts you for another girl, and fails to get her. (2) There is no sure rule of getting rid of a persistent man, unless it be to marry some other man. (3) Wait till you forget. Rosebud, Washington, Ia.—No. (2) If your fath-er has set the evening hour at ten o'clock, the young man should go home then. If he will not your father should send him home. (3) No. (4) No. (5) Buggy riding is permissible in the country without a chaperon, but be careful of your com-pany.

pany.

Blue Eyes, Paris, Ill.—Girls in college should not be out with young men in the evening. Books before beaus until school is done with. (2) No. (3) Don't write to a man without your parents' sanction. (4) Young people do marry and finish their education afterwards, or try to, but I think it is a very poor way to do. (5) When you ask the young man from a distance to visit you, it is for you to say how long he should stay. Yes, you should entertain him. If he stops at a hotel you are under less obligations as a hostess.

Foolish and Silly, Bockford, N. D.—There is no

Foolish and Silly, Rockford, N. D.—There is no harm in hanging a wishbone over the door. (2) Don't kiss a young man unless you are engaged to him, or be kissed by him.

nim, or be kissed by him.

Faggie, Greenwood, S. C.—There is no way to make a man prove that he loves you except to marry you. (2) Don't worry over the man who has stopped writing to you; he is not worth it. If he does not care, you certainly should not. (3) Never tell the man you love him until he has first told you so. A woman is not to be blamed for loving a man—she can't help that—but she can help telling him and she should.

Stagestruck Shravesort

Stagestruck, Shreveport, La.—A girl not trained for the stage has very little chance to get a place, and I would advise you to give up all idea of it.

And I would advise you to give up all idea of it.

Fannie, South Bend, Ind.—There is no set form for accepting or declining an invitation. Use your own good sense of what is most fitting to say. (2) The lady does not buy the tickets to a show unless she is making up the party.

Susie, Cottonwood, Ills.—No. (2) Ask the young man to give you reasons why you should sit on his lap. Talk to him sensibly about it and he will probably learn a lesson. (3) Love cannot be won. It comes of itself or not at all. (4) No.

Madge, Highy, W. Va.—Wait until you are twen-

It comes of itself or not at all. (4) No.

Madge, Higby, W. Va.—Wait until you are twenty, and in the mean time be guided by your father.

Sweet Marie, Belgrove, W. Va.—If you had rather be an unhappy wife than an old maid, marry this young man of eighteen whose love you are afraid will not last when you grow older.

Violet, Camp Springs, Md.—Study what people like, try to conform your ways to theirs, practice self denial, don't marry until you have learned some of these things, and I think you will be more popular now and ever so much happier hereafter.

Vera, Alton, Ia.—Considering that you are older

Vera, Alton, Ia.—Considering that you are older than the first lover and will never marry him though you love him, I think you should put him out of your life and marry the second one whom you know to be worthy. There is no risk if you will do your part faithfully.

Aniline, Cross Roads, Pa.—Look over the advertisements in Comfort, or in the magazines.

Hilma, Bryant, S. D.—The young man that would drive a girl two miles in his buggy, then make her walk back home, even though he walked with her, is not to be trusted.

Sa'l Heart, Denver, Colo.—If your social position is the same as that of the man you love, marry him, notwithstanding the opposition. But do not defy society unless you are in a position to compel its recognition of the man you marry. Parents may forgive and bless, but society is not so kind.

Rosebud, Butler, Pa.—Some of the things you ask about may be permitted to a girl of twenty, but a girl of fifteen had better wait.

Blue Eyes, Newburg, Ind.—You are a very nice little girl, and I am going to answer all your questions by telling you to tell your mother of your engagement and ask her the questions you have asked me. She can answer them just right.

me. She can answer them just right.

A. D. and O., Luthersburg, Pa.—Your parents' objections are sound, and you should not write to the young man. (2) Calling young men by their first names is rather too familiar, except among old friends or school boys and girls. (3) If a fifteen year old girl's parents permit her to go driving with a young man after church I have nothing to say. (4) Girls of sixteen have no business to fall in love. (5) I should think not. (6) No.

Brown Eves St Louis Mo.—Your handwriting is

Brown Eyes, St Louis. Mo.—Your handwriting is yet unformed and you need practice. (2) You may do as you please about shaking hands. It is customary.

Sadie, Boston, Mass.—Yes, girls are inclined to be a little silly when they are in love, but you seem to be very sensible. Ask this young man who loves you and has asked you to marry him, why he doesn't tell you he loves you. Some men have to be trained to say what they think and feel. I think you can teach him very easily.

Peach Blossom, Freeport, Pa.—It will be quite proper for you to invite the young man to call, provided he is such a man as you should know.

Jennie, Bieber, Cal.—you are the only one to solve the problem. P. S. And this is the answer to Aunie E. also.

Unknown, Mitchell, Okia. - Write to Commis-

-60

sioner of Education, Washington, D. C., for infor-mation about schools in the Philippines. (2) 2nd is the usual abbreviation for second. Your other questions are too local to be answered from Maine.

Twins, Plum City, Minn.—It is anything but nice for girls to tell questionable stories, or to listen to them.

There, that ends the chapter and all your questions are answered directly or indirectly, and may you have a big turkey for Thanksgiving and sugar and spice and everything nice. By by.

COUSIN MARION.

#### Cloisonne Ware.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19.)

The edge of this flat wire is then put to the desired position on the surface of the vase and secured there by means of glass solder, after which it is ready to receive the enamel. This desired position on the surface of the vase and secured there by means of glass solder, after which it is ready to receive the enamel. This enamel or any enamel is simply powdered glass. Pure enamel is a colorless compound and the colors are derived from a variety of oxides. Tin, for instance, gives a white, opaque enamel. The oxide of cobalt gives blue, oxide of copper, green, black calx of manganese gives a violet. Silver produces yellow, and the sulphates iron and alumnia red. When these enamels are in the form of paste, they are put into their proper cells between the wire strips and the vase is then baked in an oven. This baking process is continued many times. As the enamel heats and sinks into the cell it is filled and baked again and so on until it becomes the right thickness. This also, of course, aids in holding the wire to the porcelain. Then the rough and projecting surface is ground down with a coarse stone followed by finer stones until finally this is polished with charcoal and ready for the market.

An extremely rare kind of Cloisonne called "de plique a jour" was made first in Persia and later in China, the enamel being dexterously melted into cells with no background whatever. In making this the wire is bent into the desired patterns inside a mould where 'tis left while the cells are filled with the enamel paste and baked. After sufficient firing the mould is removed from this finished section and another portion of the design made in the same way and so on until the whole vase is in sections and only requires soldering together to make the piece complete and almost transparent, having no background.

Another wonderful feature is the blending of two distinct colors in one cell; this requires extremely delicate and marvelous workmanship, and is introduced where shading is necessary.

Elkington stands as the English enameling dif.

Elkington stands as the English Cloisonne enameler of this age. English enameling differs only slightly from that of the Orientals, but does not compare with the choicest pieces from Japan or China.

The infinite amount of hand labor accounts

for the price of even the smallest pieces of this

NE of the curiosities of the Bank of Eng-NE of the curiosities of the Bank of England is to be seen in its printing room, where is a machine which every three minutes delivers to a man sitting at his desk two completely finished five-pound notes. In six hours this man receives in this way, seventy thousand pounds, and in a year he has gathered in notes amounting to over twenty million pounds, or about one hundred million dollars.



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A new discovery odorless and tasteless, that A new discovery odorless and tasteless, that Ladies can give in coffee or any kind of food quickly curing the patient without his knowledge. Anyone can have a free trial package by addressing Rogers Drug & Chemical Co., 2600 Fifth and Race Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio, and easily drive foul tobacco smoke and dirty spittoons from the home

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It is made of the finest Oak and so arranged by a simple device in the back that it can be adjusted to either a lounging or upright position. It is the most useful and popular Easy Chair on the market. They seem to just fit the tred body after a busy day's work' in fact it fits one's every mood. We are giving these Chairs away as Premiums for selling our Remedies.

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Sell only six Electric Plasters at 25c. cach, which we trust you with and we will send you a pair of these elegant Nottingham Lace Curtains, each Curtain is nine feet. I come feet wide for the two, they gather up nicely and farnish an elegant drapery for even the very broad windows; in fact in many instances one pair would do for several windows, and just what any one needs to adorn the home with. Every one of taste will tell you that there is nothing which "dresses up" as room so much as a pair of lace curtains. The finest effects are obtained by these draperies. They show from the outside as well as from the inside. They are of the real Italian pattern and formerly sold as high as six or eight dollars a pair. They are delivered free to you, all charges paid. Don't fail to send for the attains are to exact, as soon as you sell them and send us the adjuster of the call charms and send us the strength of the control of the want to prove there is a sure prevention and ours for Lame Back, Rheumatism, La Grippe, Coughs, Colds, Pneumonia, Malaria, etc., etc. Send for the six Plasters to-day. Address The Giant Plaster Co., Box C, Augusta, Maine.

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Carnegie is giving away his fortune for libraries. Dr. X. La Motte Sage proposes to put the most useful book in all libraries free of charge right into the homes of the people. For this purpose he has just donated \$10,000, and a big publishing house is busy day and night turning out the books for free distribution. The book Dr. Sage wishes to distribute free of charge is entitled "The Philosophy of Personal Influence." It is heartily endorsed by the ablest business men, ministers, doctors and lawyers of two continents. It is beautifully illustrated with the finest half-tone engravings, and every page is brimful of intensely interesting and practical information. It is a book which should be in every home. It is by far the most remarkable work of the kind that has ever been written, and it has truly created a sensation in the book world.

It tells you how a wanderful woman in England.

Would like to secure a good paying position, obtain an increase in salary, if you care to rise higher in your accepted business or calling, if you desire to wield a greater influence over others, if you care to rise higher in your accepted business or calling, if you desire to wield a greater influence over others, if you care to rise higher in your accepted business or calling, if you desire to wield a greater influence over others, if you care to rise higher in your accepted business or calling, if you desire to wield a greater influence over others, if you care to rise higher in your accepted business or calling, if you desire to wield a greater influence over others, if you care to rise higher in your accepted business or calling, if you desire to wield a greater influence over others, if you care to rise higher in your accepted business or calling, if you desire to wield a greater influence over others, if you care to rise higher in your accepted business or calling, if you desire to wield a greater influence over others, if you care to rise higher in your accepted business or calling, if you care to rise higher in your accep

unto the home of the 600, and a high turning out the books for free distribution. The book Dr. Sage wishes to distribute free of charge is entitled "The Philosophy of Personal Influence". It is heartily endorsed lawyers of two continents. It is beautifully illustrated with the finest half-tone engravings, and every page is brinful of intensely interesting and practical information. It is a book which should be work of the kind that has ever been written, and it has truly created a sensation in the book world.

It tell you how a wonderful woman in England it has truly created a sensation in the book world.

It tell you how a wonderful woman in England millionaires of her country. It explains numerous instances in which people have been secretly and instantaneously controlled by hyponic influence over those with whom you come in contact.

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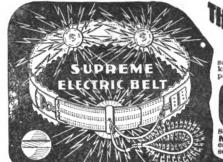
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THE PARROT HAS ESCAPED FROM THE CAGE—TRY TO FIND HIM Boys and girls over who will cut out this picture and mark plainly with

pencil or pen the missing bird (if they can find it)
MAY SHARE IN THE DISTRIBUTION
OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING
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received. After you heve found the missing parrot, send it to us at once. It may take an entire evenine, but it will pay you to STICK TO IT AND TRY TO GET YOUR SHARE OF THE \$1,000.00. A sample copy of our MAGAZINE WILL BE SENT FREE Is everyone answering this advertisement. Try to solve this puzzle. Do not delay. Send your answer in immediately. We positively guarantee that this Missing Parrot can be found. Of course, like all problems, it will require some thought, patience and time. But the reward is well worth striving for, especially when we do not ask you to send us any money with your answer. The golden prizes of life are being gained by brains and energy nowadays. Lary people and the drones and idlers are always complaining of bad luck. Now here is a GOLDEN CHANCE for anyone who will strive hard, and the pleasing part of it is that it does not cost you one cent outside of the letter you send us. Our magazine will please you. It delights us to please our readers. We are continually giving away large sums of money in different contests, as we find it is the very best kind of advertising. Try and Win. If you find the parrot and send the slip with it marked thereon to us at once, who knows but what you will get the gold? Anyway, we do not want any money from you, and a puzzle like this is very interesting. As soon as we receive your answer we will at once write you and you will hear from us by return mail. We hope you will try for it, as we shall give the \$1,000.000 away anyway. Do not delay. Write at once. Address THE ROBINSON PUB. CO., 22 NORTH WILLIAM ST., NEW YORK CITY.



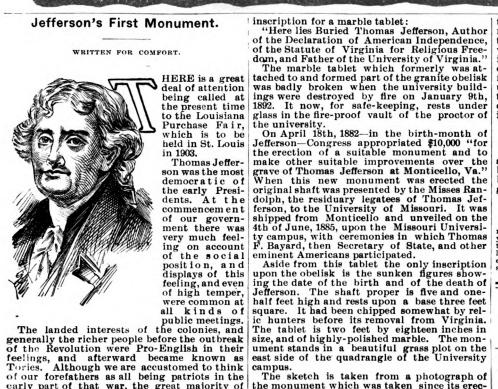
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BE A STRONG, VICOROUS MAN AMONG MEN.

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Sexual, Urinary, Kidney or Liver Diseases, such as impotency, varicocele, spermatorrhœa, etc., YIELD AT ONCE TO ITS MACIC INFLUENCE. We give away only a limited number of these belts. IT WILL CURE YOU then your friends will seach want one and from those sales we make our profit. Write to-day in confidence, telling all about your case and the Belt will be sent you absolutely free at once. Address PHYSICIANS' INSTITUTE, 2124 Masonic Temple. Chicago. Ill.





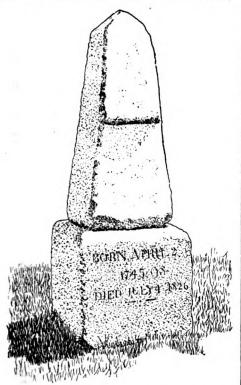
of the Revolution were Pro-English in their feelings, and afterward became known as Tories. Although we are accustomed to think of our forefathers as all being patriots in the early part of that war, the great majority of Americans were adherents to King George; those that had everything to gain and little to lose, were generally of the Insurrection, although in Virginia the richer element sided with the patriots. It was only through the stupidity of the English ministers, and the blunders of their generals in America, and undoubtedly lack of tact of both, that solidified America for the patriots; many times the rebellion was almost snuffed out, and could not have succeeded but for the aid of the French. In after years there was a very strong division of people throughout the new states, many of whom desired an aristocratic government, while an even number desired the true republisher form.

ment, while an even number desired the true republican form. Washington and Hamilton were considered almost monarchists, while of all the great men of that time, Jefferson was the only decided man of democratic desires when Jefferson became President, he was in

constant warfare with the opposition throughout the country; nothing was too bad to be said about him, and yet, he has proved the most far-seeing of all those statesmen with the exception of Washington.

To Jefferson, and to him alone, belongs the credit of having purchased against every on-

credit of having purchased against every op-position what is known as the Louisiana Pur-chase, and which comprises all of the United States west of the Mississippi river, and north of Texas, the intervening States and Territories and California, which were then embraced in



Old Mexico, and in memory of which great historical event this next fair is to be held. In a short time COMFORT will give a short histori-cal sketch on the Louisiana Purchase, and endeavor to tell of the extreme importance this great purchase was to the growth and development of the United States.

ment of the United States.

Those who admire Jefferson will have a chance to see at the Exposition named something which will especially interest them. It will be the original monument, designed by himself, and first erected over his grave at Monticello, Va. It is a simple obelisk of granite, eight feet in height, and without the slightest attempt at adornment. The monument will form the centre of the Missouri University exhibit. It has stood for years upon the campus of that institution. When Jefferson died, among his papers was found a rough sketch in ink of an obelisk, together with this

THE

inscription for a marble tablet:

campus.

The sketch is taken from a photograph of the monument which was taken since its erection in Missouri.

#### The Unlucky Opal.



HE opal, though one of the most beautiful of precious stones has always been under a ban, as for hundreds of years it has had the reputation of bringing bad luck to its possessor. This superstition is said to have had its origin in Italy where the opal was extremely popular two or three hundreds of years ago. A plague started in Venice and it was noticed that in the cases of those who wore the opal that died of the plague, just before death the stone shone with an unnatural brilliancy, and that after the victim's death it became dull and lustreless. This it is now explained was because the opal is very susceptible to warmth and the heat of the patient's fever caused the extra lustre of the the patient's fever caused the extra lustre of the stone, which passed away with the death of the owner as his body became cold. Whether this is the explanation or not, it remains a fact that

If you suffer from Epileptic Fits, Falling Sickness or St. Vitus' Dance, or have children or friends that do so, my New Discovery will CURE them, and all you are asked to do is to send for my FREE REMEDIES and try them. They have cured thousands where everything else failed. Sent absolutely free with complete directions, express prepaid. Please give AGE and full address.

DR. W. H. MAY,

94 Pine Street. New York City.

the opal has always been considered one of the most unlucky of stones. In connection with this superstition a story is told of a gentleman who took an opal he owned to a jeweller, with instructions that it be sold. Ever since he had owned the stone, he claimed that bad luck had followed him in all his ventures. It was found upon examination that the opal was an imitation stone—a fact which must have somewhat disturbed the theories of its owner in regard to its sinister properties. its sinister properties.

#### A HOUSEHOLD REMEDY.

The wonderful sale of Swanson's "5-DROPS" and the cures effected by this medicine proves beyond a doubt that it is a remedy that should be in every home. We advise our readers to give it a trial. See their offer in this issue.

#### THE COMICAL MIRROR.

Greatest joke of the season. Perpetual fun. Can't be resisted, everyone interested and when they "Rubber" you laugh, and when they laugh it won't be so funny for them. Two ways to work it. Two kinds of fun. The lean look fat, the fat look lean. A substantial, well-made novelty. Going with a rush everywhere. Send 3 two cent stamps for special agents sample and you won't regret it. COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

I Can Sell Your Real Estate for cash, no matter where it is. Send description and price and get my successful plan. W. M. Ostrander, North American Bldg., Philadelphia. See my big ads. in Saturday Evening Post, Outlook, and all the magazines.

# REE

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High Grade Sewing Machine to every person who will sell only 10 boxes of our celebrated Herbn Cura Pills at 25c. a box SEND NO MONEY. All you need do is send your name we send the Pills postpaid. When sold send us our money are we will at once send the liberal offer of the Sewing Machine we will at once send the liberal offer of the Sewing Machine described above absolutely FRFE together with a handsome \*1LVER PLATED TABLE SET. Our object is to 
make our selves and our Herba Pilis known in your neighborhood. They are a sure cure for Headache, Constipation. 
Indirection, etc. We are reliable and guarantee the \*selag Machine; and the Silver Table Set, which we give you 
is all that we claim—handsome and durable. Why buy a 
Sewing Machine when you can get one free ! Send your name 
at once, also P.O. address and nearest express office. We pay 
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# The Victoria Stamping Outfit.

More Artistic Patterns for the Money than were ever Dreamed of.



It has been our special pleasure to select designs this collection for our artistic friends. Illustration A shows a floral and ribbon design which can be used for almost anything the dainty worker has use for. The flowers are best executed in Kensington stitch, the ribbon may be either simple outline, outline filled in with feather, herring-bone or cat stitch, or, what is still more effective, the long and short stitch. Illustration B is a dainty little design for monograms or what-nots. Note the sizes of the designs named below and the number of sheets of patterns in this outfit.

1 Design Orchid and Leaves for Scarf Corner, 64x10.
1 Clover Design for Dolly.
1 Design for Baby's Bib, Rosebuds and word Baby, 4x4.
1 Design for Cheese Dolly, 3½x6.
1 Design for Souvenir Case with Motto, 5½x6.
1 Design for Shoe Bag, 5x10.
1 Design for Shoring Bag with Motto, 6x6.
4 Fruit Designs for Fruit Plate Dollies, 3½x3½.
1 Design for Carving Cloth, 11½x15½.
1 Design for Tumbler Dolly, 4x1.
1 Pretty Corner Design for Tea-cloth, Jewel Work, 9x9.

1 Pretty Corner Design for Tea-cloth, Jewel Work, 9x9.
1 Design for Table Dolly, 8x8.
1 Design for Water Bottle Dolly, 6x6.
4 Designs for Butter Plate Dolles, 3½x3½.
1 Cut Work Dolly Design, 5x5.
1 Very Pretty Design for Corner, Battenberg Work, 7x7.
1 Design for Border with Corner, 5x16.
1 Floral Corner Geranium, 6½x6½.
1 Design Water Lily for Dolly.

in this outfit.

1 Very Handsome Centerpiece of Carnations, 17x17 inches.
1 Pretty Corner-piece of Pansies and Leaves, 6x6 inches.
1 Design of Strawberries and Leaves for Dolly, 63x864.

1 Design Orchid and Leaves for Scarf Corner, 84x10.

1 Floral Wreath for Monogram or Handkerchief Case, 5x5.
1 Design for Tray Cloth, 7x15.
1 Design for Centerpiece, Maidenhair Ferns, 94x394.
1 Rosebud Dolly, 73x74.
1 Alphabet for Towels or Table Linen, 114 incheshigh.

high. 1 Design Centerpiece, Pansies, 10x10.

1 Pansy Doi-ly, 6½x6½. 1 Alphabet

1 Alphabet
for Handkerchiefs or
Fine Linen,
1 inch high.
1 Border
for Flannel
Work, 3½
inches wide,
and 29 other
designs for
embroidery
of every
description
too numerous to mention here.



The patterns are made of linen bond paper, and consist of 7 sheets of patterns, each sheet 17x22 inches in size. One double sheet 22x24 with extra large designs.

With each outfit we send full instructions for doing the stamping, and one piece of Eureka Compound, enabling anyone to do permanent stamping, instantly, without heat or trouble. Your money back if you want it, but no one ever does.

back if you want it, but no one ever does.

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#### How Paper is Made.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



S in the case of many another good thing, the credit of inventing or discovering paper and its process of manufacture lies with the Chinese. This was long before the Christian era, and even today some of our finest paper comes from the East. The Arabians learned the secret from the Chinese, and they introduced paper-making into Europe about

learned the secret from the Chinese, and they introduced paper-making into Europe about the 8th century.

The Egyptians were also among the earliest paper-makers. Thin layers of inner bark or pith were peeled from the papyrus stalk, which grew abundantly on the banks of the Nile, sometimes attaining a height of ten to twenty feet and as thick as a man's arm. The thin layers of pith were laid together with overlapping edges, then three or more thicknesses were laid one above the other; the whole mass was then dampened, pressed and dried in the sun. Rice-paper is today made by the Chinese by a similar process. In Paris there is preserved a papyrus manuscript thirty feet long.

The Romans improved on the Egyptian process by soaking their paper in flour paste and then pounding it smooth. These processes, however, were soon found inadequate for supplying the growing demand for paper, and the next step was to use the fibers of other plants by reducing them to a pulp and then felting them together by pounding and drying. An immense variety of different vegetable substances were been found suitable for this purpose, though cotton and linen rags are found to be the best substances. Old rag paper is used over again for making new after the ink has been dissolved by chemicals. About 1772 a German professor named Schaffers, produced a book containing sixty different kinds of paper, made from as many different materials. In 1788 a French manufacturer received a medal for making paper from bark, though the idea of introducing wood paper is supposed to have been suggested by Reamur, as a result of his studying the composition of hornets' neets.

The vegetable fibers of which paper is composed depend for their value upon the presence of cellulose, which is the basis of all vegetation. Cotton is nearly pure cellulose. The manufacture of this and later days is full of appeals to the people to save rags. But in spite of all appeals the supply of rags could not begin to equal the demand of the paper makers for material of which th

and in our great paper mills it is made by machinery.

In making rag paper by machinery the rags are first thrown into a thrasher, which thoroughly beats them and extracts a good deal of their dirt. They are then carefully sorted, buttons, hooks, and other foreign substances removed, and they are then cut in small pieces and thrown into immense boilers. Here they are thoroughly boiled with chemicals until they are soft and white. In a series of washers and beaters they are further cut up and washed, until they are reduced to pulp. Clay or other filler is now added, coloring matter in the case of colored paper, or bluing in the case of white paper, which without this would look yellowish is also introduced into the beater, and a sizing of various chemicals. This part of the process is an extremely delicate one, for it is here that the finished quality of the paper to be made is determined, and the proper mixing of the various ingredients to produce the desired result calls for the highest degree of skill. When the pulp is ready it goes to the Foudrinier machine. This is the invention of a Frenchman, Louis Robert by name, who patented it in 1799. Later the rights were bought by the English firm whose name it bears. At first it met with the greatest opposition on the part of hand workmen, but it gained rapidly in favor in spite of this.

The Foudrinier machine is six feet high and about one hundred and twenty feet long. The rended it in 1799. Later the rights were bought by the English firm whose name it bears. At first it met with the greatest opposition on the part of hand workmen, but it gained rapidly in favor in spite of this.

The Foudrinier machine is six feet high and about one hundred and twenty feet long. The pulp is supplied to a tank called a "stuff-chest," and is kept in suspense by constant agitation. From this chest the pulp passes into a regulating box and from this it is fed onto "sand" the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe Goitre is incurable for the fact that most sufferers believe for its about a fact that most sufferers believe for its about a fact that most sufferers believe for its about a fact that most sufferers believe for its about a fact that most sufferers believe for its about a fact that most sufferers believe for its about a fact that most sufferer that fact that most sufferers believe for its about a fact that for the fact that most sufferer is incurable about a fact that for the fact that most sufferer is incurable for the fact that for the fact that foot per that Goitre can be cured at home without path and that Goi

tables" carpeted with felt, which catch all the remaining dirt. It is then squeezed and sucked through slots shaped like an inverted V, sometimes only one-thousandth of an inch in diameter upon an endless band of woven wire cloth. This band is in some machines over nine feet wide and thirty-five or forty feet long, and is supported upon small rollers. The flow of the pulp is regulated by cocks and bands running parallel with the cloth so that the paper can be made the proper width and thickness.

ness.

As the wire cloth with its load of pulp moves along, the water, surplus fibre and coloring matter drain through into a vat below called a "save-all" and is carried back again to the starting point. The wire cloth is given a shaking motion, which felts the fibres of the pulp together. Further on in its journey more water is removed by suction and a roll covered with wire impresses the paper with the desired pattern and watermarks.

with wire impresses the paper with the desired pattern and watermarks.

From the wire the web of paper passes through rollers which squeeze out the remaining water and smooth and clean it of adhering fibres. Heated rollers dry and polish it. If the paper is to be "tub-sized" it passes through a vat of gelatine made from clippings of hides, horns and similar materials mixed with alum. This fills up the pores of the paper and makes it nonabsorbent. After this it is again rolled and dried.

This fills up the pores of the paper and makes it nonabsorbent. After this it is again rolled and dried.

This is, in the main, the process of paper making, though it has innumerable variations in the manufacture of paper for different purposes. Super-calendered paper is given an extra polish between heated rollers. Fancy papers are given their patterns or peculiar effects by being run between embossed rolls. Colored papers are either painted or varnished, while by the use of various chemicals special papers are made for photography, lithography, telegraphy, or of different changeable color effects. Sandpaper is made by sprinkling a paper covered with glue and brushing off the surplus. Cork paper for packing glass is made by covering a soft paper with ground cork. Tobacco paper for cigarettes is made by showering tobacco dust on the damp web, and pressing it in. By the use of sulphuric acid on unsized paper a kind of parchment is made much like the real article. Special papers are made for almost every purpose that ingenuity can devise. Of late years paper has been used in a great variety of new ways as in the building of pails, tubs, boats, railway car wheels, lumber and in other ways that would not be thought possible on account of the frail nature of the material.

#### The Days of the Week.



HE period of time known by all Christian nations as the week, consists of seven days, for which we have Biblical authority. Among the Chinese and Thibetans, however, the week consists of only five days. It is said that the Greeks and Romans had no such division of

is said that the Greeks and Romans had no such division of time before the introduction of Christianity. Aside from the religious significance of the seventh day for rest, it has been found a most convenient division of the lunar month. During the French Revolution the observance of Sunday was abolished, and the week was made ten days in length. It was found, however, that a rest day oftener was absolutely essential to the physical welfare of the people, and it was found necessary to return to the old method of counting the week as seven days.

It is usually stated that the days of the week are named after the seven planets of the Egyp-

It is usually stated that the days of the week are named after the seven planets of the Egyptian astronomers. Thus Sunday is the sun's day; Monday the moon's day; Tuesday is called by Saxon people from Tiw, a deity who corresponded to Mars in the Roman mythology; Wednesday comes from Woden, who was the Saxon equivalent of Mercury; Thursday from Thor, who was to the Saxons what Jupiter was to the Romans; Friday from Fria, the Saxon's Venus, while Saturday is Saturn's day. The Chinese days of the week are named for iron, wood, water, earth, and air.

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osity.
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We will give these Two SOLLD GOLD hald Rings, one set with large Garnet and three Pearls, one with Ruby and two Brilliants, FREE to any one that will sell 12 of our Gold Plate Enameted Brooches, set with different colored stones at 10 cents each, and sends us the \$1.20. No money required until brooches are sold. We take back all not sold. Address HOWARD MFG. Co., PROVIDENCE, R.L.

"Dear Sir:—Your method worked beautifully. Results were exactly what I needed. Strength and vigor have completely returned and enlargement is entirely satisfactory."

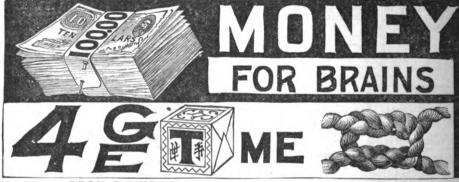
"Dear Sir:—Yours was received and I had no trouble in making use of the receipt as directed and can truthfully say it is a boon to weak men. I am greatly improved in size, strength and vigor."

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n e w style thin knife that just fits the pocket without making holes in the cloth. Better for vest pocket use than scissors and given abso-

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CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.



HE sun touches the first point of the celestial spin (apricorn when the local clocks at Washing-ton, the seat of our national government, indicate twenty-eight minutes past seven in the morning of the twenty-second of December, the seven has been erected. Rather a remarkable condition of the heavenly bodies is observed at that time. Six of the nine heavenly bodies is observed at that time. Six of the nine heavenly bodies are found at that moment just beneath the carry, Sun, Saturn, Jupiter and Mars in the order named. Venus will be in the 2nd house, the Moon will occupy the 5th house, and Neptune the 7th house of the figure. Herschel is the nearest to the horizon and he is followed by Mercury, Sun, Saturn, Jupiter and Mars in the order named. Venus will be in the 2nd house, the Moon will occupy the 5th house, and Neptune the 7th house of the figure as a could be wished. The passage of the fiery and violent war planet Mars in the past five or six weeks up to and past the great bodies Jupiter and Saturn, whose great conjunction was noted in our last, will have excited both the financial and religious affairs of the world in a marked degree. Financial misfortune will have overtaken more than one of the great commercial and monetary enterprises and some unusual fluctuations in the money markets have resulted. Nor do the promises of this figure indicate very speedy relief and tranquility from this excited and feverish state for some weeks to come. Secret organizations subversive of order and constituted authority have been and will continue to be fruitful in trouble, and legislative measures for correction of the mischief will be sought to be enacted by Congress, though not without some strange antagonism among legislative members. I regret to note some inharmony or disagreement between the Executive and Legislative departments of our government, probably in the first half of January. This quarter will be one of unusual excitement to the President, inclining him to be headstrong and rash in act and he will be wise t

nsual.

The medical fraternity are cautioned that there will be considerable increase of malarial and intermittent diseases. Unusual obstinacy of diseases of the organs of digestion, including particularly the liver and kidneys, will be noted in practice.

#### CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER, 1901.

**DECEMBER. 1—Sunday.** Conditions contribute more to excitement and nervous irritability than to quiet contemplation of religious subjects; see that the tongue does not immerse thee in unpleasant controversies; the day is not recommended for any move of consequence in connection with church affairs.

connection with church affairs.

2-Monday. This day gives energy and enterprise and invites activity in all the walks of life, but especially for the machinist, engineer, mechanic, traveler, military man, the dealers in metals and cattle, and all in the avocations wherein fire, chemicals, steam and sharp instruments are employed; do not expect favor from thy superior in the afternoon nor any permanent gratification from the social or dramatic entertainment in the evening.

ing.

3-Tuesday. During this day actively urge all matters pertaining to real estate and its improvement: make contracts, execute deeds, bargain for houses and lands, consult architects and have thy dealings with printers, publishers, stationers and persons employed in the lower or subordinate offices of state. Give preference, if any, to the afternoon for engaging in literary and scientific pursuits; commercial men should take advantage of prevailing benevolent conditions, making contracts and pushing all business deals to the utmost; do correspondence, adjust accounts, and appeal to the mind for its best efforts during the last two-thirds of this day.

4-Wednesday. Let all engaged in the elegant oc-

4-Wednesday. Let all engaged in the elegant oc-cupations and polite arts improve every moment of this forenoon; artists and musicians are particularly favored in the early morning when dexterity of execution will be marked; effect important business deals concerning wearing apparel, furnishings, and all things that gratify and please mankind.

wearing apparel, furnishings, and all things that gratify and please mankind.

5—Thuradlay. The middle hours of this day bring disappointment and embarrassment and discourage the commencement of any important matter, particularly such as relates to houses, lands, mines, oil wells, or any of the products of the earth; the very early and very late hours are more favorable for dealings with large corporations, government bodies, etc.

6—Friday. Musical and artistic pursuits and the elegant occupations generally, suffer peculiar annoyances and embarrassments at this time and the gentle sex appear at a disadvantage or suffer in greater proportion than usual; strange matrimonial alliances are probable at this time, particularly between youth and age and elopements are prompted much to the later unhappiness of the contracting parties; let all avoid this for any matrimonial engagement. This is peculiarly true of persons born about the 7th of January, 21st of April, 4th of June, 8th or 24th of July, 24th of October, or the 6th of December, of past years. Those persons so born, who are engaged in the elegant pursuits are likely to be now suffering more than usual business annoyances or to be in poor health. They should exercise more than usual care in all their affairs, acting conservatively rather than assuming risks of consequence.

7—Naturday. A superior day. Crowd all thy ventures to the utmost verse the medical and all their productive to the utmost verse the medical and all the productive to the utmost verse the medical and all their affairs, acting consequence.

7-Saturday. A superior day. Crowdall thy ventures to the utmost; urge the mechanical and chemical pursuits; deal in metals, cattle, leather, drugs, hardware and cuttery, and seek favor from persons engaged in manufacture of any kind.

S-Nunday. One of the best Sabbath days of the month; the efforts of the clergy will be especially happy and effective and minds dwell with earnestness and zeal in the contemplation of religious subjects.

9-Monday. Be in no haste to trade in real estate or make purchases for general trade in the forenoon; as the monon hour is passed, however, let every energy be given to the pursuits of literary and educational matters, also to all the elegant pursuits; do important correspondence and make engagements relative to books, and publications of all kinds; urge educational matters and all

literary and scientific efforts; employ servants and have musical and dramatic entertainments.

10—Tuesday. Not a favorable day for any important beginning; do not travel needlessly and beware of incurring the displeasure of those in authority; government officials and officers of rairroads and other large corporations will not be favorably disposed. If this be the anniversary of thy birthday, do thou exercise extraordinary care in all thine acts for several weeks to come.

11-Wednesday. Give preference today to all pursuits that are concerned with giving gratification to mankind; deal in poetical works and the elegant in literary productions generally; purchase for use articles of jewelry, wearing apparel, and furnishings.

12—Thursday. Conditions are somewhat conflicting on this day and only the routine affairs of life should receive thine attention; new beginnings are best deferred to a more opportune time.

to a more opportune time.

13-Friday. The very early hours are least to be depended upon but every energy should be given to thy business enterprises as the forenoon is entered upon; have dealings with monied men, institutions, bankers and persons of wealth and standing; purchase goods for trade; solicit money favors, urge collections and adjust accounts in business.

accounts in business.

14—Saturday. Shun usurers and old and eccentric persons and keep thy wits about thee; be not deceived in any venture purporting to be profitable; scrutinize representations and be slow to engage in enterprises this day presenting themselves to the mind. Persons born about the 6th of January, April, July and October, of past years, are cautioned to safeguard health in every way during these passing weeks. Persons so born who are compelled to be about machinery or in underground places or those where there is danger from fire or explosives should exercise the greatest care at this time in exposing themselves where violent harm is probable; those so born who are in the habit of indulging in intoxicating beverages must now look out that they do not do themselves irreparable harm or invite disastrous losses in their business; they should be temperate in habits, prudent in diet, and careful in all their affairs, even more so than in general in their lives.

15—Sunday. Another of the best days of the month, experiable of the production of the description of the description of the specially see for the good and researches.

15—Sunday. Another of the best days of the month especially so for the good and prosperity of church matters and for religious and moral improvement.

16-Monday. Ask favors of public officers and of persons in authority; the day is generally favorable though the evening is likely to be contentious and give minor disappointments.

17—Tuesday. Begin this day early, giving preference to transactions concerning real estate and all agricultural productions; purchase wood, coal, lumber, and all kinds of building material and make contracts concerning building and repairing.

kinds of building material and make contracts concerning building and repairing.

18—Wednesday. Employ every moment of the afternoon for dealings with manufacturers, machinists, chemists, druggists, and all in the mechanical trades; give no offense to thine employer in the afternoon. Persons born about the 9th of April, 11th of July, or 12th of October, of past years, should have care as to health, avoiding surfeits, rich food, great physical exertion or excitement and all habits conducive to plethora; those in business should look out for losses from fire or from their own carelessness or haste in conducting their affairs; should keep out of disputes and litigation and be very prudent in all their ventures.

19—Thursday. An excellent day for general business; let all engaged in the polite and elegant avocations especially improve this day, deal in fancy goods, dress materials, jewelry, and all articles of adornment; seek the dress maker, milliner, tailor and decorator; seek favor at the hands of the fair sex; woo and wed and expect pleasure and success in dramatic, musical, and social entertainments.

20—Friday. Keep a civil tongue in the morning, be slow to take offense agreed collegate and success in the morning, be slow to take offense agreed collegate and success and the morning, be slow to take offense agreed collegate and success and the morning, be

social entertainments.

20—Friday. Keep a civil tongue in the morning, be slow to take offence, avoid all controversy and be careful with fire; the middle ten days in this month are likely to witness some bad fires involving large property losses; so have care at all these times that such losses do not fall to thy lot by reason of thine own carelessness or neglect; preference should be given to the latter two-thirds of the day for the pursuit of scientific studies and all literary work; do important correspondence, engage help and make special demands upon the mind.

21—Saturday. Conflicting conditions render success

21—Saturday. Conflicting conditions render success very uncertain in all matters begun on this day; excitement and restlessness are induced.

22-Sunday. Another of the excellent Sabbaths of the month; the day culminates some of the choicest influences for religious matters; mental activity and eloquent utterances are induced and church affairs are favored in an eminent degree.

favored in an eminent degree.

23.—Monday. Be careful in judgment on this day; do not jump too hastily at conclusions nor permit excitement to lead to rash spee... or act; seek no money favors nor engage in any transactions pertaining to landed property or mining enterprises.

24.—Tuesday. On this day avoid litigation and do not indulge in bitterness of speech; humor the whims and notions of associates rather than seek to correct them; avoid very aged persons, and be very cautious in the use of the pen; make no contracts concerning patents or copyrights and make no written application to public officers for any favor or advantage.

25.—Wednesday. Christmas. The middle hours

25—Wednesday. Christmas. The middle hours of this day are the best, but the influences of Christmas Eve and Christmas night combine to invite unusual indulgence in pleasure and its apprehended that too much "good cheer" will make intemperance more than usually mischievous for the welfare of many in these closing days of the year. Temperance in diet and habits is peculiarly recommended for the time.

is peculiarly recommended for the time.

26—Thursday. An unpromising day; discouraging for the purse and embarrassing to the progress of enterprises; be temperate in habit and careful in diet, especially avoiding surfeits; do not run risks in speculations on this day unless the nativity be exceptionally strong in this particular; hold the purse-strings firmly and deal not in real estate or agricultural or mining products; keep out of quarrels in the latter part of this day.

27—Friday. Give preference to the noon hours for the most important labors of the day, though it is not recommended for any important engagement, but rather for routine labors.

routine labors.

28.—Saturday. The closing days of the year do not offer as much assistance for the favorable outcome of enterprises as could be wished and REGULUS urges his friends to defer making beginnings in enterprises of consequence until more benevolent conditions prevail; do not wed on this day nor expect success in the elegant pursuits or in dealings in fancy or ornamental goods; beware of giving offence to thine employer from whom thou shouldst ask no favors at this time.

29—Sunday. The mind will be especially active on this day and religious discourses will be carnest and eloquent.

30-Monday. Beware of quarrels or contentions in the early morning, observing more than usual care against rashness during the first part of the day; let all honor-able efforts be made in established business as the noon hours are passed, particularly in matters concerned with houses, lands, mines, or any kind of building materials; avoid public officers and dealing with organizations of men in the afternoon.

avoid public omeers and dealing the second public men in the afternoon.

31—Tuesday. Drive thy business vigorously on this day, especially if concerned with the mechanical pursuits or inventions: deal with military men, machinists, surgeons, tanners, and electricians; make experiments with chemicals and with electrical apparatus.

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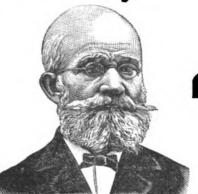
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The medical profession of this country seemed powerless to cope with the appalling and disastrous from violation of Nature's laws.

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of men who suffered from sexual diseases and enfeebling nervous maladies have been restored to health and the virile powers of perfect manhood.

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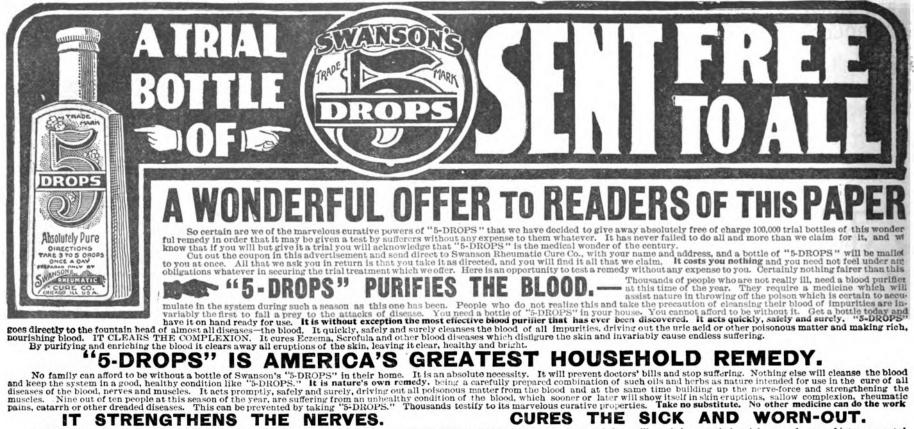
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pains, catarrn or other dreaded diseases. This can be prevented by taking "5-DROPS." Thousands testify to its marvelous curative properties. Take no substitute. No other medicine can do the work "T STRENGTHENS THE NERVES.

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Rheumatism, that most dreaded and dangerous disease can be cured by "5-DROPS." It will stop those fearful neuralgic pains and prevent the awful agony which is certain to follow attacks of neuralgia which are not promptly cured. It will cure Rheumatism in any form, does not reatter whether you are suffering from inflammatory, Nervous, Auscular or Articular Rheumatism; whether your ralgia which are not promptly cured. It will cure Rheumatism in any form, does not reatter whether you are suffering from inflammatory, Nervous, Auscular or Articular Rheumatism; whether your ralgia which are not promptly cured. It will cure Rheumatism in any form, does not reatter whether you are suffering from inflammatory, Nervous, Auscular or Articular Rheumatism; whether your body is aching and every joint is out of shape Swanson's "5-DROPS" if used as directed will positively give instant relief and effect a permanent cure. It will also quickly relieve and absolutely cure Neuralgia, La Grippe, Malaria, Lumbago, Sciatica, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Backache, Asthma, Hay Fever, Catarrh, Sleeplessness, Nervousness, Ne



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#### The Schley Inquiry.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

AST month Comfort gave its readers a short article on the unfortunate controversy which has brought about the present Court of Inquiry, the testimony and arguments of which are filling many columns of the daily papers. Much of the language is so technical that but few understand what it all amounts to, and fewer still care. The fact that the American fleet under direct command of Commodore Schley actually annihilated the powerful and dreaded Spanish fleet on the 3rd of July, three years ago, seems to be the whole story.

Apparently, whether true or not, there has been a combined attempt to belittle Schley. At best, his fault seems from all the testimony against him, to have been momentary indecision, which led at worst to slight delays, which so far have been but trifles, the fact that shines out above all is that Schley, highest in position, fought the winning battle throughout from start to finish and that is undisputed. The fact that the Brooklyn made the runaway "loop" proves nothing at most more than that momentary indecision, for without loss she

The fact that the Brooklyn made the runaway "loop" proves nothing at most more than that momentary indecision, for without loss she was in the thick again. Her commander, Capt. Cook claims entire responsibility for this movement. The writer has seen soldiers get ahead of their fellows and finding themselves too close to the enemy fall back and then go in again where the heaviest fighting was. Were they cowardly in running away, or was it good judgment?

COMFORT believes that outside a certain set the American the American public has formed a very strong opinion relative to this; but it is no time to express it now. Still, if anyone wishes to test it let him casually ask the opinion



let him casually ask the opinion of the first twenty people of intelligence he may meet. In the meantime, much testimony is being taken and it seems to us a lot of time being wasted over non-essential facts in the campaign, which were unnoticed and unreprimanded at the time, which are now made to appear, if true, dangerously near treating the same of the campaign and the same of the campaign and the same of the campaign and the campaign and the same of the campaign and the camp and unreprimanded at the time, which are now made to appear, if true, dangerously near treason. As a fact, the campaign was the most totally effective of any naval enterprise in the history of modern nations, with the possible exception of Trafalgar.

Therefore, Comfort can only advise its readers to be patient and listen for the final report, which will undoubtedly officially decide the right and wrong of the matter, whether it changes anyone's private opinion or not.

Trials in the United States Navy must partake of one of three forms; a court of inquiry, a general court-martial, or a summary court-martial. A court of inquiry or a general court-

martial can be ordered only by the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Navy, or the commander-in-chief of the American fleets on foreign stations. The form known as



JUDGE ADVOCATE S. C.

the court of in-quiry, like the present investiga-tion, is employed exclusively for the investigation of the conduct of the conduct of commissioned of-ficers, while the general court-martial embraces investigations of investigations of the conduct of of-cers and also the trial of enlisted men charged with murder or other crimes, or serious breaches of discipline, such as an assault upon an

A summary court, which may dered at any time by the commanding officer of any ship or station, corresponds to the police court on shore, and deals with minor offences of all kinds of which the enlisted men may be

A court of inquiry, contrary to the public opinion, by no means always implies censure; on the contrary, it is the most usual thing for an officer to ask for it in order that the record may show any particular action involved no fault or mistake on his part. Judge Advocate fault or mistake on his part. Judge Advocate Lemly is the same as a prosecuting attorney in a state trial, acting for and appearing as the council of the Navy Department. The counsel of Rear Admiral Schley is headed by Isidor aynor, a leader of the Maryland bar.

There have been several notable courts of in-quiry in the history of the American Navy. One most celebrated in its time but now hardly One most celebrated in its time but now hardly known even in history, was the dispute which arose between Commodore Perry and Captain Jesse D. Elliot, who commanded the ship Niagara, in the battle of Lake Erie, as to what degree of credit that ship was entitled. This question involved questions of Elliot's bravery as well as to the share of prize money the Niagara's officers and men were entitled. After many attempts Elliot was able to secure a court of inquiry into his conduct and was completely vindicated. On this occasion the complex question of an absent officer claiming entire question of an absent officer claiming entire credit for a victory which he did not attend in person was not raised.

#### An American Lord.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



ISITORS to Newburyport in Massachusetts are sure to have pointed out to them the stately mansion in which there once lived that eccentric character Lord Timoth y Dexter whose title was self-given as the outgrowth of his own colossal conceit and vanity. Lord Timothy was one of the most noted characters of his day. He was a strange He was a strange combination of

shrewdness, ig no-rance and vanity. He was one of the most suc-cessful merchants of his day, and he dabbled in literature to the extent of at least one small These three forms have been so outlined possibly as to give the impression that each has distinct functions, and yet, in reality a court of inquiry is presumably merely a preliminary to a general court-martial. In a word, it may be said to correspond to a grand jury on shore, and just as a grand jury reviews the facts in any case brought to their attention, to determine whether or not the circumstances make it justifiable to bring the person or persons implicated before the bar of justice, so the naval court of inquiry insures a competent preliminary examination and enables an officer to present a defense and, if possible, to puncture some of the charges made against him without having been subjected to the stigma of a courtmartial.

A court of inquiry, contrary to the public cargo was sold at a large profit. At another time he invited financial disaster by purchasing an enormous quantity of whalebone for "ship's stays," as he declared. But suddenly the value of whalebone greatly increased, and again was Lord Timothy triumphant in a venture that seemed foolbardy in its beginning. ture that seemed foolhardy in its beginning.

Lord Timothy gives the following account of his birth in his "Pickle for the Knowing Ones:" "I was born 1747 Jan. 22; on this day in the morning, a great snow storm in the signs of the seventh house; whilst Mars came forward Jupiter stood by to hold the candle. I was to be a great man."

The birthplace of this foreordained "great man" was Malden, Massachusetts. He served an apprenticeship to a leather dresser in his young manhood and then went to Newburyport where he married a young widow who was the owner of a house and a bit of ground. A shop was built on a part of the ground and the rest of it was converted into a tanyard. Erratic as he was Lord Timothy attended closely to business and he prospered from the first to business and he prospered from the first. His vanity increased with his wealth, and popularity became the god of his idolatry. He became owner of a handsome country seat in the town of Chester, and he was for some time un-

decided as to whether he should call himself King of Chester or Lord Timothy Dexter. He finally decided upon the latter title, and as his friends good-naturedly accepted the title as readily as if it were genuine, and addressed him by it, it served all the purpose of a real title.

Lord Dexter built a stately mansion in New-

title.

Lord Dexter built a stately mansion in Newburyport, set up a coach and four, and sought to "live up to his title." His home was made most conspicuous by a number of life-size and tyery expensive statues of noted men set on lofty pedestals in front of his house. There were statues of Washington, Bonaparte, Lord Nelson, Thomas Jefferson, King George, Franklin, John Adams, William Pitt, John Hancock and other famous men. Lord Dexter added a statue of himself to this illustrious group, and with the lack of modesty that was characteristic of him he put below his own statue these words: "I am the greatest philosopher in the western world."

There were also figures of lions and sentinels on the grounds, and people came from far and near to see the Dexter mansion and its statuary. The mansion is today very much as it was in the day of its singular owner, but the statues were removed by Lord Dexter's heirs.

Lord Dexter had a tomb prepared for himself in a summer house in his garden. He refers to this tomb in his "Pickle for the Knowing Ones:" "Heare will lie in box the first Lord in Americake the first Lord Dexter made by the voice of Hampshire state my brave fellows Affirmed it they gave me the title and so let it goue for as much as it will fetch it wonte give me any breade but take from me the contrary. I have a grand toume in my garding at one of the grasses and the tempel of Reason over the toume and my Coffin made and all ready I have my house painted with white lead and inside and outside touched with green, and brass trimmings Eight handels and a good. Lock I have had one mock four el. it was so solvent and the property of the and brass trimmings Eight handels and a good Lock I have had one mock founded. it was so solemn and there was so much Crying about 3000 spectators. I say my house is Equal to any



HOME OF LORD DEXTER.

mansion house in twelve hundred miles and how for sale for seven hundred pounds weight of dollars by me."

Lord Dexter was very charitable, and his Lord Dexter was very charitable, and his purse was open to the poor. He not only gave away much money during his lifetime but he left money by his will to be used for benevolent purposes. He died in October, 1806, in the sixtieth year of his age. DECEMBER 1901 VOL XIV NO 2 M.N 158

# THE KEY TO A MILLION AND A QUARTER HOMES NEW YORK AUGUSTA, MAINE. Copyright, 1901, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher, Incorporated.





#### PRIZE STORIES.

The pollowing conditions govern the awarding of eash nitres for Nutshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such services and up a horse compiled with all these requirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for anyone to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be awarered.

personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

1. Only persons who are regular paid up yearly subscribers to "Condravt" and who send with every manuscript at least four yearly subscribers (together with 25 cents to pay for each subscriber so east) may compete for the prites.

2. All contributions must here the number of words they contain plainly word thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with nom deplane it desired; must be written on one side of the paper only, enclosed in the same encelope as the letter and remittance for new subscriptions, and addressed to Editor Nutshall Story Club care of Comporer, Augusta, Maine.

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tain more than 2,000 or less than 1,000 mords.

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5. From \$5 to \$20 will be paid for stories, and remittances will be sent by check as soon as accards have been made.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Short Story Prize Offer.

The Publishers of "Comfort" reserve the right to purchase at their established rates any stories submitted under the foregoing offer, which failed to secure a prize.

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PRIZE WINNERS FOR DECEMBER. Sarah E. Gannett, First Prize. Oscar S. Seaver, Second Prize. Hubert Edwards, Third Prize Chester Livingstone, Fourth Prize. Burton McPhail, Fifth Prize.

#### The Kid's Christmas.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY SARAH E. GANNETT.

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HERE'S that coon staring in at the window again! That's the third time this week that I have caught him at it and I'm going to put an end to it," and Harvey Young dashed out of the room and soon returned, dragging by the collar an unwilling specimen of the colored race about twelve years old. Ragged, dirty, lean and shivering with cold, he presented a strong con-

trast to the two occupants of the warm, bright room into which he had been so unceremoniously introduced.

"Now, then, young un," said Harvey, releasing his hold on the urchin, "give us an account of yourself. What are you prying into honest people's houses in this way for? No you don't, young man! Not much!" as the child made a dart for the door of the room. "I'll just lock this door and put the key in my pocket until you have answered my questions. Come now, out with it!"

'Worn't doin' nothin'," muttered the boy. "'Worn't doin' nothin'?' Yes, you were, too.

You've been spying on us for a week, and I just think that you intended to rob us. I've a great mind to turn you over to the police, and I will, too, if you don't own up."

"I warn't doin' no harm, 'deed I worn't!" whimpered the boy. "I was on'y-" and he hesitated, turned gray with fright and the big tears stood in his eyes.

"Oh, Harvey," exclaimed his sister Amy, a pretty young girl of sixteen. "you frighten him so that he doesn't know what to say. Let me try. See here, little boy, what shall I call you? Ike! Well, Ike, you are too cold to tell a straight story, I know. Come over here by the fire and warm your fingers and toes a bit. We are not going to hurt you, but we want very much to know why you are keeping such a watch upon us."

The boy responded to the compelling pressure of the gentle hand upon his shoulder by seating himself in a low chair by the open fire and spreading his little black claws to the grateful warmth, and then, glancing up into the winning face above him he gathered courage to say:

"I on'y wanted to see yer gittin' ready for Crismis."

"Well, I like that!" interposed Harvey. "Stealing our Christmas secrets and-

"Hush, Harvey. He didn't intend to steal, I am sure; but tell us, Ike, why you wanted to see us at work. You must have some reason for it."

"'Deed, I wasn't goin' to steal," answered the boy, eagerly, "but—but—" and he stopped.
"Out with it," said Harvey, impatiently. "We can't wait all night."

The boy glanced at Amy, and seeing encour- this last a little proudly.

agement in her smiling face he said:

"Well, it's this-a-way. Yer see, Jim an' me we's partners, an' we's got a little kid to home what's lame an' sick, an' coughs orful; an' now Crismis is comin', an' she wants a Crismis s'prise the wust kind. Jim an' me, we wants to give it to her, cos she never had no good times, on'y poundin's an' kicks an' starvin's; but we ain't never had no Crismis, either of us, an' we don't know how it ought to be did; an' I heard you two tellin' some other folks that you was goin' to have one, an' that you was goin' to work fer it evenin's, an' so I t'ought I'd watch out an' maybe I'd fin' out how to do it. Dat's all, 'deed 'tis, honest."

"Who is this kid, as you call her? Your sister?" asked Amy.

"My sister? No, I ain't done got no sister. Her name's Katie Stark, an' she's a pore little lame thing, what goes on crutches. Dey 'buse her orful, cos she's lame an' can't do nothin'; an' long 'bout two weeks ago her mudder was sent up for stealin' an' gittin' drunk, an' ole Mis Plunkett, where she lived, turned her out on the street in a hard rainstorm, cos she couldn't earn the grub she ate; an' me an' Jim we found her a-settin' on the curb-stone in the rain a-cryin'."

"Who is Jim?" interrupted Harvey.

"Didn't I done tole yer? Jim an' me's partners."

"Partners in what?"

"Oh, we lives together an' shares what we earns. Sometimes we don't get much."

"What do you do?"

"We has newspaper routes, and sells Stars' an' 'Posts' and de 'Times', an' den we goes to de markets in de mornin's an' totes baskets for de ladies. Some days we gets a right smart o' money dat way, an' some days we don't get 'nough to eat. But, yer see," the boy added with a bright look, "we don't have to pay no rent where we lives."

"How is that? Where do you live?"

Ike started and a look of fear came into his eyes. Evidently he had not intended to let out that secret, but the warmth and the interest of the young people had led him to say more than he was aware of.

"I ain' gwine tell yer dat. Yer'll peach to de cops, an' den we'll hab to git out."

"No, we won't. Tell away."

"Honor bright?"

"Honor bright," answered Harvey, laughing a little at the idea of sharing the secret of a darkey. "That is," he added, "if I find there's no harm in it."

"'Tain't no harm. We don't interfere wid nobody, an' a feller's got to have a place to sleep, an' to keep de kid, now, ain't he?"

"Well, tell us where it is," said Harvey, impatiently.

"Hoh! yes, an' have you runnin' to de p'lice wid de news!" scornfully replied Ike. "Not much I don' tell."

"Oh, come, now," exclaimed Harvey, "I'm not so mean as all that. I won't tell on you. Out with it."

"Well," said Ike, "do yer know that big pile of lumber an' old iron down back of de B. & O. depot?"

"Yes."

"Well, Jim an' me used to sleep there last summer, an' when we got de kid on our hands we t'ought it would make a fine private apartment for her; so we found an ole dry goods box an' turned it on its side, an' hid de place where we go in, an' dere you are. Suite o' rooms at de Arlington, we calls em, on'y dey is very quiet an' retired. But I wish 'twor a bit warmer," he added, musingly. "De kid shivers some, an' den she coughs orful, too."

"Gracious!" exclaimed Harvey, "I should think she would. The very idea of a sick baby living in a box in this weather. Why don't you take her to the Board of Charities or to the Washington Asylum or some such place? She ought to be in a Home of some kind and you

The boy started with alarm.

"But she don't want to go to no 'sylum. She's 'fraid o' such places, an' we promised her she shouldn't be took there. She cried orful returned to the carriage for two immense cos she t'ought we-all was goin' to take her to baskets and then, blanketing his horses, he the 'thorities. No, she won't go to no 'sylum, was ready to assist in preparing the "s'prise" not while me an' Jim can help it," and the boy drew up his tiny frame proudly.

"But she'll die of the cold in that box, and then the police will arrest you and Jim for murder."

The boy's face instantly fell and all the light went out of it. Evidently the idea was not a new one to him, for he muttered: "She ain't gwine die. We-all's done got a

piece o' mattin' to put over her, an' some newspapers, an' I'll get a comforble soon's I "Matting and newspapers! Gracious! Oh,

here are papa and mamma at last. I thought they would never come home. Oh, papa, just listen to this," and Harvey plunged headlong into Ike's pitiful little story of devotion and self sacrifice, to which his parents listened with great interest.

"And now, papa," he finished, "Don't you think that Katie ought to go to some kind of a Home?"

"Katie ain't gwine to no Home!" put in Ike, desperately. "Jim an' me we done promised her that she shouldn't, an' me keeps our word,'

"And so do we keep our word, my boy," answered Mr. Young, gently; "and Katie shall not be taken from you against your will; but we want to make you all more comfortable if we can. So if you will eat this hot supper which Amy has brought you, mother and I will see what can be done."

Poor little Ike's eyes sparkled at the sight of the food and he started toward it eagerly, and then stopped, saying:

"Ef you'd gi' me a paper bag I'd like to take it home to Jim an' the kid."

"No, no, my boy," answered Mrs. Young; "this is all for you; you shall have more to take to Katie and Jim." And Ike waited for nothing more but ate as if famished.

When he had finished to the last crumb Mrs. Young said:

"Now here is supper for Jim and a bottle of hot milk for Katie. Coax her to drink it all and then wrap her warmly in this big old quilt before she goes to sleep. Here is another for you and Jim to put over yourselves; and now we want you to promise to be here again, all three of you at ten o'clock tomorrow morning."
"T' kid too?"

"Yes, and Jim. I think we can find you all a better place to sleep than that dry-goods box." "T' ain't---"

"No, you will be perfectly free to go away whenever you wish to do so.''

"Sure 'nuff? Den we-all will come an' tank yer kindly mam," and Ike disappeared into the night loaded with bundles.

The next morning rain was falling heavily and the streets were running rivers of water, and as ten o'clock came and passed the Youngs concluded that the little "coons" would not leave the shelter of their box that morning; but long after the appointed time a queer little procession came creeping up the fashionable thoroughfare of Q. street, and stopped in front of the Young residence. It consisted of lke and a boy even smaller than himself, both streaming with rain and carrying between them a rude litter of poles and matting in which was an invisible something wrapped in the old quilts given to Ike the evening before. The cavalcade was speedily conducted to the kitchen and the soaked covers of the litter being unfolded revealed a minute, wizened little colored girl of six years with a pitiful hump between her small shoulders. She was evidently very ill and gasped for breath as she coughed.

"Thought we-all wasn't never goin' to get here," remarked Ike.

"Why didn't you come in the street cars? Father gave you the tickets!" exclaimed

"Case de c'nductor wouldn't let us on," said Ike. "He say git a ambulance an' take her to de horspitle. She too sick to ride in de cars. So Jim an' me we jes' toted her."

"All the way?"

"'Cose; what-all else mought we do?"

"Well," said Mr. Young, "you are good boys to the little thing and I like you for it; but now pull up your chair and eat your breakfasts, you and Jim, and then the carriage will be here for us."

Wild alarm was instantly visible on all the little black faces.

"Oh, you need not be frightened," said Mr. Young, smiling, "we are not going to an institution of any kind but over on Pomeroy street where there is an old colored Auntie who lives all alone in a nice little house. She is getting old and lame and needs just such active boys as you two to live with her and help her. She will take good care of Katie and when she is well she can help, too.'

It was the "Night before Christmas, and all through the house" of Aunt Nancy "not a creature was stirring", when a low knock came at the outer door. Aunt Nanc; was expecting it, however, and her turbaned head shortly appeared in the doorway and admitted into her neat little parlor Harvey and Amy Young, both well laden with bundles; while a servant bore a small tree already planted in its box. Setting this up in the corner prepared for it he and in an hour the tree, laden with warm clothing and a liberal sprinkling of toys, candies and fruits, stood reaching out its branches with invitation to Christmas joy and gladness in every spray. A turkey "wid all de fixin's," as Aunt Nancy delightedly expressed it, together with a big plum pudding, were piled on a paper on the floor, and the Youngs prepared to depart.

"But are you sure the children are asleen, Aunt Nancy?" questioned Amy.

"Lawsy, yes, honey. Dey'll sleep t'roo anyting. Look yere an' see fer youse'f," and Aunt Nancy opened the door leading into the warm kitchen and the tiny bedroom beyond; but alas for her rash assertion! Propped up among the snowy pillows of Aunt Nancy's own bed in a corner of the kitchen, and carefully wrapped by Ike in a shawl, sat Katie, now rapidly recovering from her cold under Aunt Nancy's care, her black eyes big and round with wonder at the sounds going on in the next room; while Ike and Jim, two little ebony shapes in bare feet and nighties, were dancing noiselessly but excitedly from bedroom to



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"Bress my soul, chilluns!" exclaimed Aunt Nancy, "What am all dis? Git back into bed dis minute, Ike and Jim, or Santa Claus'll ketch you at it and dere won't be a ting for any one of you tomorrow."

The little black faces clouded over at once, and the boys turned to go into the bedroom a they were bidden, but Ike turned back to say:

"'Deed. Aunt Nancy, we t'ought Santa Claus had done come by de sourid in de parlor, an's we t'ought de s'prise was ready."

"And so it is! so it is!" exclaimed Amy Oh, please, Aunt Nancy, won't you let the have one peep, just to please us? as long at they are awake."

"Certain, honey, certain; jes' as you say; but wait a minute till I wrop up dis baby 80 she won't take cole. Dar now," and in a few minutes the children were all in front of the wonderful tree, Katie a bundle of blankets and shawls in the arms of Aunt Nancy.

Great was the amazement and delight. "Ki! See dem cloes. Jes de ticket fer me

"Santa Claus sure knowed ma size wen be brung dem shoes."

"Katie, dere's two, tree li'l gowns jes a fit fer you, an' de swellest hat! see, Jim, wid a red ribbin on it. Dat's fer you, too, Katie." "Oh!" cried Katie. suddenly, in a voice of

hushed delight, "dere's a doll haby dere!

Dere's a doll baby! Oh!" clasping her tiny black hands. "Might I hold her des a minute! Oh, please, please. I never had a doll, never." Amy could not resist such a plea, and the doll, a beautiful great one, was in Katie's feeble

arms in a minute, and the child hung over to in speechless delight, paying no further attention to the tree or to the chatter of the boys. At last Aunt Nancy declared they mustall go

to bed at once, and in the morning each should have a share from the tree. She attempted to take the doll from Katie, but Amy caught a glimpse of the brimming eyes and trembling lips and the doll was instantly restored to her arms.

"No," Amy said, "It won't do to put this AYS Best List of New Plays. 325 Nos. Dialogs, Speakers, Hand Books, Ostalog free, T.S. DENISOE, Pab., Dept. 8, Chicago





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dollie back on the tree. She will be very lonely and she might cry all night if she had to stay alone here in the dark. Katie will have to take her to bed with her;" and the dark eyes of the child fairly shone with delight as she clasped the dolly to her heart and was borne that you had to git up and go outside every off to bed.

Ike and Jim followed, but suddenly Ike turned, and standing straight in front of Amy and Harvey he said.

"Dis yer ain't no dry goods box of a home, not by a long shot. It's way out o' sight o' dat; an' we all's done got anoder s'prise, an' dat's ole Aunt Nancy. She's done tole us weall's her chillun, an' she's gwine keep us fer allers. I wants ter tank yer, on'y I don' know how;" and the tears stood in the child's eyes as he spoke.

Amy quickly held out her hand and took the little black one.

"You have thanked us," she said, "and you

will thank us again every day that you stay that they couldn't break it when he'd turned here with Aunt Nancy and try to help her and make her happy; and, besides, 1 shall feel thanked every day that I see you trying to make a good boy and a good man of yourself. Will you try?"

"Deed I will, Miss Amy. Me an' Jim we ain' gwine be no street gamins. We-all's gwine to school every day as your pa done toie us, an' we earns our money nights an' mornin's an' Saturdays. Yes, I'm comin', Aunt Nancy," and away skipped lke to dream of the coming delights of that tree and of the Christmas dinner.

#### The Meeting House Bonanza.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY OSCAR S. SEAVER.

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ES sir," began my old friend Sandy Low, "there have been some ruther strange runs of luck in these parts. Now there's ther meetin' house, fust church established in Montana." Sandy pointed to a churchy looking structure half way down from the office of the Twin Lead Silver Mine where we sat smoking and the ore railroad leading from Spruce City to the Valley Smelters. "Calate you never heard of

ther Reverend Dick Grilby and his meetin' house bonanza. No? Well you can figure you're it, then.

"Now Grilby struck Spruce City about '70 when it was a placer camp, wild as they made 'em you can bet. Regular roarin' hell all ther time. Couldn't breathe unless you roared. Wouldn't think it now would you-a tuck me up in bed little community like this? No sir! Now there were eight other camps down ther gulch considerably wild themselves, and as Grilby came into camp that way, he had to pass ther whole procession. 'Bout ther time he reached ther band which was Spruce City, he figured that he'd located about as much cussedness as one sky pilot had any use fer, and same bein' biled down in the bottom of our gulch handy like, he calated he'd stay. So me bein' single and a respectable sort of a cuss, he went snacks on my cabin.

"Wall ther camp wan't sendin' him no dinner cards. Couldn't figure on his use. But I seed Grilby was a square feller and got to likin' him. The boys at the Paradise expected he'd begin to rant about ther gilded halls of vice and sich and they might have to hurt his feelin's puttin' him and ther camp on congenial terms. Red Harvey, ther proprietor ruther egged on sich feelin's, expectin' there'd be fun.

But Grilby warnt that sort. He was a big feller, didn't look perticularly tame, read his bible considerable but didn't pester ther boys with it a bit. What stuck in his crop was what he called ther grounded viciousness place which meant ther hooray times Sundays at ther Paradise. Every time he heard yellin' or shootin' he'd grit his teeth and git ugly until one wide open night when ther whole gulch came in to camp and was ther cause of three funerals next day, Grilby up and swore he'd turn ther Paradise from ther hell trap it was into a house of ther Lord.

"That's ther house of ther lord down there, pardner; just as he said he'd do; and I cal'ate I'm ther oldest member countin' absences.

"Well, havin' laid out his proposition he didn't git figits whenever he heard a hooray time goin' on. Just because he didn't rant and yell and git argumentative ther boys had to give up importin' a bucket of tar which they had speculated on. Red Harvey was ruther disappinted at that, bein' ruther an ornery cuss. Asked me one day when my pardner ther sky pilot was comin' down to give his song and dance. I says, 'pretty soon,' but ther dance would be on ther chest of ther fust man what didn't encore his song, which shet Red Harvey

"But that warn't ther preacher's game. As able treatment. Now he begun to strike in God fearin' community.

with ther boys private like. He could talk more horse sense in a minute than you could figure out in a week, could swap ther lie of any man in camp and pretty soon he had our cabin so packed Sunday mornin's listening to him five minutes to git a full breath of air.

"Now ther pints in favor of sich piety were two. Spruce City and ther rest of ther gulch was gittin' worked out, which put a serious rook on ther future and ther boys warn't doin' anythin' agin Providence. Furthermore and particularly ther preacher served out free baccy and didn't pass ther plate. So our meetin' got bigger every Sanday and ther preacher got more influential.

"Fer instance he didn't talk agin ther bar and faro at ther Paradise. No sir! And after meetin' when he watched ther boys saunter into an open switch he didn't git figits. No sir! He'd smile, say they got then habit so bad ther place into a church. Then he'd drop down himself occasionally to see how ther land lay for beginnin' operations.

"Now every time he did that, he got into an argument with Red Harvey. Red Harvey had opposed ther preacher from ther fust, same naturally bein' agin his interests. He felt ther loss of his Sunday mornin' trade and had a weakness fer short handles, meanin' ther preacher, which warn't never invented fer tombstones or public monuments. What he should have put to times and clean ups in his books he charged up to ther preacher and swore some day he'd settle ther bill. But Red Harvey was fer makin' ther best of a losin' game and when he seed how influential ther preacher was he speculated on a junction of interests. Sorter Sky Pilot and Hell Settler Big Combination.

"So one day when ther preacher sauntered in to figure on how many pews ther bar would make, Red begun:

"'Calate you must be crowded up to ther cabin,' says he. .

"'How'd yer git that bright idea,' says ther preacher, eyein' Red, who'd never been to ther meetin's.

"'Well, preacher,' says Red laughin', 'when I see arms and legs stickin' out of a man's door and windows and chimney, I calcate he must be crowded.'

"'So?' says ther preacher. 'Been sacraficin' your room for some other poor cuss. Ruther accommodatin' but come right along, Red Harvey, there's just room for another in thet chimney.' At which ther whole crowd laughed.

"'Thet would seem to put ther liquor on me," says Red, knowin' ther preacher's sore pint. 'And I'm offerin' it,' says he tryin' to git ther preacher in ther ditch.

"'But I offered fust,' says ther preacher. "'Exactly the situation Sunday, you fust

then me,' and Red laughed at ther preacher.

"'Sich bein' ther case, we'll let you have a turn now, ther liquor bein' 'on you,' says ther preacher winkin' at ther boys as he sauntered out. And Red Harvey had to set up ther liquor all 'round, which warn't never his idea of

"Ther next interview fer formin' ther Big Combination was in private and more to ther pint. Red's proposition was a canvass and crusade of ther whole gulch fer ther purpose of big Sunday meetin's to be hold at the Paradise. Red calated that about three months of that diet would grow wings on every man, woman

and child in them parts. "Well you should have heard ther preacher laugh. Sunday was Harvey's big day, but wasn't amountin' to much just then fer ther boys had got to hangin' about ther cabin all day smokin' and swappin' lies, so Red's scheme was too thin.

"'I'll do better than draw trade fer you,'says Grilby, 'I'll buy you out.'

"That's just what he did, too. He took ther building and ther general store took ther stock and good will. Red swore he'd been driv' out of business by a sky pilot, usin' more sentiment that warn't meant fer ther adornment of public institutions, and swore that if he didn't ret quit with ther preacher when ther chance come, you could fill his boots with cactus every mornin' for a week and he'd wear 'em. But strikes had located been north and Red sold out to rush with ther rest of ther boys to ther new fields of fortune.

"Now I helped Grilby turn that saloon into a church. He was as tickled as a kid with a go-cart. Contracted a mortgage to do it proper. Had a big sign packed up from ther valley. which read "Meetin' House of Spruce City' and tacked it up over ther door. But we found we hadn't done enough. One mornin' a prospectin' outfit come in from ther hills, pulled up natural like in front of ther old Paradise and half out of their saddles slid back again. rippin' out a cuss at what stared down at 'em from above ther door.

"That set Grilby to contractin' a second mortgage; paintin' up ther windows and doors; puttin' on a steeple and paintin' ther whole outfit yaller. That put a new look on ther church all right but it put a heavy debt on it besides. People leavin' as fast as they did made that debt look bad. But ther preacher didn't worry. Said when me and him was ther only I said he was a giant and naturally got respect- citerzens, Spruce City would be a respectable

"Bout four years after, this yere Twin Leads Silver Mine was discovered and to see outfits pile in here was like oid times. Anythin' with a roof was snapped up quick. Now who should turn up but Red Harvey sot on gettin' into bizness at the old stand. Of course he wanted ther Paradise and smacked his lips at ther new fixin's but Grilby would nave killed himself before lettin' it go,

"Well, Red got on ther trail of those mortgages and inside of a week had put ruther a flimsy look on ther salvation of Spruce City. He had to pay a fancy price and allow three months fer settlement on those mortgages which we thought rather generous, same bein' due two years back.

"Red Harvey seed he had a cinch on ther preacher and started right in to get quits fer past favors. Ruther enjoyed himself at ther preacher's expense. Told people how he was goin' to open ther Meetin' House as a palatial saloon and gamsling hall, which got folks interested and they begun to watch ther game.

"On ther last day of ther three months, Red came up to ther cabin to see ther preacher, a considerable crowd follerin'. Me, ther preacher and Jack Kedham; an old pardner of Grilby's just out from California, was there.

"'Well, preacher,' says Red, 'time's up and

bizness is bizness. Hev you got ther dust?' "'Calate I ain't exactly got it to hand, but I've got three days of grace,' says ther preacher cool like.

"'That won't do. Got to have settlement or I'll foreclose. Maybe then,' says Red, nasty like, 'you'll find it agreeable to form that partnership I proposed four years ago.

" 'Seems to me you're pesky sure of somethin'

you ain't got yet,' says Grilby, eyeing Red. "'What kin you do to stop my gettin' it?" says Red, sneerin'.

"'Suppose I should shoot yer,' says ther preacher, and the crowd opened up behind Red. "'That's ruther agin your principles,' says Red, scared like.

"'So! Suppose I should burn ther church then,' says ther preacher.

" 'Calate you're playin' fair?' says Red. "'I might do either,' thundered ther preach-

er, gettin' up on his feet, 'before seein' a house of God desecrated.'

"It was evident that ther crowd was with the preacher from ther lynchin' remarks that was made.

"'I'll give yer them days of grace, up to noon followin' Sunday, but remember thet yer house of God was a saloon for eight years fust,' says Red and struck out, ther atmosphere not bein' good fer his lungs.

"I calate ther preacher was about as broken up over ther prospects of losin' his church as he could be, but as I said there have been some queer runs of luck in these parts.

"Says Kedham from California, when ther crowd had dispersed: 'You say that church was a saloon once?'

"'Yes, sir, ther worst in these parts. I swore I'd make a church out of it and I've done it, says Grilby, ruther discouraged like.

"'For how long was it a saloon?' says Kedham.

"'Eight years,' says I, 'roarin' all ther time,' and I give a few statistics.

"'What yer goin' to do now, Dick,' says Kedham.

"'What I've never done; pass the plate, tomorrow bein' Sabbath,' says ther preacher.

"'No, yer won't' says Kedham. 'You fellers in this gulch don't seem to be up to date. Been in minin' camps all yer lives and know that yer can't handle gold dust without some slippin' away. You've seed colar on every bar you drunk at, on every table yer played at, and in ther cracks of every saloon floor you walked on. What's more you've seed a tipsy miner time and agin throw away a bag of dust with a woop, etcetra, just to make out to ther boys that he had more'n he could carry with comfort. That's all waste-no account, goin' on all ther time and you've never speculated where it all went to. Now when I come out from California ther boys was cleanin' up underneath the old saloons and if facts are as represented. Dick ther mice in your church come pref near rollin' in wealth. Leastways that's what happened in California.'

"Well yer could have put a sack of meal into ther preacher's mouth.

"'Calate we'll go prospectin' down to ther meetin' house,' says he.

"'Calate it'll be a bonanza,' says Kedham gripping ther old man's hand.

"Next mornin' ther congregation found ther preacher breakin' ther Sabbath. Him, me and Kedham had ther floor ripped up, pews and sich piled out ther door and a big heap of dirt scraped together what was full of color. Created quite a sensation, that bonanza. Set everybody to prospectin' fer old saloons you can

"Red Harvey? Oh, I paid him. He swore ther preacher had the whole thing fattening up his sleeve. So did all Wisdom. And as he seed how conducive ther atmosphere was to tar and feathering, and knowin' his constitution couldn't prosper under ther public eye of Spruce City, Red Harvey pulled out about that time fer other parts."

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#### Crime vs. Evidence.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HUBERT EDWARDS.

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Y first client was a remarkable man, one who for fertility of expcdient and felicity in execution is "seldom equalled and never excelled" as the pa-

tent medicine circulars say. It is my convietion that if he had been at hand to outline the ground of defense, and had persuaded Judas Iscariot to stand a trial by jury, that individual of unsavory memory would stand before the public today without a blemish on his charac-

I first met my client where I have met many since, in the county jail where he was detained on a charge of murder in the first degree. Why he chose me, the youngest member of the bar, as his counsel, I could not imagine, and it is to this day a question that I have not fully answered to my own satisfaction. He sent for me to come to the jail, and accompanying his message was a retainer that meant a barrier against the wolf for a long time in those days of my life, so I pocketed any scruples I might have against defending the perpetrator of as cold-blooded a murder as ever was committed along with the retainer, and went down to the jail to advise the prisoner. To advise-yes, that's what I went for, but I didn't do it.

The murder which was the cause of my client's (how proudly I said those words over to myself-"my client") incarceration was appar-

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ently as cold-blooded and premeditated as ever

murder was.

There had been bad blood between the two men for a long time. The original cause had probably been forgotten by both, but whenever they met there had been angry looks and an occasional word that was not learned at Sun.

an occasional word that was not learned at Sunday school, but no one thought the final result would be what it was.

No one had seen the encounter, so there was no direct evidence. A shot had been heard in the public square, and people running towards the sound had found Walter Carleton lying dead, with a bullet hole in his head, the blood clotting in his hair and a little trickle on the ground. They also saw the prisoner riding as fast as his horse could carry him towards his home, and the postmaster, who was one of the early arrivals, picked up a revolver still warm, with the letters "M. C." engraved on the silver stock.

A coroner's inquest was of course held on the remains. A doctor was called who said death was due to cerebral hemorrhage as the immediate cause, and the remote cause an injury by some instrument or missile violently introduced into the cranial cavity. It might be and from the circumstances he would say it probably transcriptory bell.

from the circumstances he would say it probably was a revolver ball.

No autopsy appeared necessary; the cause of death was apparent, and the doctor's statement was sufficient to establish the cause of death.

Other witnesses testified to seeing the prisoner and that he was the only person in sight when they arrived on the scene. The postmaster produced the revolver which he identified as having been the property of my client, and others also testified to the identity of the weapon—a thirty-eight calibre six-shooter—as the property of Marion Chamberlain, whose initials were engraved on the stock.

others also testified to the inentity of the weapon—a thirty-eight calibre six-shooter—as the
property of Marion Chamberlain, whose initials
were engraved on the stock.

The coroner's jury spent little time in reaching a conclusion, which was that the deceased
came to his death by a revolver bullet shot
from a weapon in the hands of Marion Chamberlain, and further declared that Chamberlain was guilty of the death of Walter Carleton,
all in due form, of course.

The next thing in the usual course was to
capture Chamberlain, and in the mean time the
last rites were conducted and Carleton was laid
away in the family plot in the cemetery to
await the call which will eventually come to
all of us, however we have lived and whatever
may have been the cause of our dissolution.

Chamberlain, however, seemed to have disappeared. No one had seen him go out of
town. It was as if the earth had opened and
swallowed him. No trace in any way until the
morning after the funeral when he was seen in
the center of the public square again, disheveled, dirty and bedraggled as if he had been
lying in the woods for a month.

His arrest took place immediately, and then
it was he sent for me.

I found Marion Chamberlain in jail and
alone, as I expected. He was a man of about
thirty years, tall, perfectly set up, and with a
face indicating a high degree of natural refinement and culture. The thin upper lip and
long mustache indicated long descent in what
has been aptly described as the "Brahmin class
of New England", and the piercing black eyes
betokened a sharpened inspection of his fellowmen.

Little time was spent in conventional intro-

men.

Little time was spent in conventional introduction and compliment. The prisoner made some apology for his appearance by saying he had been very busily engaged during the time which had elapsed since the "accident", and further that he had not at present his entire wardrohe at command.

wardrobe at command.

wardrobe at command.

"Now what I want an attorney for," he said, suddenly, "is not to give me any advice nor any of the wise saws that pass current among the pettifoggers who congregate about the court house. What I want is a man to attend to the detail work and simply present the facts to the jury as they will appear—to present them in legal form—the facts will speak for themselves. I am not going to get a lot of perjured testifiers to go on the stand and get all tangled and confused under cross-examination.

"I tell you I didn't kill Carleton. The evidence will come at the proper time. Who did kill him is nothing to me nor to you. We're not the prosecuting attorney. It's his job to find the man who did it. It's my job to tell you where to find the evidence of my innocence, which I will do at the proper time, and your part is to do what you are paid for and nothing more."

We then parted with the understanding that it would not be necessary for man to have and

We then parted with the understanding that it would not be necessary for us to have another consultation until the day before his trial

other consultation until the day before his trial began.

Here was a situation for a "briefless barrister." I had a client. I had money to live on until the time of the trial even if I secured no other business. I had the promise of abundant evidence, and further that I was not expected to degrade myself and prostitute my calling to the subornation of perjury, but beyond these things I had nothing. I had absolutely no case. I revolved the matter in my mind in every conceivable position. There could be no doubt of the fact of the killing. I couldn't see for my life how the defence could introduce a scintilla of evidence in controvertion of what had been adduced before the coroner's jury.

tion of what had been adduced before the coroner's jury.

Even Old Weller's suggestion "Wy warn't they a alibi proved Samivel?" was futile. My client was there in propria persona and his gun still hot and smoking was almost as positive evidence as the testimony of a sight-witness.

Once I went to the jail to see if I could get a suggestion of what was to be done. I was met very cordially by my client who was smoking a fragrant cigar. He offered me one, and pointed suggestively to a bottle of cognac which he had, contrary to all rules and precedents, procured for his own delectation.

contrary to all rules and precedents, procured for his own delectation.

Preliminaries over, I made a start at the object of my visit but was cut short with the remark: "I didn't employ you to advise or to do any thinking. When the time comes to act it's up to you to get a gait and do some hustling of the lightning quality. Until that date you just put in your time drawing wills for rich widows and attending Sunday school picnics. When the time comes to press the button you'll

When the time comes to press the button you'll find that the authorities will do the rest."

We chatted a few minutes on indifferent sub-We chatted a few minutes on indifferent subjects, the prisoner proving a most charming conversationalist and entertainer. He would have shone in society anywhere, and even the dingy walls of the jail seemed to lose a portion of their gloom under the influence of his epigrammatic brilliancy. From this time, however, I did not again venture to approach him, but at his suggestion devoted my time and energy to other cases, which seemed to come in rapidly when it became known that I was to rapidly when it became known that I was to

defend Chamberlain.

At last the day came when the trial was to



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begin. I will confess to a considerable degree of nervousness, which I still think was not an unreasonable result of the position in which I was placed. The prisoner sat in the dock and I stood just outside as the jury was impanelled. I asked him about challenging for cause or peremptorily, but he whispered, "never mind, they look a pretty intelligent lot all around and that's all we want."

Some of the jurymen said they had heard of the case and had formed some opinion, but that they could form an intelligent opinion from the evidence and could reach a just verdict. My memory is that the first twelve men called formed the jury. No one was excused or begin. I will confess to a considerable degree

called formed the jury. No one was excused or challenged by either the government or by the

The prisoner had of course been arraigned previously and the plea "Not Guilty" entered, and now we waited the reading of the bill of indictment and the trial began. The prosecuting attorney was a young man who had a reputation to make and felt it incumbent on him to nake a very long and rhetorical opening to the jury, so it was the hour of the noon recess before the first witness was called.

At this point my strange client seemed for the first time to take an interest in the pro-

ceedings. As the jury passed out of the court room to luncheon Chamberlain said: "Mr. Edwards, I have ordered two luncheons sent up here from the hotel and I'd like just another half-hour of your time before the trial goes

any further."

I acceded to his request and as we ate our luncheon he inquired when the doctor would probably be put on the stand. I replied probably in about an hour or two after the court

came in.

Said he: "On cross examination ask if an autopsy was held, and if not why not. Then move the court that the body be disinterred and a thorough examination had and insist upand a thorough examination had and insist upon that motion. Have the court order the exhumation of Carleton and if it can be done soon enough we shall be ready to put in a defense, if one is needed by the time the state finishes its case."

What now? Was my client going to call on me to prove that his victim died of cholers infantum? or was the alibit to be proven after all? I didn't know.

When the proper point was reached I inquired about the autopsy and the reply being that none had been had, I made some caustic remarks about dereliction of duty, and moved the court for an order of exhumation.

To this there was some demur as I expected

The court for an order of exhumation.

To this there was some demur as I expected there would be, but I finally carried my point, and the trial proceeded.

The pictol of course was introduced and

The pistol, of course, was introduced and indentified, its condition when picked up and the fact of the presence of the prisoner so near the fact of the presence of the prisoner so near the scene of the murder was proven beyond a peradventure. Without any definite object other than to gain time I unnecessarily pro-longed the cross examination of witnesses to the discomfiture of the prosecutor and to the weariness of the court, so that the time for adjournment arrived before the state had com-nieted its case. pleted its case

I went to my hotel with a sense of hopeless. I went to my hotel with a sense of hopelessness, relieved in a measure by the unconcern of the prisoner, who seemed buoyed by a hope that puzzled me beyond measure. What was to be gained by the exhumation of the body? My client did not deign to enlighten me but still preserved his sphinx-like silence.

The autopsy would consume a large part of the night and no one would know what it developed until the coroner and doctors came into court the next morning and then the

into court the next morning, and then the mystery would be solved, but it was a long, weary, restless night for me.

weary, restless night for me.
When court came in in the morning, being instructed by my client I said I would like to instructed by my client way of cross experience by way of cross experience. ask a few more questions by way of cross examining the doctor who testified to the cause of death of Carleton.

He returned to the stand and I asked if he

had made a further examination since he was on the stand yesterday. He replied that he had assisted in making an autopsy during the night.

My next question was what the autopsy re-

vealed and he said a bullet was found in the brain of the deceased, and the bullet was produced A light now shone into my soul. I saw the

whole theory of defense in a flash.
"What is the calibre of this bullet found in the brain of the deceased? I inquired.
"I should say forty-four," he replied, "although I am not a thoroughly qualified expert

on guns."
"See if it will fit Chamberlain's revolver," I

should be introduced in evidence and properly marked for identification, and tried to push it into the barrel, but had to admit that it was impossible. Her was a quantum to the state impossible. Here was a quandary for the state. The case depended largely on the identification of Chamberlain's pistol and now it seemed to militate against the theory that it was the cause of Carleton's death.

After consulting with the coroner, and a few words with His Honor, the prosecutor announced that he would enter a nollo prosegui nounced that he would enter a nollo proseque but I insisted on a verdict of acquittal which was ordered by the court, and the clerk announced that "If there is no other charge against the prisoner, Marion Chamberlain be discharged from custody."

"Come on, old man let's go across and celebrate the happy event over a large bottle," said my client, and we left the court house together, but with an ever increasing feeling on my part.

my client, and we left the court house together, but with an ever increasing feeling on my part that I had in some way been instrumental in freeing a man whose life was forfeit. It was a feeling I could not shake off, but I so far mastered it as to go with Chamberlain to the cafe where he ordered what he called "a full portion of the fatted calf."

As our little feast was drawing to a close, I ventured the question: "Chamberlain, how did you do it?"

ventured the question: "Chamberlain, how did you do it?"

"Well," he said, "now that it's all over, I may as well tell you and then you'll know what to do next time. You know they didn't get me until the day after the funeral, and that I was a pretty dirty, seedy-looking cratemer.

get me until the day after the funeral, and that I was a pretty dirty, seedy-looking customer.

"Well, the night after they buried Carleton I went down and resurrected him and probed for the bullet which I succeeded in extracting. Then I took a forty-four cartridge and took out about all the powder so not to have the bullet go too far, and fired that into the same hole, firing through a piece of chamois-skin so not to leave powder marks on the skin and then buried him again. A forty-four bullet won't go into a thirty-eight gun the best you can do, and as I suggested, the state furnished all the evidence required," and handing me an envelope directed to myself with the further words "Your fee," he passed through the front door and was lost to sight in the crowd on the street.

#### The Madness of Gabriel Juneau.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY "CHESTER LIVINGSTONE."

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ABRIEL Juneau was mad—as you will readily agree when you read that which I have to write-or he would never have done this thing. Something unparalleled in the history of any of the Louisiana parishes, in one of which Gabriel

Juneau lived. It happened a long time ago, fifty years, or more, and some people have forgotten it, or but remember it to think of some time late at night, with a shudder. But I know every bit of it just as it happened, for you see I was a lad then, and Gabriel and I often took a drink together, and had a turn at cards. I trust no one will censure me for telling this story of the madness of Gabriel Juneau, for it is not done with malice, and my heart has sent up many a petition that my poor friend's soul might find sweet rest. He was always hotheaded, and his mother was a pure-blooded Castilian, and these people of the south never yoke passion and reason together, from the fact that they will not abide in peace. I have seen the veins on Gabriel's forehead when they looked like a piece of small rope knotted, and his eyes were always bright, whether in calm or anger. His temperament was a little too intense for the uncertain road of love, and it had fared better with him had he never tried "See if it will fit Chamberlain's revolver," I said handing him the weapon.

"It will not. It is too large," he replied after making an unsuccessful attempt.

The prosecuting attorney here objected to evidence of this kind from one who knew little or nothing of fire arms, and was sustained by the court.

He then took the bullet which I insisted it had fared better with him had he never tried to take it. But it is very easy to give advice when the subject is past remedy, so, begging you to be as lenient as may be in your judgment of one no longer living, I shall tell my story without further ado.

Gabriel Juneau was a Creole, his descent being an admixture of French and Spanish. His mother died while he was a suckling; old

Gaspar Juneau, his father, passed away one night surrounded by a legion of hydra-headed monstrosities, which his love of strong drink had summoned about him, and Gabriel was letten possession of as fine a cotton plantation as ever whitened a parish. The lad was a moderate drinker himself, for, as I have said, he and I often touched cups after darkness in the tavern at St. Marie. But after the father's unfortunate end the son was more wary of wine, and drank but little, or not at all. So it cannot be said that intemperance led to the misfortune which now came speedily upon him.

Juneau was a thrifty man, a natural husbandman and a kind master, considering his hot blood, which was seldom, I think, below the boiling point. He prospered, and was respected throughout the parish. Adjoining the Juneau plantation was that of Major Bonnie, a southern gentleman of high repute. I think the title he bore was an honorary one, for he had not been living long enough to have seen service in the Revolution, and the Mexican war had not then broken out. But he wore the title gracefully, and it seemed well bestowed. Major Bonnie's family consisted of himself and one daughter, Clarice—and now you have the key to all the trouble. But for fear the lock which holds this story has become rusty from age. I shall continue, and tell you word for word holds this story has become rusty from age. I shall continue, and tell you word for word everything as it happened.

Major Bonnie's lands bordered the Mississippi river, and directly across the stream lay

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these people had lived here since the beginning.
I was born and raised where I still abide. Then
old Gaspar Juneau came when I was a little
boy. Brownell came from the lower Mississippi, and located across the river ten years
later, and only six months before this thing
happened which I am going to tell, Major
Bonnie came to our parish, bought an undesirable plantation, which by chance adjoined that able plantation, which by chance adjoined that of Gabriel Juneau, and brought with him his daughter, Clarice.

able plantation, which by chance adjoined that of Gabriel Juneau, and brought with him his daughter, Clarice.

It always was a strange thing to me why Gabriel should have loved her. She was beautiful but proud and cold. The beauty of an iceberg, which one admires, but does not care to approach. But he loved her, for all that I cannot make it out, and she liked him well enough, too, for he was a manly fellow, though rather slender in build, until she met Brownell. Then the current of her affection—or, rather, admiration, for that was all it was then—changed, and flowed toward the sturdy planter from across the river. Gabriel and I were like brothers, and I shall never forget the first night he went to this girl's home and found Brownell there. I was sitting on my piazza that evening, smoking a pipe, when suddenly such a clattering broke upon my ears that I rose to my feet, no little concerned as to the cause. But directly I made out a horse and rider speeding up the road in the moonlight at a breakneck pace. They stopped at the gate, and as the man flung himself from the saddle I recognized Gabriel, although the distance was fifty or sixty yards. He dropped his bridle reins over a fence post and came rapidly up the drive, switching at his riding boots viciously, and crunching the gravel under his spurred heel. I knew that something had agitated him to an unusual degree, so I started down the steps to meet him. He took off his hat when within a few feet of me, and his dark skin had turned a bluishgray, while his eyes shone like a cat's. I had never seen him like this. He did not see the hand I held out to him, but stopped before me and let out a string of oaths such as I had never heard.

"Hush, Gabriel," I said quietly, putting my band on his shoulder "mother might hear

or h eard.
"Hush, Gabriel," I said quietly, putting my hand on his shoulder, "mother might hear

hand on his shoulder, "mother might hear you."

He thrust his arm in mine without a word, and drew me down to the gate. Then he told me where he had been and what he had seen. The memory of his fierce and uncontrollable anger is with me as I write, for it made an imprint upon my mind which will never leave it. He had seen Brownell talking to Clarice through the library window and then such a fit of jealousy had come upon him that he was afraid to enter, but had mounted his horse again and ridden to me. I tried to calm him, but nothing which I could say or do could allay in the least his wild, jealous rage. And the next thing I knew he was in the saddle again, and was riding down the road as if pursued by devils. I had grave fears as to what his intentions might be, but judged it best not to follow him. The next morning I learned that he had come home with his horse all atremble and reeking with sweat, and had spent the night pacing his room. And that night marked the beginning of the end.

Gabriel Juneau become completely metamorphosed. He neglected his estate, he became cross and moody, and then of a sudden fell to drinking heavily. Often would I hear him clatter by my home in the dead of night, always riding like a hurricane. I foresaw something dreadful if this kept up, so one night I went to see him. His appearance alarmed me, for his frame was gaunt and bent, his cheeks were great hollows in his face and his eyes had a wild glare. He wouldn't listen to me, but would shift the subject whenever I touched upon his affection for Clarice Bonnie. I tried time and again to remonstrate with him, for my tender feeling for the poor lad was genuine, until he told me, almost roughly, that if I had come to talk on that subject I had better leave him, as his mind was made up and no one could change it. This statement was rather He thrust his arm in mine without a word

come to talk on that subject I had better leave him, as his mind was made up and no one could change it. This statement was rather mystifying, but then I could see plainly that he wasn't himself so I left him reluctantly, begging him to come to see me soon. He came one night not long after, and my hand shakes now when I think of it—may the Mother of Heaven have mercy on him!

About a week after this it became generally known throughout the parish that George Brownell and Clarice Bonnie were soon to become man and wife. A chill swept over me when the news was brought to me, and all sorts of unformed fears rose up in my heart. I feared that this would be the last straw for the strained mind of my poor friend, for his peculiar actions were already beginning to excite comment. I had not seen him for a fortnight, and things moved along quietly enough until a week before the wedding. Then Gabriel's head black man come over to me one morning with the news that his master had locked himself up in the house, after having given stringen! the news that his master had locked himself up in the house, after having given stringent orders that he was not to be disturbed. I advised the fellow to leave his master alone and obey orders, but told him furthermore that I would ride over the next day and see what I could do with him. I went, but could not gain admittance to the house. Gabriel talked to me from behind a closed door, and told me that he from behind a closed door, and told me that he would positively see no one until a week had gone; that he was master of that plantation, and would do as he pleased. So there was nothing for me to do but go back home with a heavy heart. The rest of the week passed uneventfully; preparations for the weeding went forward speedily, and Gabriel Juneau never showed his face. The good people around who knew of his hopeless passion pitied him, and said that grief and shame had caused him to seek seclusion. I did not say anything for my mind was not at rest.

mind was not at rest.

I was to be a guest at Major Bonnie's home the night of the wedding, but as I was always rather methodical in my movements, it was a trifle late when I mounted my horse and started down the driveway towards the road. And then a sound greeted my ears which actually caused me to shiver and turn cold all over, altered it was a monlight summer right. caused me to shiver and that could all over, although it was a moonlight, summer night. First a wild, mirthless laugh was borne to me on the breeze, immediately followed by the noise of a horse's rapidly galloping feet. It was the wedding night of Clarice Bonnie, and Gabriel Juneau was abroad once more. At the gate opening onto the nike I stopped, and Gabriel Juneau was abroad once more. At the gate opening onto the pike I stopped, and waited. Directly I saw them thundering up the road, horse and rider flitting through moonlight and shadow. It was indeed Gabriel. He drew his horse up in front of me, and with such suddenness that the beast's hoofs sent a shower of small stones rattling against the roate.

"Ha! friend Auguste!" he shouted, waving his hand in the air, joyously. "You invited me to come to see you, and I am here! But I cannot tarry, for this is my wedding night, and soon my bride's soft arms shall rock me to sleep, and they shall choke the life out of George Brownell and Cl ice Bonnie! Come and see! Come and see!" Then with a crazy laugh ending in a shout, he turned his horse's head and started back towards the Bonnie homestead.

I followed, for his mind was gone I knew, but I did not know what his wild words portended. It was a hard race, but I overtook him before two miles were covered, and though I before two miles were covered, and though I shouted questions into his ear as we sped along, his only answer was a maniac's laughter. Presently we came to where the road forked, one branch leading to the Bonnie plantation, and the other going on towards the river. Here he drew up, and as I reined in also, he urged his horse close to mine and whispered:

pered:

"Speed on to the wedding, but don't tell
them! I go to summon the bride! Together
we shall all float to eternity!"

Then he was gone, his horse headed for Mis-

sissippi.

I sat stunned for a moment, then gradually the comprehension of his awful plot came to me. There had been a great deal of rain the past two weeks, the river was high, and I knew that the levee had been strengthened at several weak points that very day with sacks of dirt. This madman was going to make a break in the levee, and let that angry tide pour through the valley where Major Bonnie's home stood!

stood!

It was too late to stop him, for he had left me with the speed of lightning. With a groan I dug my spurs into my horse's flanks, and rode to give the alarm. The house was brilliantly lighted when I came in sight of it, and horses and carriages were scattered about the grounds. Through them all I dashed, right up to the front door, and flinging my reins to a frightened negro, I burst into the parlor, and in the midst of the marriage service shouted these words:

"Fly! Fly quickly! Gabriel Juneau is mad, and has broken the levee! Fly to high ground.

and has broken the levee! Fly to high ground, in God's name!" Then was such a turmoil as I have never since Then was such a turmoil as I have never since seen, though my head is white as I write this. Brownell seized his swooning bride with an oath choked in his throat, and bore her bodily from the house. Then followed a mad flight from the oncoming water; we could hear its dull roar drawing nearer as we sped up the road to safety. Not one was overtaken by the flood, but my poor friend alone was lulled to rest in the arms of the bride he had summoned.

#### The Tramp Hero of the B. S. & W.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY BURTON MCPHAIL

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RAMPS had annoyed the train-crews on the B. S. & W. road from the opening of the service. They usually rode under the coaches, making themselves as comfortable as possible between the trucks and the floor of the car, though now and then one rode within the car, hoping in some manner to evade paying his fare, and there is little doubt but that they would have ridden on the cowcatcher, could they have imagined

such a thing as not being detected.

The seven o'clock accommodation train pulled out of Hampton on time the night of March 7, 1894. It had been raining all day and there was a slippery rail ahead, and though it had stopped raining, a heavy fog made it impossible to see anything a hundred feet away, so that taken all in all it was an unpleasant night

the rear.

"Caught him on the front platform of the baggage-car, boys," he said, speaking to two baggage-car, boys," he said, speaking to two of the train-crew; "just keep a sharp eye on him until we reach Lancaster and I'll hand him ever to the police.

"Stealing a ride, eh?" he continued, shaking the tramp until the latter's teeth chattered; "did you think we run these trains for the benefit of fellows of your stamp?"

"I L was just going home bose " said the

benefit of fellows of your stamp?"
"I—I was just goin' home, boss," said the tramp, pulling himself together, "I thought—"
"Well, you're going home now, all right," interrupted the conductor, "it will seem real homelike down to the county-house."
The brakemen and passengers roared with merriment. The tramp buried himself in his ragged overcoat.
Meanwhile, the train was making slow progress up the long grade leading to Hamilton. Five, ten, fifteen minutes were lost, and as the train started down the grade that ended at the

Five, ten, fifteen minutes were lost, and as the train started down the grade that ended at the junction, where the accommodation left the main line, the enginee ret the engine out, well aware that the Lightning Express, seven-thirty out of Hampton, was fast gaining on them, and anxious to get out of the way of the express he urged his engine to the limit.

From time to time a blunderer crops up from among the employees of every railroad. On the seventh of March he turned up at the junction; neglected to turn the switch, and before the engineer could check his train he was pounding over the frogs, still on the main line with ten chances to one in favor of having his train telescoped. Then came the warning whistle of the Lightning Express, and knowing that there was not an instant to be lost, he

threw open the throttle and started at express

threw open the throttle and started at express speed down the main line, hoping to win in the long race that he knew was before him.

As the train thundered over the switch, the truth dawned on the conductor and brakemen. They knew that the engineer of the express would pay no heed to the red-light signals, now that the junction was passed, as that train had the right of way. They realized that their train would have to contend with a superior engine, but at the same time, their engine was engine, but at the same time, their engine was drawing less than half the number of coaches

drawing less than half the number of coaches that the express was laboring under, and it was a much mooted question which would win.

Within the cab of the engine a grim battle was being waged, and the manner in which the fireman shovelled coal into the fire-box would have opened the eyes of many a fireman. Several times the engineer scrawled a message intended for the agent at some station through which they passed, and tying it about a lump of coal, hurled it at the windows of the ticketoffice, but each time it missed the mark, and so

of coal, hurled it at the windows of the ticketoffice, but each time it missed the mark, and so
the train plunged through the fog, the express
gradually cutting down the interval that separated the two trains.

"There is just one thing to be done," said the
conductor, the roar of the express sounding unpleasantly close at hand, "get the passengers
out of this car and cut it loose from the rest of
the train. One of us must stay aboard and
manage the brake, and it means death."

The tramp had been listening and understood
something of the horror of the situation, and
while the men were settling the question in
their own minds which should remain, he acted.

"Get into the next car, all of you, and give

"Get into the next car, all of you, and give me a lantern," he said, springing to his feet, "I might as well die tonight as any time; cut the car loose and be lively about it, too; I'll attend to the rest."

Thirty seconds later the car was empty and the conductor was drawing the coupling-pin. As he regained his feet and for an instant held the air-brake connections, he shook hands

As he regained his feet and for an instant held the air-brake connections, he shook hands with the tramp.

"Good-bye, old man," he shouted above the roar of the train, "you're a hero."

On the rear platform the tramp was clutching the brake, ready to ease up the instant the headlight of the express showed itself. He could hear it coming and in less than a minute he made out a luminous spot in the thick bank of fog that hung about the car. For an instant the glow increased and then, like some cyclopean monster, the great mogul engine of the express shot out of the fog, bearing down on the flying car with terrible swiftness. Then the engineer of the express saw the lantern which the tramp was frantically waving, but though he reversed his engine and applied the brakes the entire length of the train, it skidded over the slippery rails until it ploughed its way half through the car.

Somehow the heavy engine managed to keep the irons, and when it finally stopped, the wrecked car was within a hundred feet of Elderton Station.

Buried deep under the splintered timbers of

wrecked car was within a hundred feet of Elderton Station.

Buried deep under the splintered timbers of the car, they found the tramp, no, not the tramp, but the hero, and tenderly they bore his crushed form into the station.

"I wasn't hurtin' nobody out there behind the engine," said the poor fellow, looking up into the faces of those that were bending over him, "just thought I'd go home and see the folks; ain't seen 'm for close onto ten years."

Meanwhile the accommodation train had come to a stop two miles down the road, and

come to a stop two miles down the road, and shortly the conductor reached the scene of the

"Have you found out who this man is, or where he belongs?" he asked looking down at the crushed form.

the crushed form.

"Said something about Parker River," said a physician who chanced to be aboard the express, "then he muttered some such name as Phillips or Phelps; didn't quite catch it."

"Man saved my train and the Lightning Express. He is dying; has people at Parker River; Phillips or Phelps, the name. May live a few hours; what shall we do with him?"

The above dispatch was received by the superintendent of the road five minutes after the return of the conductor, and three minutes later the following telegram was received by the

the following telegram was received by the conductor:

conductor:

"Special on the way. See that you reach Parker River by midnight."

It does not take an engineer very long to cover twenty miles when he is racing with death and has word from the dispatcher that he has a clear rail ahead. He may be cautious, perhaps nervous, when there is a train-load of passengers behind the tender and there is a doubt about the road, but give him an oppordoubt about the road, but give him an oppor-tunity to let out his engine, the dispatcher backing him with imperative orders to make his best time, and he will make the rails sing. In precisely twenty minutes from the time that the engineer of the Special received his or-ders he brought his engine and solitary certo.

to be on the irons.

The train had just left Hampton behind when the conductor passed through the half dozen coaches, marching a wretched-looking specimen of humanity to the smoking-car in

the facts to the superintendent.

There were two hundred and ten miles to be made in the next three hours and twenty minutes, if the superintendent's orders were carried out, a little better than a mile a minute; and the manner in which the engineer and fireman annihilated distance the first half hour, showed that they intended to carry out the order to the letter. At ten o'clock the Special was whirling through Royalston eighty-seven miles away; at eleven o'clock it thundered over the crossing at Rochester, one hundred and forty-eight miles away; and just as the town clock at Parker River was striking for midnight, the Special was pounding over the switches at Parker River Station.

The telegram, however, had beaten the Spe-

The telegram, however, had beaten the Special by more than three hours, and there was a carriage on hand ready to complete the long

journey.

"Phillips, that's right," said the driver, springing into the carriage, "their place is two miles from here. Have been over there and told them Tom was coming home; told them they'd better get a bed ready, he had met with an accident."

There was an aged man standing at the gate

There was an aged man standing at the gate when the farmhouse was reached, joined an in-

when the farmhouse was reached, joined an instant later by a tottering old woman.

"It's goin' on eleven year since he left here," said the old man, "and we ain't heard much of him since, but I told wife he'd come back sometime, though I didn't reckon on just this."

"Tom, can't you speak to your poor mother?" said the wife, following the doctor and conductor as they bore the body into the house. "Tom, just a word!"

"He is going fast," said the physician, as they laid him on the bed in the front chamber,

# **Cures**

# **Drunkards** Secretly

Free Package of the Only Successful Cure Known for Drunkenness Sent to All Who Send Name and Address.

It Can be Put Secretly into Food or Coffee and Quickly Cures the Drink Habit.

Few men become drunkards from choice or inclination—all welcome release from the awful habit. Golden Specific will cure the worst habitual drunkard. This wonderful remedy can be administered by wife or daughter, in food, tea, coffee or milk, without causing the slightest



MR. and MRS. HARRY BURNSIDE.

suspicion. Its cure is sure, without harmful results to the system. Many a home is now happy by the use of Golden Specific. "My husband got into a habit of taking a drink with the boys on his way home," says Mrs. Harry Burnside. "After awhile he came home drunk frequently. He soon lost his position and I had to make a living for both of us and the little children. At times he tried to sober up, but the habit was too strong for him and then he would drink harder than ever. I heard of Golden Specific and sent for a free package. The treatment cured him. I put it in his coffee and he never knew it at all. He regained his old position and now we are happy in our little home again. I hope you will send Golden Specific to every woman that has suffered as I have, and save her loved ones from the drunkard's grave.

Send your name and address to Dr. J. W. Haines, 2104 Glenn Building, Cincinnati, Ohio, and he will mail you a free package of Golden Specific in a plain wrapper, accompanied by full directions how to use it. Enough of the remedy is sent in each free package to give you an opportunity to witness its marvelous effect on those who are slaves to drink.

Do not delay. You cannot tell what may happen to the man who drinks, and you would never forgive yourself for waiting.

give yourself for waiting.

just come close, he may say something before

Suddenly the dying man's eyes opened, and for an instant he looked from one to another as though unable to understand his surroundings. Then his eyes rested on his mother's face.
"I-I-come-home-to-to-see you-moth-

"He is dead," said the doctor, placing his hand over the heart that had just ceased to

"Your son was a hero, if there ever was one," said the conductor. "Two hundred miles down the road he gave his life for two train-loads of passengers. He is an honor to you."

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Will Coin Dollars for You. Agents Wanted.

The Electro Polishing Cloth, a wonderful prepared cloth that gives electric brightness and lustre to every metal it tuckes. Without any powders or paste, simply be rubbing with this cloth, a brilliant lasting polish will be placed on Tableware, Old, Sliver, Nickel, Copper, Plated ware, Bicycles, Glass, etc., Plated ware, Bicycles, Class, Fowders, Pastes, Liquids and aliance of the Candary, and the plated ware and the plate of the plated ware and the plate of the Plate of the Plated Will Not Injure the Most Delicate Surface. It does not scratch! It works Wonders! and a child can use it! Will clean and soil the lands. Can be used until entirely worn out. A moist worn threadbare. Directions with every cloth. Simple and sure. Ready, Quick, Clean, Economical. The Greatest lavention of the Century.

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#### Men, Women and Things.

CONDUCTED BY JENNIE MELVENE DAVIS.



The play is the thing in these modern days, and the playwriter finds a larger public than the preacher or the author. Henry Arthur Jones is one of the most successful of modern playwriters. His daring plays have brought him literary, artistic and financial suc-

This middle-aged Englishman is a quiet blue eyed unobstrusive individual whose appearance seems radically opposed to the aggressive spirit he shows in his work. Among the plays that have won success on both sides the Atlantic are: Mrs. Dane's Defense, Saints and Sinners, The Case of Rebellious Susan and The Manoeuvers of Jane. Mr. Jones has been accused of attempting to educate the public with his plays. He boldly says there is but one thing worth representing in plays and that is the heart, the soul, the passions, the emotions of men. This his plays do and this it is that has awakened the wrath of the critics. Jones was born in a little village near London and after a brief schooling was forced to commence the struggle of life when he was but thirteen years of age. For five years he fretted under the uncongenial tasks of commercial life. Then a brief visit to a London theater opened a new world to the country lad. From that magic moment, the world of imagination spread before him. For nine years longer he was forced of a match factory for his millionaire brotherto continue the struggle for bread in the work that daily grew more uncongenial. During the time he wrote a novel that was rejected. The substance of the story is in the popular play of the Silver King. In 1878 his first play was acted in London. It had only scant recognition but his next play was a great success and Henry Arthur Jones had "arrived." Wealth and fame have come to the man who believes that the theater may be made the most powerful of educational factors. He said in a recent interview, "Religion, politics, science, education, philosophy are likely to be dealt with on the English stage during the next generation." This is his most earnest thought concerning the future of the stage. It follows that those who believe the stage is merely an amusement or diversion are not taken with Jones' plays. His constituency is the thoughtful cultured portion of the English speaking public. What effect the craze for the dramatization of popular novels will have upon the vogue of playwrights remains to be seen.

A new animal unknown to scientists has been discovered in Central Africa. This strange beast has been named the Okapi. It is the size of a large stag. It has two hoofs like the giraffe. The Okapi has a curiously striped skin something like a zebra, in fact the hind quarters and legs seem like those of the horse or zebra. Its brilliant coloring shading from deep black to cream makes its skin much sought by the natives. The name is the one used by the tribes of Central Africa. Sir Harry Johnson made an unsuccessful expedition into the Congo forests after the animal. The skin and skull of a newly captured Okapi were afterwards sent to him by some Belgian officers who procured the animal from the natives. It is not improbable that the dense forests of the Congo may contain other animals unknown to civilization.

A prominent Hawaiian newspaper makes a bitter review of the three years of American rule in that island and declares that President Dole is responsible for the failure to establish American ideas. It says of him that born under a monarchy, holding office under that monarchy he rebelled against it, not for the purpose of establishing liberty but for the benefit of an oligarchy. This is a specimen of the bitter abuse and criticism that has surrounded Sanford B. Dole ever since he assumed the Direction of the government of Hawaii in 1893. He was the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court at the time of the overthrow of the monarchy and became president of the provisional government then created. The native ability are recognized the world over. Dr. population of Hawaii have always been bitter Gilman is a graduate of Yale in the class of '52. miration for the plucky Irishman. In many re-

against Dole and have also opposed annexation. President Dole was always anxious to have the turbulent island republic declared a part of the United States, and during the seven years from 1893 to 1900, he bent all his energies to that end. He is no tyro in political matters and was able to defeat several schemes for the overthrow of the government that he headed. When the territory was finally annexed, he was appointed as governor. The protests and abuse that had followed him for seven years were intensified by his success and many believe that he would be glad to retire from the position were it not that his enemies might feel that he retreated under fire. President Dole is an old man bat there seems no lessening of the fire and energy that has made him the most prominent figure in Hawaii for many years.



Henry Merwin Shrady is a young man of twentyeight, who has won distinction as a sculptor. The great figures of the moose and the buffalo at the Pan-American exhibition mark his first recognition by artists as one of them. Mr. Shrady is the son of the famous New York physician, and the brother-in-law of

Edwin Gould. His family wished him to study medicine, but he disliked the idea and after a course at Columbia he studied law. A severe illness prevented him from immediate practice of his profession and he became the manager in-law. He had all his life had a desire to paint but he received no encouragement and never had an hour's instruction in art in his life. He used the few leisure hours left from business and his holidays in studying painting. His taste turned towards animals and he spent much time in the Zoological Park of New York studying the animals. It was here that he found his models for the moose and the buffalo. He took some of his sketches to a famous New York artist who at once assured him that he would soon make art his profession. His wife sent his painting of their pet dog to the Academy of Design. It was accepted for exhibition and also sold. A painting of pet kittens was also accepted. His sketches for this had been made on bits of paper carried in his pocket while on the way to business. He would stop outside the windows of dealers in cats and sketch the kittens shown. He found it very difficult to paint in the leisure time at his disposal as the artificial light spoiled the coloring. For this reason he attempted sculpture. His first success was a battery going into action. The gun carriage and harness were copied in the Seventh Regiment Armory, while the horses were modeled from his own saddle horse. This was cast in Russian bronze but in small molds. It was this work that caused him to be asked to send models of heroic size to Buffalo. To do this work he rose at half past five in the morning and went to the New Jersey studio of a well-known sculptor. Mr. Shrady's success is a wonderful illustration of the power of genius. With no time and no instructions, his talent forced him to surmount obstacles and become known not as a business nan but as an artist. Mr. Shrady has been invited to exhibit at the Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia. His pieces have been war pieces, among them being one called "Saving the Colors" and the "Empty Saddle". There are some practical lessons to be learned from Mr. Shrady's success.

Dr. Daniel Coit Gilman is about to organize the great educational work at Washington that will place the stores of government material in science, art and literature at the disposal of the colleges of the United States. The great work



will fulfill the purposes of the university that Washington planned. The work promises a larger field of usefulness than the one held so long and so ably by Dr. Gilman. He ranks as one of the foremost educators of the nation while his profound scholarship and executive

For four years after graduation he pursued his studies at home and abroad. In 1856 he became secretary of the Yale Scientific while the needs of the institution had largely increased. His able manner of dealing with discouraging circumstances stamped him anew as a most efficient and resourceful executive officer. Dr. Gilman was offered the superintendency of the public schools of New York City but declined the position. He has held many public positions, among the most important being his place as a commissioner on the boundary line dispute between Venezuela and British Columbia. Dr. Gilman is a well-known writer on educational topics and has published many books. His selection as Director of the Washington Memorial Institution places him in a most prominent position. The work has a limitless outlook and Dr. Gilman is the man to recognize and develop its possibilities. In 1872 he was called to the presidency of the University of California. In 1875, when Johns Hopkins University was organized, Dr. Gilman was appointed as its president. He held that position until his retirement this year. It was at Johns Hopkins that Dr. Gilman reached the height of his reputation. In an incredibly short time he placed the institution at the head of the great universities in scholarship and influence. During the last years of his presidency Dr. Gilman was obliged to encounter many financial problems, as the securities from which the university derived its income had greatly depreciated in value.

Sir Francis Laking is one of three physicians who have been appointed to care for the physical well-being of King Edward. He was the first physician to accompany the king out of England. He was doubtless chosen on account of his social talents as well as his skill as a practitioner. Sir Francis believes thoroughly in the influence of a cheerful mind and lively manner upon the health. He is a great collector of curios and his first move is to interest his would-be patient in these somewhat novel furnishings of a doctor's office. His son is an acknowledged authority upon old furniture and King Edward has frequently sought his advice in regard to alterations in the royal homes. Sir Francis is very free from general "fads" or peculiar ideas concerning his profession. He does, however, talk much of the conservation of energy and claims the best way to rest is to go to bed. This, he claims, would renew energy much more rapidly than the hurry of a rush to new scenes. Sir Francis is generally esteemed for his lively, interesting conversation which seems as effective as medicine.

This is an age of magnificent giving. Millions are given away annually and the man who gives it is one of the most common features of American life. Nevertheless the personality of the giver is always of interest. Dr. D. K. Parsons of Chicago has



given away nearly three millions within the last three years. His gifts are to colleges and educational institutions. He always attaches conditions to his gifts so that a certain sum must be raised before his gift is available. Dr. Parsons refuses to be regarded as a philanthropist and refuses to read the hundreds of begging letters that he receives. He says in explanation of his giving that as an old man who has labored nearly eighty years, he realizes that he could not carry his wealth with him but wishes to see it serve a useful purpose. He then commenced giving his wealth to small colleges that were centers of culture and light in the sections where they were. Dr. Parsons says that he never spent twenty dollars foolishly in his life. He has never attended a horserace or football game and has been inside a theater but once. He declares that he has no benevolence in him and that this can be seen by looking at his face. He has been so annoyed at the publicity given his gifts that hereafter he will distribute his fortune in secret.

Sir Thomas Lipton has won a place in the affections of the American people. The great gold loving-cup that was sent him after Shamrock II. was defeated, was an expression of ad-

# I Will Cure You of

# Rheumatism.

## No Pay Until You Know It.

After 2,000 experiments, I have learned how to cure Rheumatism. Not to turn bony joints into flesh again; that is impossible. But I can cure the disease always, at any stage, and forever.

I ask for no money. Simply write me a postal and I will send you an order on your nearest druggist for six bottles of Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure, for every druggist keeps it. Use it for a month, and if it does what I claim pay your druggist \$5.50 for it. If it doesn't, I will pay him myself.

I have no samples. Any medicine that can affect Rheumatism with but a few doses must be drugged o the verge of danger. I use no such drugs. It is olly to take them. You must get the disease out of the blood. My remedy does that, even in the most difficult,

obstinate cases. No matter how impossible seems to you. I know it and I take this related to the course of thousands of cases in this and my records show that 39 out of 40 who get those six bottles pay, and gladly. I have learned that people in general are honest with a physician who cures them. That is all I ask. If I fail I don't

who cures them. That is all I ask. If I fail I don't expect a penny from you. Simply write me a postal card or letter. Let me send you an order for the medicine; also a book. Take it for a month, for it won't harm you anyway. If it cures pay \$5.50. I leave that entirely to you. Address Dr. Shoop, Box 304, Racine, Wis. Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

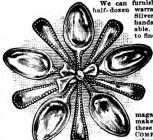
spects the story of Sir Thomas' life reads like a page out of the life of many an American millionaire. Some of this energy was borrowed in America for Sir Thomas did not come to America the first time with a famous racing boat and with a steam vacht with a party of distinguished visitors. He landed here forty years ago as a stowaway in the steerage of a transatlantic liner. He left with one idea in his twelve-year-old head and that was the American methods of hustling. He succeeded in coaxing his father, who was a poor workman in Glasgow, to give him his savings. With the four hundred dollars thus gained he started a little store whose main staple was tea. From this humble beginning has grown a fortune of at least fifty millions. The small proprietor of the small shop is the largest tea grower in Ceylon, a pork packer in Chicago, a manufacturer of ginger ale in Dublin, and a candy maker in London, with warehouses dotted all over the globe and thousands of men in his employ. Five hundred and twenty stores have sprung from that little Glasgow shop. All of the money that Sir Thomas made at first was spent in advertising his wares. His interest in yachting has been an expensive venture. It is estimated that six hundred thousand dollars would no more than cover the expenses connected with the building and racing of Shamrock I. and Shamrock II. One of Sir Thomas's expressions of advice is, "Saving is the first great principle of all success."











#### Winter Sports in Minnesota.

WRITTEN POR COMPORT



URING the long cold winter months in Minnesota, where the thermometer often registers from 15 degrees to 30 degrees below zero for several weeks at a time. and where the snow plow is in almost daily use, where even the brilliant mid-day sun fails to temper the crisp cold atmosphere, en-thusiasm in out of door sports knows no bounds. After a day of comparatively moderate weather, when a slow rain has gradually changed into a heavy

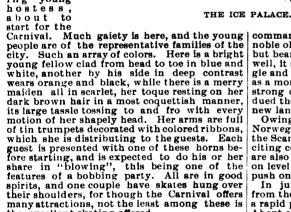
snow storm which has left the entire country

snow storm which has left the entire country round about covered with a firm white crust, the scene is one of unparalleled beauty.

In one of the principal cities of the state, a wide avenue winds in continuous curves for a couple of miles, then extends onward in a straight line to the banks of the famous Mississipni river. Many superb residences line couple of miles, then extends onward in a straight line to the banks of the famous Mississippi river. Many superb residences line this beautiful thoroughfare on either side, real homes, designed for the comfort of their occupants as well as artistic effect, and in which the most cordial hospitality is extended. On looking from the doorstep of one of these attractive houses, early on a winter's morning through arched trees whose snow laden boughs glisten in the bright sunlight, over the snow covered lawns and up the long still avenue as far as the eye can reach, one hesitates to step out, to be the first to sully the perfect purity of the dazzling white expanse, to break the complete stillness which nature has assumed. In an hour or two what a different aspect will be presented. This same stately street will be the center of life and motion, handsome equipages of all descriptions, lined with luxurious furs and drawn by prancing thoroughbreds, will fly along. More modest turnouts will also be seen, numerous cutters and smaller vehicles, and then will come the "bobs", filled with school children, laughing and chattering and "holding on" as the long double-runners skim easily over the frozen snow.

"Bobbing" in the west differs greatly from coasting in the eastern states; in the former locality the bob, often eighteen or twenty feet long, is drawn by horses, and not generally used for sliding down hills, as in New England and New York. To

and New York. To those who enjoy out door sports in winter time there are few more enjoyable amuse-ments than a bobbing party of some twelve or fourteen or fourteen guests, all congenial spirits. Let us go back two or three years, and imagine our-seives with such a party, assembled at the home of some charming young hostess, about to



their shoulders, for though the Carnival offers many attractions, not the least among these is the excellent skating offered.

Soon a loud gong is heard, and the arrival of the bob is announced. A general exit is quickly made, for all are eager to start. The bob is long and spacious, well cushioned, with a comfortable foot-rail, and a driver's seat in front. Three high-spirited horses stand nervously mawing the ground. made impatient to be off ound, made impatient to be pawing the ground, made impatient to be off by the clear frosty air. There is a great scramble for seats, some preferring to sit side-wise and some astride. Large robes are carried, but not usually needed, for each one is well protected from the cold by extra clothing. Moccasins are generally worn over two or three pairs of heavy woolen hose, unless one antici-pates skating upon arriving at the Carnival. Amid such cheering, blowing of horns, and

Amid such cheering, blowing of horns, and ringing of the gong, with one of which a bob is usually provided, the horses start away and the party is soon skimming along at a lightning pace, horses galloping, snow flying, and the air made musical with song and laughter.

A sharp corpor is turned a screen is heard the air made musical with song and laughter. A sharp corner is turned, a scream is heard, and a quick stop is made. Some one leaned the wrong way, and has rolled off. Two or three of the party run back to rescue the unfortunate individual, and find her just rising out of the deep snow, laughing heartily and vigorously brushing her clothes. Soon they have caught up with the others and a fresh start is made.

In a few minutes the more unfrequented streets are reached, where snow drifts are piled high. The road is uncertain here and it is

streets are reached, where snow drifts are piled high. The road is uncertain here, and it is considered rather tame if the bob is not over-turned at least once during the trip, for every one enjoys a good tumble into the soft snow, and rarely does an accident prove serious.

Many lights are now seen in the distance, and glittering in the mornings that the Lee Palese rises.

glittering in the moonlight the Ice Palace rises before us from its foundation of snow like a huge berg towering skyward in a northern sea. A closer approach reveals a perfect fairyland. A high stockade built of huge blocks of ice,

clear as crystal, with round towers, encloses the whole. The entrance, a broad archway brilliantly illuminated by electric lights, opens invitingly to all comers; those in Carnival cos-tume, that is, in toboggan suits and toques, are admitted free, while the looker on in civilian dress pays a small sum for the privilege of en-

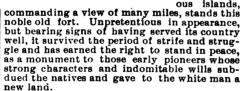
tering.
Once inside one is bewildered. So many attractions offer themselves, a choice is hard to make. Our party divides, three or four hasten to the toboggan chutes and are soon rapidly descending the steep incline and shooting over the well iced track; others have gone into the case and are refreshing the inner man with hot drinks and sandwiches, for the Minnesota air is at all times conducive to good appetites. Four of the girls and men are satisfying their curiosity in regard to the Indians, for several Sioux are encamped here, inside the grounds, and much interest is taken in their tepee or and much interest is taken in their tepee or wigwam. By bending almost to the ground one is able to enter the tepee, and can soon make friends with these good-natured Redmen by offering them a few cigarettes, which courtesy is often returned by the offer of a pipeful of their native tobacco. There are Indians too, fantastically gotten up in paint and feathers, who dance various war dances on an open stage constructed for this purpose.

After fully enjoying the many different en-

After fully enjoying the many different en-tertainments provided by the management, our After fully enjoying the many different entertainments provided by the management, our party gathers together once more, and among the last to leave are the two enthusiastic skaters, who have been content to cut graceful curves on the glassy ice throughout the entire evening without as much as a thought of other amusement. We all now wander to the curling rink and there watch the progress of this interesting Scotch game which has taken such an hold in this country, and whose Minnesota headquarters on Raspberry Island is the scene of many a famous "Bonspeil." After this we visit the hockey game which is going on, and then as our chaperone urges us to the bob again we leave very reluctantly, though knowing that the fun is not yet ended. We take our seats once more and are soon speeding toward the house of our hostess, where a substantial lunch awaits us. Here we find a table most temptingly spread and never are dainties more appreciated. After we have done justice to the delicious repast the bob is again called for, and amid leavetakings and expressions of gratitude to our hostess we take our seats and are driven

ed wholly to this amuse-ment and long runs are frequently taken, the long, swing-ing gait being soon acquired. Fort Snelling is often the objective point jective point and it is well worth mile of snow-shoe travel to view this historic place by moonlight,

as is often done.
On a high bluff overlooking the river with river with its pictures-queshores and numer-ous islands,



on the carry and the

new land.

Owing perhaps, to the large Swedish and Norwegian element in Minnesota, the use of the Scandinavian ski has become general. Exciting contests in jumping are held, and they are also used for traveling over the deep snow on level ground, where a long pole is used to push one forward in long, swinging strokes.

In jumping matches, the contestants start from the brow of a suitable hill and descend at a rapid pace, the speed increasing every instant. About one third of the way down the slope the "jump" is arranged; a low trestle, or else a lot of faggots covered with snow is placed here to form a level spot from which to leap, and on reaching this point, a spring is made by the runner; for a moment he is seen standing apparently in mid-air, then as he gradually descends, he raises the heels of his skis, and lands easily on the snowy surface. Usually the scends, he raises the heels of his skis, and lands easily on the snowy surface. Usually the jumpers land on both feet at once, though the more skillful performers place one foot before the other. The jumper then continues to shoot the decline with terrific force, and on reaching the bottom by leaning to one side or the other, he curves round and is able to make a full stop. Some phenomenal jumps are made by experts, often from one hundred and ten to one ten to on often from one hundred and ten to one hundred and twenty-five feet in length, and the sport has become very popular and has many

devotees.

Of all the winter sports, the most exciting is ice-boating. Here it is that one's nerves are put to their full test; here the adventurous shine, while the timid person appears at a great disadvantage. With the ice as smooth as a mirror, and a good brisk wind blowing, nothing more thrilling can be imagined than to lie on one of these boats, and to feel one'sself being carried along at the rate of a mile a minute. on one of these boats, and to teel one saem being carried along at the rate of a mile a minute, over the glassy surface of some frozen lake. On White Bear Lake, about fifteen miles from St. Paul, this sport is much indulged in. Often one of the many handsome cottages is opened for a day to receive a party from one of opened for a day to receive a party from one of the neighboring cities. Huge fires are built in the great fireplaces, which most of these cottage possess, and after a few trips upon the ice-boat have been made the less enthusiastic of the party return to the house, glad to warm themselves and "talk it over" before starting out again to brave the winter's blast, which is here so keenly felt.

The Carnival generally closes with the storm-

ing of the Ice Palace. Words are inadequate to describe this magnificent spectacle. Thousands of dollars are spent in fire-works, and for a time the winter evening is converted into a veritable "Fourth of July." On this occasion, the numerous snow-shoe clubs assemble at some central spot and march in long procession to the Carnival grounds, where they are assigned places. Some are put in a position of defence to guard the palace and some attack it from outside the walls. All carry rockets and Roman candles and at a given signal the storming begins. A volley from the invading party begins the attack, then comes a perfect rain of fire from the defenders, and for many moments a mock battle is carried on, the whole vicinity appearing as if some meteoric shower was descending with terrible fury upon the earth. ing of the Ice Palace. Words are inadequate to earth.

earth.

After a short struggle, the defence is apparently abandoned, and the actual storming begins. From all directions, and from every window, door and tower comes such a blaze of illumination that all comparisons lose their significance, and one seems transported to some unknown country, where warring elements no longer contend together, but rather unite, to form a perfect picture of light and beauty.

#### An Old Magazine.



N unique magazine is called the Nunique magazine is called the Star of Hope. It is published bi-weekly and circulated among the convicts in Auburn, Sing Sing, and the Clinton prisons. All the editorial as well as the mechanical work on the magazine is done by the convicts.

zine is done by the convicts themselves, who take a very lively interest in their publication. With but few exceptions, the magazine circulates entirely within the prison walls, yet nearly five thousand copies of each edition are circulated. The contents of the magazine is made up of editorsand copies of each edition are circulated. The contents of the magazine is made up of editorials, many of which are very able, current news and reviews, and a humorous column. Among the convicts the Star of Hope is regarded as a most welcome relief from the weary round of



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#### Pyrography.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



YROGRAPHY is one of the few arts or crafts which may correctly be called new. We often speak of anything as being new when it has been known half been known half a century, but this we can trace back no further than a dozen years. To be sure years and years ago as artists, literateurs and all

erateurs and all men of public interest at the time used to assemble at the taverns along the public highways, and sit before the huge fireplaces smoking and telling their stories, it was customary often for them to burn some sketch, or trite saying, or autograph with a red hot poker into the wood work around the hearth. From this then, perhaps, arose the term "poker work" often applied to this art of burning wood and leather. In 1884 in Munich, productions of this work were first exhibited, but the process of obtaining such results was kept a secret, known only to a few artists. Immediately all the shop windows displayed an instrument with which they claimed the work was done. A metal style encased in wood similar in appearance to a lead pencil, which was heated over an alcohol lamp, was used for some time after for tracing designs; but this was so tedious and so impera lead pencil, which was heated over an alcohol lamp, was used for some time after for tracing designs; but this was so tedious and so imperfect that it was dispensed with. Shortly after it became known generally that professionals employed a device which doctors used in operating, in which a platinum point or style was kept incandescent by an electric current. Finally benzine was employed as the heating agent, and this brings us to the present instrument in use all over our country, at least, by artists and artisans alike for it does not require the power of originating a design in order to be successful in this art. There are so many good outline drawings one can trace, and much of our best work in this line is done by those who are merely able to reproduce that which artists have drawn. The instrument consists of two one-half inch rubber tubes about a foot and a half long, each extending in opposite directions from a four ounce bottle, tightly corked, containing benzine or gasoline. At the end of one tube (which is operated with the left hand) are two bulbs; the smaller one being squeezed forces air into the larger one which acts as sort of a retort or holder so that the force may be regulated; at the end of the other

of a retort or hold regulated; at the end of the other tube (which of course is operated with the right hand) is a long pencil-like ar-rangement with a cork handle and a cork handle and a platinum point. When one is ready to work the



JEWEL BOX.

When one is ready to work the point is held over an alcohol lamp or gas burner or even the heat of an ordinary candle will serve to heat red hot this point, all the while squeezing the bulb with the left hand; this forces the gas arising from the benzine along into the point and keeps it in a constant red heat. Then the operator applies the point to his design and an outline is burned just as it would be traced by a pencil and almost as simply; after the design is well worked in, in order to set it off, a background has to be made for it and this is accomplished in various ways; by drawing the point in lines slowly over the surfaces of the wood very close together, heavy ridges are made which produce a very wavy effect. Often wavy lines are appropriate, or dots, produced by touching lightly the surface of the wood with the point of the instrument. All sorts and kinds of backgrounds are effective and interesting and may be worked up by the originality of the operator. A very delicate and pretty finish for the article then, is to color with water-color paints the design in appropriate colors and finally either shellac or wax is applied as a finishing touch. In using the latter a regular prepared floor wax is the proper thing, applied very lightly and polished when dry with a soft brush.



NUT BOWL.

In wood, all kinds of very useful as well as ornamental articles may be made in a very short time and with very little expense. The principal cost is the instrument which is never less than five dollars, and usually just that

Among other things which may be decorated are small boxes, round and square, picture frames, small round chopping trays, pipe racks, book racks, canoe paddles and salad forks and spoons. Out of these things mentioned a few could be made by the operator himself which would lessen the expense of the article. And many beautiful bits of household furniture such as small chairs and stools are very simply made and very easily decorated and may be seen in many of our large furniture stores exhibited as their most delicate and newest bits of craft. The Indians taught us that "poker work" on leather was an art in itself, and skins of all kinds may be crudely decorated to make novel ornaments, such as frames for pictures slashed and burned on the edges, magazine covers and card cases and even book covers form a more delicate but very practical branch of this art. In fact even plush and velvet have been successfully burned. But while every kind of wood may be used (except resinous pine) hard wood is the best. In this, holly, maple and cherry lead, and many wonderful and valuable compositions may be made if one Among other things which may be decorated

is only able to select and adapt suitable designs. Many attempts have been made to substitute another cheaper metal for the platinum point now in use but thus far they have been unsuccessful for practical purposes; until this point does make place for one of steel or iron or some inexpensive material the cost of the instrument will be practically the only expense to this very attractive art.

#### Hall-Marked Plate.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



N books one hundred and two hundred years old we frequently come across the word "plate," in speaking of precious metals. The term is rather confusing to Americans, who call by this name articles plated with silver or gold.

The old meaning was

The old meaning was The old meaning was simply silver money, and was derived from the Spanish word for silver, "plate". Later the term was applied in England to all articles of silver, (with the exception of money.)

(with the exception of money.)

Those of us who are fortunate enough to possess silver articles of old English make have no doubt noticed the devices and marks stamped upon them, but few of us have ever thought of the significance of these marks.

These "hall-marks" as they are called are quite interesting.

quite interesting.

quite interesting.

Six hundred years ago, the workers in precious metals decided that their wares should be marked in some particular way, in order that their customers might have some guarantee that the goods they bought were genuine. Accordingly they formed a guild, known as Goldsmith's Hall and caused laws to be passed forbidding the sale of silver plate that did not bear the "hall-mark". Goldsmith's Hall flourishes at the present, though the hall-marks have undergone some change.

Wardens were elected by the guild, whose duty it was to pass upon the quality of goods submitted for their inspection.

Before exposing his wares for sale the man-

submitted for their inspection.

Before exposing his wares for sale the manufacturer was obliged to send them to Goldsmith's Hall, after stamping each piece with his private mark. Here the goods were assayed and if found of the proper fineness were stamped with the assayer's mark. This was a letter of the alphabet, a different one was used every year, and when the alphabet was exhausted, letters of a different design were used. The wardens then stamped the plate with the mark

letters of a different design were used. The wardens then stamped the plate with the mark of the hall, a leopard's head, crowned, and the silver could then legally be put on sale.

If not found up to the standard for fineness, however, the plate was crushed into a shapeless mass and returned to the makers. Severe penalties were imposed for counterfeiting the marks of the Hall.

The marks above described were the only

marks of the Hall.

The marks above described were the only ones used on plate until 1696, when a lion's head was substituted for the leopard's head, and also a full-length figure of Brittania. These goods were known as "Brittania standard", and were of a finer quality than the silver plate made before that date. This silver was found too soft for general use, however, and but little was made. The last device added was the head of the reigning sovereign, which has been used since 1784. In 1542 the coinage became very much debased, and the leopard's head lost its significance, which was that the plate was equal in fineness to coin. Accordingly the figure of a lion was added to the hallmarks to signify that the plate was up to the old standard of fineness.

In the United States, until recently, no such precautions in regard to silver plate were taken

precautions in regard to silver plate were taken by law, and purchasers were obliged to take the manufacturer's word that their goods were the manufacturer's word that their goods were genuine. Makers stamped their goods "coin" or "sterling," it is true, but no law required this. In 1894 New York State adopted the English standard and made it a misdemeanor to sell silver goods marked "sterling" unless they were 925-1000 fine. Later several of the other states enacted similar laws.

#### CATARRH CAN BE CURED.

CATARRH CAN BE CURED.

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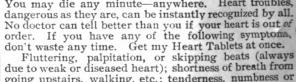
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EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscrib-ers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the vertier's oven name and post-office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest, will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them, and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach six hundred and fitty words. Contributors must write on one side of the paper only.

\$10 CASH PRIZES \$10.

The following cash prizes will be paid monthly: 1st. For the best original letter
2nd. " second best original letter
3rd. " third " "
4th. " fourth " " "
5th. " fifth " "

Competitors for these monthly cash prizes must comply with all the above rules, and in addition must bring at least two new Cousins into the Comper circle: that is, they must send two new subscribers with each letter, together with 50 cents for the yearly subscriptions.

These cash prizes will be announced monthly in this department.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Prize Offer.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

#### CASH PRIZE WINNERS.

Harriet W. Seaver,	\$3.00
Mrs. J. O. Adams,	2.50
Max Bennett Thrasher,	2.00
Minnie I. Jones,	1.50
Frederick W. Newlands,	1.00

EAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS:

"See, Winter comes to rule the varied year," as old Thompson has it in his "Seasons", but the hoary old monarch "rules" as variously as the latitude in which he finds his subjects will allow. No tyrant with laws as unalterable as those of the Medes and Persians is he, but while he holds stern rule over a part of his realm he smiles softly upon the dwellers in other zones. Let us visit, in our first letter, a portion of his domain where snow and ice herald his coming, and call, with the writer of the letter, upon a community of Shakers living there.

upon a community of Shakers living there.

"Almost at the beginning of the White Mountain range in New Hampshire and about twelve miles northeast from Concord, lies the typical country village of Canterbury; and a drive of four miles from the post-office (which in all places is the center of population), over a winding, hilly road, brings one to one of the most prosperous Shaker communities of all those which are scattered over our country. On approaching this little settlement one is tempted to exclaim: "Another white city!" For in truth everything has that spotless appearance that only a coat of whitewash can give. "We were very cordially greeted by one of the 'Sisters', who for the sum of fifty cents conducted us over the establishment, and her primitive 'yea' and 'nay' to our questions, together with her unadorned linen gown and bonnet, for the time being made us feel that we were transported to, at least, some place further away than a New Hampshire village. And while we were going through the yard, to and from the different buildings the following is the bit of information I gleaned concerning this little sect.

"Being an offspring from the Quakers they were originally called in derision Shaking-Quakers, ow-

"Being an offspring from the Quakers they were originally called in derision Shaking-Quakers, oworiginally called in derision Shaking-Quakers, owing to their antics and movements when they were inspired. But they chose to call themselves 'The United Society of Believers.' Their leader, Ann Lee, a most remarkable woman, came to this country from England in the last part of the eighteenth century, and settled with her few followers near Albany, N.Y., from whence tours were made resulting in the establishment of various Shaker communities throughout the East. Their four pillars of belief are Christian communism, virgin purity, confession of sin (to God before a witness) and separation

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of sin (to God before a witness) and separation from the world; in short, followers of Christ to the letter.

"A very interesting argument, doubtless, between my companion and the aforesaid 'Sister' was entshort by our ter' was cut short by our arrival at the 'dairy', where we had nothing less than boundless adless than boundless admiration for the cleanliness and system with which all the work moved together. From there we went to the store-room where the antique furniture, china and every imaginable thing is sold—at a very reasonable price, by the way—and finally we completed our trip by going to the store and buying candied nuts and flagroot, such as only these Shakers can make from their swamps of flag which are just across the street. And as we waved our good-by and drove away we realized that the spirit of communism and happiness for the moment was contagious, and always we 'doff our hats,' so to speak, to the good fellowship and unselfishness of the Shakers."

HARRIET W. SEAVER, Boston, Mass.

Now for a few words from another quarter of our miration for the cleanli-

Now for a few words from another quarter of our

country.

"Mobile lies thirty-two miles from Fort Morgan, on the Mobile river. Across the river is East Mobile, formerly a marshy spot, but now improved to such an extent that saw-mills, ways for the repair of vessels, wharves, booms and numerous other industries line the shore, while along the wharves of Mobile for miles can be seen vessels loading and unloading. Many of them are engaged in the fruit trade, which also has a large overland traffic, trains of cars loading with fruit filling the side tracks far and near. On our north is Magazine Point, a milling place in front of which vessels from all nations lie in the stream loading with lumber and timber. The small near-by towns of

Whistler, Citronelle and Pritchard have also sawmills, distilleries, cotton mills and a basket factory. Spring Hill, with its park and fine scenery, is one of our many attractions, while Oakland, with its fine houses erected by northern people and its grand ancient-modern shell road, shadowed by great trees—magnolia, sweet bay and live oak—and extending for seven miles along the shore of the bay and gulf, dotted all the way by places of amusement, parks, beautiful houses, and bending like a horse shoe as it follows the course of the water, makes a beautiful ride or walk. This is a favorite resort for picnic parties, banqueting parties, encampments of soldier boys and of private parties.

"We are proud of our city, of her energy and pluck, of her wealth and beauty, but we expect greater things of her in the future, when her resources are more fully developed, and we hope the time will soon come when the word 'Greater' will apply as fully to her as it now does to New York."

MRS. ADA MOORE CARNEY, Mobile, Als.

Our next letter takes us to a part of our country Whistler, Citronelle and Pritchard have also saw

Our next letter takes us to a part of our country where Winter rules very mildly.

Our next letter takes us to a part of our country where Winter rules very mildly.

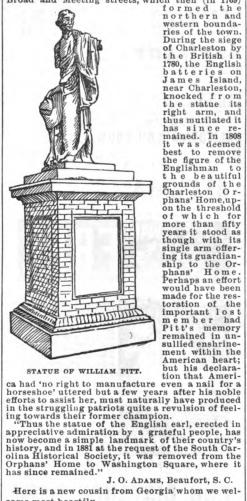
"A stranger visiting Charleston, S. C., would doubtless observe, among other objects of interest, within one of the city's public squares the figure of a man, from whose body for over a century, the right arm has been absent. It is the statue of William Pitt, the English champion of American rights, and was raised by the grateful people of a struggling colony in commemoration of his heroic efforts to obtain an alleviation of Great Britain's unjust and burdensome taxation. The statue on its western front bears the following inscription:

'In grateful memory of his services to his country in general,
And to America in particular,
The Common House of Assembly of South Carolina
Unanimously voted that this statue of The Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq.
Who gloriously exerted himself in defending the freedom of Americans,
The true sons of England, by promising a repeal of the Stamp Act in the year 1766.
Time shall sooner destroy this mark of their esteem, than erase from their minds their just sense of his patriotic virtue.'

It was originally erected at the intersection of Broad and Meeting streets which then (in 1789)

It was originally erected at the intersection of Broad and Meeting streets, which then (in 1769) he intersection of ch then (in 1769) formed the northern and western boundaries of the town. During the siege of Charleston by the British in 1780, the English batteries on James Island, near Charleston, knocked from

near Charleston, knocked from the statue its right arm, and thus mutilated it



J. O. ADAMS, Beaufort, S. C. Here is a new cousin from Georgia whom we wel-

come most heartily.

"I am deeply interested in Comfort and would like to join the cousins. I offer them this month a description of a beautiful cave where once I attended a picnic on the Fourth of July. It is called Riverdale Cave, and, by some, the Haunted Cave and the Indian Cave. It is situated on the bank of the Etowah river, is about one mile in extent and looks as if it were intended for inhabitants, having four separate rooms, one of which seems to have been especially made for a ball room while another seems more suitable for a sittingroom, having a stone in one corner that resembles a center table, and another large stone which reminds one of a reclining chair. This last stone is beautifully carved, not so finely finished as a skilled workman would have done it, but wonderful as the work of nature. The walls and floors of the rooms are much smoother than the chair, for they are almost like polished marble. come most heartily.

er than the chair, for they are almost like polished marble.

"There is a rather narrow and rugged passage that extends from the rooms to the river, and in this passage are several large springs the depth of which have never, as yet, been ascertained, so deep are they. There is also in this passage a large rock, from fifteen to twenty feet in height. It is soft, smooth, and of a whitish color, and thousands of people visiting the cavern have inscribed their names on the 'Tall Rock,' as it is called. Some of the dates written there are as far back as 1821. It is said that in olden times many travelers have lost their lives in this passage while seeking shelter from storms, and strangers need a guide through its dark, treacherous mazes.

"Many pleasant picnics and other entertainments have taken place here, but the most beautiful scene which I ever remember here was a wedding which I attended in this cave two years ago. The ballroom was decorated for the marriage in ferns and flowers, and lighted with Japanese lanterns and little candles which were fastened up everywhere among the decorations, making the room so light that it almost seemed like sunlight. Indeed, it was the prettiest and most impressive wedding that I have ever witnessed, and the enjoyment was increased by the sound of a brass band playing marches suitable for the occasion.

"After the ceremony we were conducted to another of the rooms where a table was spread with every luxury that could please the taste. In the afternoon the music began again in the ballroom, and here the guests gathered once more and danced for the remainder of the evening."

MINNIE I. Jones, Cartersville, Ga.

Now let us visit an old Maryland Manor house which, I am sorry to say, is fast dropping to pieces. There is a rather narrow and rugged passage

"The exterior of the house is very imposing. It is a long, low building with a wing at either end. An oak-shaded drive leads to the main entrance, in front of which is a circular lawn. In the center of the lawn are the remains of a once beautiful fountain. The front doors are of English oak and open upon an immense hallway on the opposite side of which are folding doors leading to the ball-room. The walls show traces of elegant paintings and woodwork elaborately carved and stuccoed. From the ballroom two doors of solid mahogany lead into the east and west drawingrooms, and we were told that it was in the latter that John Parke Custis, George Washington's stepson, wooed and won Miss Eleanore Calvert.

The remainder of the first floor is taken up by the kitchen, diningroom, library and storerooms, a wide staircase leading to the second floor where are the rooms which, in the old days, were set apart for the use of Henry Clay, Daniel Webster and General Washington,—all close friends of George Calvert. In one room is a chair used by Clay and also a cedar-lined wardrobe in which, it is said, the famous statesman used to hang his longtailed coat, satin vest and knee breeches. The rooms of Washington and Webster are bare of furniture, and are uninteresting save for their historic associations.

"Next comes the garret—the very name of which suggests mystery. It is reached by a narrow,



CALVERT MANSION.

creaking stair, and in the dim half-light may be seen hair trunks, iron and brass bound chests and boxes of all kinds piled high on every side. What a treat it would be to delve into this store of ancient papers, utensils and clothing, with their memories of the long-ago; but, alas! many of the boxes have been despoiled of their contents by unscrupulous relic hunters, and those which still retain their treasures are kept securely locked. "The house contains about forty rooms, including the wine vaults and storerooms in the cellar, and many extensive house parties have been given in the old mansion by the various colonial and historical clubs of Washington.
"I must not forget to mention the driveway leading from the house to the large, octagonal old barn. This is bordered and over-hung by mock-orange trees, making a veritable 'lovers' lane', and forming one of the most picturesque features of Calvert Place." Frederick L. Newland, Lucinda, Pa.

The following letter is most appropriate, coming,

The following letter is most appropriate, coming, as it does, in the anniversary month of Whittier's



NE of the most interesting monuments which the country is preserving to the memory of its famous men, is the poet Whittier's home in the village of Amesbury, Massachusetts. This house, in which the eminent writer lived for many years, is kept very much as it was when he lived there. It is owned by a niece of Whittier, but it is cared for by a company of

he lived there. It is owned by a niece of Whittier, but it is cared for by a company of women called the 'Whittier Home Association,' and visitors are allowed to go all over the house and see the many objects which remind one of the author's life and work. There are two desks in the house, known as the 'old desk,' and the 'new desk,' on one or the other of which nearly all of Whittier's poems were written. There is a stout cane of oak which belonged to Barbara Freitchie, and which after her death was sent as a gift to Whittier. There is the queer old Franklin stove, before whose open front Whittier loved to sit in the winter. This stands in the room called the 'garden room,' because its two windows look out into the garden back of the house. Whittier loved this garden, and in the summer time spent much time there. In it are some great pear trees which the poet set out. In a cupboard in the house is preserved a wooden box which belonged to Whittier's sister, and which is kept just as she left it at her death. A paper is folded neatly in the bottom of the box to make it easy to clean out the dust, I think. There is some printing on the bottom side of the paper. One day I was curious to see what this printing was, and lifting up the contents of the box found out that the paper was a record of premiums awarded at the Merrimac county fair years ago, and that among other successful exhibitors at that time Whittier had taken a premium for pears. This was doubtless fruit from the trees which still flourish in the garden back of the house. Folks who remember the poet say that he would have been more proud of having raised this fruit than of all the poetry he ever wrote.

"Whittier came to this house to live with his mother and sister Elizabeth in 1836. Up to that

raised this fruit than of all the poor, wrote.

"Whittier came to this house to live with his mother and sister Elizabeth in 1836. Up to that time they lived on the farm on which he had been born. The house is on Friend Street, so called because the old Quaker Meeting House which Whittier always attended stands there. Probably the house was chosen in part because it was so near to the meeting house. It was small then, but as Whittier's means grew more abundant a room



BIRTHPLACE OF WHITTIER

was added here and there until now it is a large house of most irregular plan. There are many pictures in the house, some of them choice family pictures in the house, some of them choice family portraits. Among these are oil portraits of Whittier's mother and sister which hang where they have hung for forty years. During the later years of his life Whittier was sometimes the guest of friends for a long while at a time, but in speaking of his home, once, when away, he said, 'My home is where my mother's picture hangs.'"

MAX BENNETT THRASHER.

And now it is time for us to turn our thoughts to Christmas and its joys and duties, and here is a

etter which will help us a bit in that direction. "With the return of these bleak December days come strains of the oft-repeated chorus 'Hosanna



in the highest.' Are our heartstrings tuned to this harmony? Are we doing all we can to make this a bright Christmas for every one within our reach? Let us begin with our home and let usyoung and old—reach out to see what can be done this year. Work with children more particularly perhaps than in any other sphere, requires cheerfulness of spirit,—warmth of heart and interest in all their little plans.

"How well we remember the thrill of joy in our youthful hearts at the thought of Christmas. Mothers can help the children to understand the meaning of this feast, relating the story of the Christ-Child, The First Christmas-tree and the Yule-log of England, besides countless other stories of loving kindness at Yuletide.

Singing, too, tends to enliven the season. Even the songs sung by our grandmothers, 'Coaxing Santa', and 'Hang up the Baby's Stocking' are interesting and new to the little tots.

"Many people of intelligence are of the opinion that small gifts will not suffice; that one must give something of great money value or nothing. I believe in giving with the right spirit any token of remembrance available and that happiness will surely result. There is also this bugbear idea, that for whatever we receive at this season we must give in return something exactly as good, or as valuable as the gift received. Is this the idea of giving? I do not think so.

"Sometimes a letter, an invitation to dine, fills the place of a gift; all kindnesses shown are gifts always. Thus we can see that there are various ways of giving and if we can but feel that 'giving enriches the giver' we have the right Christmas spirit and besides making ourselves happy we have been a blessing to others."

Beth Bellamont.

Our Lord tells us to "Give, hoping for nothing again", and James Russell Lowell, in his "Vision of Six Lynnfa!"

Our Lord tells us to "Give, hoping for nothing again", and James Russell Lowell, in his "Vision of Sir Launfal", tells us that

"The gift, without the giver, is bare,"

and a Christmas gift, given because we feel that we must, or because some one has given to us and we feel that the same value must be returned, or because we wish to curry favor with a person, is not a gift, it is a bargain, and is in direct opposition to all the teachings of the blessed time of Christmas.

"From all (such) evil and mischief, Good Lord, deliver us."

AUNT MINERVA.

HAVE YOU CATARRH?

There is one remedy you can try without danger of humbug. Send to H. G. Colman, Chemist, 440 So-West St., Kalamazoo, Mich., for a trial package of his catarrh cure. His only mode of advertising is by giving it away.

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COMFORT, Box 770, Augusta, Maine.

### Distinguishing Features of the Women's Colleges.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



point of health, discipline and curricu-lum there is little choice among the various seats of learning, all aims and standards ranking high; but each has some characteristic features setting a seal features setting a seal upon its individuali-ty, and often influencing the new student in her selection of an Alma Mater. Vassar impresses

the observer with its strength and system in all things, its power in shaping the trend of the undergraduate

mind and character without bias to individual mind and character without bias to individual personality. The equalizing influences discourage abnormal development and tend to turn out young women well equipped to meet the varied experiences of life that await them outside of college walls. Vassar is one of the few colleges requiring gymnasium training throughout the entire four years' course, while its four hundred acres include miles of gravel walks, an athletic field, a lake for boating and skating, golf links and tennis courts for the prescribed outdoor recreation. Its faculty represents progress and scholarly erudition, its buildings number modern dormitories, its social life covers a wide range with its clubs and societies, its formal and impromptu gayeties.

and societies, its formal and impromptu gayeties.

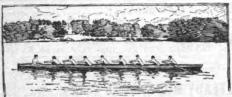
The ideal beauty of the natural surroundings at Wellesley surpass that of any of the sister colleges, and leaves its impress on the young hearts and minds in training there. It helps to make the scholar for which this institution is noted, also its charitable, sweet-natured girl. The lover of aquatic sports singles out Wellesley which offers such rare opportunities for boating on beautiful Lake Waban under the tutelage of Miss Lucile Eaton Hill, the director of physical culture and an expert oarswoman. A lovely sight comes with Float Day in June when the skilled class and college crews exhibit their good form in rowing to the thousands of spectators who line the shores and give vent of spectators who line the shores and give vent

of spectators who line the shores and give vent to lusty enthusiasm.

Life at Smith College with its twelve hun-dred students is supposed to approach nearest to that of the home circle and normal condi-tions as the girls are allowed all the freedom to that of the home circle and normal conditions as the girls are allowed all the freedom possible and encouraged to cultivate social ties among the townspeople, Northampton laying claim to a delightfully refined and literary atmosphere, its public library, Home Culture Club founded by the author, George W. Cable, and its Academy of Music offering advantages in line with the tastes of the girlish collegian. President Seelye to whom much of Smith's success is due, has always advocated the thoroughly womanly woman and frowned upon any aping of the men's colleges. For this reason Smith has never had a college yell or cheer. Health, smart attire, and plenty of diversion both on and off the campus mark existence in this largest of women's colleges, though the studious girl finds a perfect intellectual Eldorado, and the impecunious one's popularity depends entirely upon herself, money not weighing in the balance.

High scholarly attainment is Bryn Mawr's keynote, its students and alumnae priding themselves on their brains and lack of feminine sentimentality. Its graduate department

inine sentimentality. Its graduate department



A WELLESLEY CREW.

fosters this spirit, being the largest and most adequate among the women's colleges, its workers very much in earnest in their advanced study and scientific research. It is a favored college with girls blessed with this world's goods, and social doings reach heights indicating substantial resources as well as originality. Out-door sports flourish, while practice in the finely appointed gymnasium with big swimming pool is systematic.

The Woman's College of Baltimore attracts by the charm of its cordial and happy atmosphere, its able president, Dr. John F. Goucher, and up to date professors, and fine scheme of buildings, the residence halls arranged with all light, airy bedrooms, elevators, and dining halls on the top floor. Its mild climate holds inducement, also its proximity to Washington, the seat of Federal Government and to the Johns Hopkins University whose splendid medical school is open to women.

The sweet Christian spirit all-pervading at Mount Holyoke always brings there a class of students of lovely character besides fine mental calibre, who do not say much of their possible achievements but whose deeds speak for them.

Mount Holyoke always brings there a class of students of lovely character besides fine mental calibre, who do not say much of their possible achievements but whose deeds speak for them. The wide awake corps of professors keeps the young scholars abreast of the times, while the domestic training, light as it may be, has its influence in fitting them for the home making which is the gladly accepted vocation of so many college bred women. This pioneer seat of learning has steadily advanced since its founding as a seminary by Mary Lyon some sixty-five years ago, and under its new president, Miss Mary E. Woolley, great things are predicted for its near future.

The College for Women of Western Reserve University, in Cleveland, was the first to assume the system of co-ordination in education. That means it has its own corps of professors and instructors, and is an integral part of the university on an equal footing with Adelbert College, the men's branch of Western Reserve, its graduates receiving the same university degree. As the leading woman's college of the West, where co-education reigns supreme, it draws the feminine contingent preferring the action and environment of the separate institution, yet liking the broader outlook of university connection.

Barnard College has recently adopted co-

connection. Barnard College has recently adopted co-education, having been for a number of years

affiliated with Columbia University which confers upon the Barnard girls the Columbian degree, a fact proving a great drawing card. Situated in New York, the students enjoy the cosmopolitan conditions of the huge metropolis, the suburban air of the provincial being quickly rubbed off by such contact. The daily routine in Fiske Hall, the handsome dormitory, combines with studious application, gayety and good cheer, and the benefits of hearing and meeting the variety of distinguished persons constantly drawn to an educational center like Columbia. Columbia

Columbia.

Radcliffe affiliated with Harvard, and the Women's College with Brown University give to the women students instruction by the respective university teaching staffs, only that Brown allows them the same diploma while Harvard's president countersigns the Radcliffe sheepskin, not granting the regulation Harvard degree. However, it virtually amounts to the same thing. The girls at both these colleges experience a specific phase of the higher education, though now that they are both introducing a touch of dormitory life they will approach ing a touch of dormitory life they will approach nearer the scope of the customary women's college.

#### Art Under Feet.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



NE of the oldest industries and the earliest way of expressing a love of the beautiful and artistic was in the weaving of rugs in the Orient. Nowadays the

importation of these works of art form a very large part of our commerce. The oldest car-

The oldest carpetings made of woolen threads on linen strings were found in Egpyt, but whether these were the handiwork of Egyptians or Babylonians is not known.

The Persians are probably the finest rugweavers in the world and their oldest products date to long before Christ. Animals and hunting scenes predominate, with a few floral figures. These rugs were made not by companies, but families. Certain districts, of course, had certain styles, making perhaps the idea carried out in the rug patterns similar in each district, but no two rugs exactly alike, for individuals would express in the pattern some original thought, and possibly some occurrence dividuals would express in the pattern some original thought, and possibly some occurrence or pathetic detail of the rug weaver's life would be worked into the design, as anecdotes are written into a story. Thus an oriental rug maker becomes an artist rather than an artisan. The Khorassan, Kerman, and Feraghan are probably in this class the best, and the deep blue of the old Persian rugs is probably the most valuable characteristic. The artists today are unable to produce this. Some of the products are impaired by analine dyes, also by water-color paints which the cunning Persians employ to temporarily strengthen their coloremploy to temporarily strengthen their color-

The Kerman rug is in texture very valuable. Its design is mostly of men and animals. The Shiraz rug is often woven of undyed camel's hair for a border, which makes the figures in the center stand out in rich contrast to the

hair for a border, which makes the figures in the center stand out in rich contrast to the reddish-brown background.

The Kurds, a tribe of brigands subject to both Turkey and Persia, make a most beautiful rug, called Kourdistan. It is delicately woven in an impressionist style, perhaps with flowers as a design. They also make a beautiful, soft rug which may be washed over and over again, called Ghileems.

From the cradle of the Turkish race comes the most durable rug, called Khiva or Bokhara, which is used by them as a portiere for their tent. Turkish rugs are rarely seen with any white on them, neither do they weave men or animals into them. Their designs are usually in lines or stripes. They make their own vegetable dyes, raise and card the wool and originate the design.

Probably of all rugs the prayer-rug is most common, peculiar to Mohammedan countries. They are designed with a figure, whereon the faithful kneel, pointing toward Mecca to which their prayers go forth. The devout Mohammedan carries his rug ever with him and usually a compass, so that if he lose his direction in his traveling he may be able thus to point his rug in the right direction and at the hour of prayer, kneel.

The time is arriving when the Orientals may

prayer, kneel.

The time is arriving when the Orientals may import steam made rugs, and as the wages rise in the East will not spend their time weaving. When this comes about and the manufacture of Persian rugs is a thing of the past, then these works of art will literally be worth twice their weight in gold.

# THE HIGHEST POPULARITY.

Dr. Lyman Abbott, pastor of Plymouth Church, made the remark of E. P. Roe and his novels: "I venture to say that no man, woman, or child has ever read through one of Mr. Roe's books without being bettered by the reading." "Driven Back to Eden," one of his representative books, which has been read by thousands who paid \$1.25 for it, has now been selected by the International Association of Newspapers and Authors for reissue and distribution through COMFORT. Through special arrangement with Mr. Roe's publishers the new edition is printed from the original plates. It is attractively bound in cloth, too. For authe structively bound in cloth, too. For authors and titles of these books and particulars of distribution see a special subscription club announcement on page 21 of this issue.

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#### A Fowl Invention.



HE inventive genius of a South Dakota man has put on the market a hen-roost that is warranted to prevent ambitious roosters from crowing in the middle of the night. He noticed that the fowl was always obliged

the fowl was always obliged to stand up in order to get a good grip on the perch when he was about to crow.

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WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



IKE time, fashion never stands still; some movement stands still; some movement is always going on, though there is little radically new to the casual observer. Skirts still cling about the hips and to the knees, and still flare wonderfully at the foot. The waist is still kept long in front, the hips supple, and the back perfectly flat. that rare mark of a perfectly beautiful figure apparent in old Greek statues. Fashions in figures hark back to one hundred years ago when the in figures hark back to one hundred years ago when the lines were shown off and accentuated. Even our hats have crept back to a shape very similar to that worn by the gay goddesses of fashion in the days of the Directory. The low, flat affair is immensely becoming, and so are the three-cornered hats when the face is youthful and pretty. The pagoda sleeve has a

youthful and pretty. The pagoda sleeve has a tremendous following, but the modified bishop sleeve, with a turn-back vandyke cuff is slowly edging in, while an enormous comfortable sleeve, called the dogaresse is a feature of new cloaks, and is even seen on gowns for street wear, and is copied from the mantles worn by the dogaresses of Venice.

The knot of hair in the nape of the neck has became universal and sets one to wondering

became universal, and sets one to wondering how long it will be before we are welcoming back the chignon to its old place. I wonder if basket-plaits will ever become a fashionable coiffure again. They were very neat, very or-derly, and showed off glossy, abundant hair to great advantage.

advantage, our mothers tell us—well, well! times change, and we with them. The standard of The standard of beauty in both face and fashion is at the mercy of a whim, and the things we admire most today will be despised next week. Individuality in dress grows dail y as fashion becomes more and more important. The woman who buys woman who buys her clothes as she buys her grocer-ies, at the recom-mendation of the shopman, will al-ways be at the beck and call of slave-driver, Fashion; but the good dresser is coming more and more to exercise the dictates of her own feelings and tastes in the mat-ter of dress and the result will be, sooner or later, an ideal philosophy of clothes.



Well-dressed women have at last come to the conclusion that for the street nothing is fit except a skirt that escapes the ground. Some of cept a skirt that escapes the ground. Some of the short-skirted walking gowns which Paris-iennes will wear for shopping and general wear are immensely chic. A fitting finish to this skirt is the short, natty, English box-coat, which clings just sufficiently to the figure to suggest the outlines. suggest the outlines.

One of the prettiest tea-gowns I have seen this season is an empire of black accordion-plaited silk, with a loose bolero of black lace and long sleeves of the lace finished with frills at the hand.

A stunning new model for a tailor-made gown is of mauve frieze, made with a short, fitted coat, which may be worn open or closed, the fronts faced with white satin and trimmed across with black chenile cord and buttons, and the edge faced with black velvet and a line



palest grey broad-cloth has at the foot of the plain, beautifully - fitted skirt, a border of turned up points of gray velvet each outlined with a black cord and finished at the extreme point with a large black velvet button. The same idea is carried out on the blouse bodice, the blouse bodice, the bust being cut away and laid back in points, s ho w i ng a smoothly fitted vest of white cloth braided with pale rose and gold. A touch of rose at the throat finishes the costume. the costume.

Walking umes of corduroy

especially smart one being built of drab velvet, the coat having a fairly long basque, trimmed like the skirt with stitched bands the same color as the velvet. The sleeves are arranged in large box-plaits, with flaring cuffs trimmed

with the cloth.

Evening dresses are still worn very long, with half trains for dancing. For indoor wear they rest upon the ground, and are a little shorter in front than they used to be, so that

one can walk without tripping over them.

A sweetly pretty evening gown for a young girl is made of esprit net in cream white, the low bodice trimmed with stripes of white satin ribbon placed perpendicularly, about an inch



wide, and an inch apart, sho tween and slightly pouched. showing the net be-

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### An Odd Newspaper.



ROBABLY the most remarkable publica-tion in the way of a newspaper that the world has ever known was the "Muse His-torique." This unique paper which unique paper which started in 1615 was a weekly and contained the news of the world in rhyme. It was edited by one Jacques Loret, who was also proprietor, business manager, and entire reportorial force.

Every kind of subject was treated by Mons. Loret, and in a style grave or gay to correspond with the nature of item of news. The Muse Historique was published for fifty years, but passed away with its owner, probably because nobody else cared to undertake such a laborious

# DISAPPEARANCE OF THE DOLLAR.

Silver money melts from the pocket; paper money is "burned" for this and that, and in either case there is an aching void; disappearing dollars "make the heart sad." But it is different when the dollar disappears from the price of an article of merchandise and it thus becomes that much cheaper than expected and the dollar remains in the pocket. This happy surprise is enjoyed by those who are in the habit of paying \$1.00 or \$1.25 for copyrighted books when they find they can get the desired volume for nothing. Such is the rule in the notable distribution by the International Association of Newspapers and Authors, now going ciation of Newspapers and Authors, now going on through the Club Subscription Department of COMFORT. See announcement on page 21.

HE two sides of the human face are never exactly alike. There is often a difference in the eyes; one is stronger than the other, is out of line, or, occasionally, is of a different shade. Try it when next you sit for photographs, and have two negatives taken, one for each side of the and then compare the two. Even the face, and then compare the two. Even the mouth and the expression will be found to be different in the two views.

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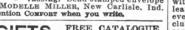
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Marie Corelli.

Ardath.
 Romance of Two Worlds.
 Thelma.
 Vendetta.

Charles M. Sheldon. 20. In His Steps. Ralph Connor.

21. Black Rock. Charlotte M. Braeme. Dora Thorne. Thrown on the World.

Jessie Fothergill. Frances Ridley Havergal.

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5. Wormwood. Augusta J. Evans. 6. Beulah. 7. Inez. 8. Marcia.

T. S. Arthur. 28. Ten Nights in a Bar Room. G. A. Henty,

The author of favorite juvenile books. 29. Among Malay Pirates.30. In Times of Peril.31. With Lee in Virginia.

Elizabeth Wetherell

Queechy. 33. Wide Wide World.

Daniel Defoe. 34. Robinson Crusoe. Harriet Beecher Stowe.

35. Uncle Tom's Cabin.

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# IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Once a year Comfort presents to its subscribers and readers many attractive selections for quick and easily obtainable club-gifts which include articles for household use and adornment or personal use and pleasure, and we feel that we present this year many articles highly attractive and far ahead of our previous efforts attractive and har ahead of our previous enforces and we sincerely hope that no club announcements in this issue will escape your attention and that you will not fail to partake of one or more of our particularly liberal inducements for renewals extensions and new subscriptions to COMFORY for 1902.

### A FEW FACTS ABOUT COMFORT'S FUTURE.

A FEW FACTS ABOUT COMFORT'S FUTURE.

COMFORT now has the largest circulation of any publication of any kind anywhere and its bright title cover page brings sunshine to more American homes every month than any similar publication anywhere. Its interesting short stories and feature departments regularly entertain and amuse more people than any other publication and for the year of 1902, in addition to all that we now present regularly and in order to still further increase our subscription list, we shall run a series of continued stories. These stories will be the best effort of America's most entertaining authors who will be added to Comford's Editorial Staff, thus obtaining the absolute control of their productions for the exclusive presentation to Comfort's readers. The addition of this feature of continued stories will be readily appreciated by the thousands who have read Comfort since its first appearance fourteen years ago and who today as eagerly await the arrival of its monthly issue as ever.

# NEW SPECIAL ARTICLES.

NEW SPECIAL ARTICLES.

We shall also present, in addition to the continued stories, as a new feature, many special articles written exclusively for COMFORT by our former brilliant contributors whose way of presenting in attractive, concise and pithy paragraphs such articles as are of current interest to our nation which include accounts of our distinguished citizens, philanthropists, also doings at Washington, as well as new discoveries, international occurrences of note, expositions, and other news matter presented in the form of condensed information.

# ORIGINAL COVER DESIGNS.

ORIGINAL COVER DESIGNS.

Comfort was the first magazine in the world to present a monthly change of cover design. This was our original idea and has been maintained as a distinct feature at a large expense and for next year we have already prepared a series of colored half-tone covers and title page pictures which are reproduced from photographs of living subjects who posed exclusively for Comfort's own artist. These beautiful half-tone pictures are each month appropriate to the season: the January cover page presents the face of a beautiful child gazing into space apparently welcoming the New Year while 1902, represented as a youth, bids adieu to 1901 who passes out as an old man. February, the valentine month, has an appropriate half-tone of a cute little miss playing the piano; it is embellished in colors with valentine suggestions. April, the Easter month, presents a handsome child in a hay mow with the proud hen who has laid the Easter Egg; this is embellished with an April shower sketch which is very handsome. June, the month of roses, will be represented by a typical Summer scene and is one of the most attractive cover pages ever offered. We mention these few and you may be assured that the other months in the year are to be treated in a likewise attractive manner. likewise attractive manner.

# RENEWALS AND NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

RENEWALS AND NEW SUBSCRIBERS.
At this season of the year we make the most strenuous efforts to add the greatest number of subscribers to our list. Naturally enough we are not only anxious to retain our gigantic circulation and forever maintain that COMFORT has the largest circulation of any periodical published, but add to its already great number of subscribers, and we make every honorable effort to maintain such kindly feeling with our friends and patrons as will induce voluntary renewals and additions. It is customary to present, particularly at the holiday season, an array of Household Goods that are attractive to the eye of our readers and obtain for us a canvassing representative in every town and

wise almost as many wants makes it necessary wise almost as many wants makes it necessary to present a most varied assortment of goods, in this way pleasing most any fancy or desire. In this particular issue we present several offers that are entirely new to our readers, and we most anxiously desire that you read every word of these offers carefully as they are entirely different, absolutely new departures, and positively the most liberal it was ever our good fortune to be enabled to make. Our peculiarly fortunate position as buyers in all markets, being extensive users of such a varied line of merchandise, is advantageous to ourselves but more directly to our readers who are enabled to obtain as club rewards the finest kinds of to obtain as club rewards the finest kinds of merchandise for a lesser number of subscribers than it is possible for any other publisher to require.

#### GREAT PAINTINGS.

GREAT PAINTINGS.

On page 22 of this issue we are able to present small fac-simile pictures of a series of four great master-pieces, the work of the world's celebrated artists. Comfort has been engaged in producing an enormous edition of these four pictures for a long time and we do not hesitate to assert, though it may seem like self-praise, that these four pictures, singly or together, are the best for universal distribution that it is possible to obtain. The subjects are varied and each one will be appreciated and it would seem that everybody would want the entire set at once and that every family would frame one or more as they certainly are attractive and ornamental. These pictures are reproduced by the most modern method known; there is even a detail in the make of the paper on which these pictures are produced that is entirely new. This feature is the canvas-like surface of that portion of the paper on which the picture is printed, giving the same effect to the eye as would a genuine oil painting on canvas. It is something never before used and its appearance in the group of Comfort's Art Work is exclusively controlled by us. With each picture we give a short account of its painter, also description of the subject which it will not be amiss to read as these little stories better make the subject understood. We also describe their size and other details in connection with the offer for subscription work and renewals to introduce the pictures. If you are interested in your home or want appropriate Christmas gifts at a small cost, it should be your first duty to thoroughly read everything we say in connection with the pictures and the matter of obtaining them for nothing.

SPECIAL CLUB OFFERS.

Elsewhere in our columns we offer attractive

#### SPECIAL CLUB OFFERS.

Elsewhere in our columns we offer attractive and A number one premiums for incredibly small clubs of subscribers and every reader is given an opportunity to obtain crockery ware, silverware, Bibles, watches, clocks, glassware, musical instruments and novelties.

Taking all in all we affirm that we not only present the most attractive home mouthly magazine but give our readers and club-raisers the most liberal rewards in the line of merchanthe most liberal rewards in the line of merchandise articles that are second to none and, regardless of all that you have enjoyed in Comfort during the past, our efforts in the future will certainly produce a magazine of superior interest in every respect.

### GREAT BOOK OFFERS.

COMFORT recently co-operated its interests with the International Association of Publishers and Authors which obtained for a limited time the privilege of using for the exclusive benefit of its readers and people generally re-mote from large department stores an edition of four million books embracing the works of four million books embracing the works of forty authors, each of whom produce one volume. These books are absolutely new copyright stories, not reproductions from old expired copyright work, but are books that are being sold at \$1.00, \$1.25, and \$1.50 per copy, exactly the same in every particular, in the regular book stores and it is to acquaint the world with the names of these authors and through this publicity create a demand for their future efforts. As the greater number of these contributors wish to be known to what we call "bookworms" you will see that it is to their advantage to waive all their royalties and other profits as the future editions of their their advantage to waive all their royalties and other profits as the future editions of their books will be sought at most any price. A full description of the books, binding and our distributing plan appears on another page of this issue and is without question an unprecedented opportunity, as you are allowed to return the first book which is sent on inspection if it does not prove to be all that we represent it.

# ONLY 25c. PER YEAR.

The regular and only subscription rate of 25c. per year slightly over 2c. per month will be maintained as before. We expect as a result of the improvements to obtain sufficient revenue to even do more than we have planned and appropriated for which happy result will without doubt reward our endeavors and you will receive a magazine equal in value to those whose subscription rate is \$1.00 per year or 10c. per copy.

# YELLOW SUBSCRIPTION BLANKS.

If you receive a yellow subscription blank with your paper this month you will know that either your subscription has expired or is about to expire or that you are especially invited to extend your own subscription or secure a club from one to a dozen new subscribers. You will notice we give in this issue an unlimited assortment of club gifts for home and personal use for the very smallest number of subscribers. All expiring names will be removed if not renewed within thirty days.

# TO OUR OLD AND NEW FRIENDS.

We hope you have always found pleasure and profit in the columns of COMFORT as a regular reader, and if you are a trial subscriber we hope you have been pleased with the measure we have given in the past and we are frank enough to ask you, plainly, to please renew your subscription this month as we cannot promise to continue the offers here given indefinitely and we would like you to shore in the good things

the pulse-beat of every reader and prospective readers of COMFORT in this great wide round world.

#### HOPE YOU WILL RENEW.

But in our closing remarks, if we are not to be in further correspondence with you or have the pleasure of your subscription for another year, we will heartily wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous year for 1902, the second of this Century, and we hope that it may develop as the months roll by many many occurrences of good fortune for you.

#### EDITORIAL CHATS.

The opening of a new Congress is always interesting to the American people. December is the time when Washington really wakes up and the wheels of government begin to turn.

The Society of American Women in London is a comparatively new club but one that has done much to convince the English people of the all around ability of American women. Ambassador Choate declared that they had recently held the most notable function ever held

There is a touch of savagery in our wholesale indiscriminating admiration of what we consider bravery. Unfortunately we are apt to consider the man brave who is only reckless. There are many people who are not candid enough or brave enough to say "I am afraid." The man who says that, feels it, but goes on, unhesitating to perform the act that his reason tells him is necessary as the really brave man. He has conquered himself and that is an act that even the best sometimes fail to accomplish.

The journalists of America are to have a home all to themselves. This is not a charity but a place where the worker who has kept the world supplied with the facts of the daily battle may rest. It is located in New Orange, a suburb of New York. The newspaper people aim to have one of the finest libraries in the world at this home; to have rooms where the busy ones may work in quiet, and rooms where those whose usefulness is over may be comfortable. It is the only place of its kind in the world and will supply a long felt need.

The parlor car travel during the holiday season is said to be a good thermometer of the financial condition of the country. This year the demand for luxurious accommodations exceeds the limit of the possible supply. Every one is rich enough to go home and to go in good style. The man or woman may economize all the year but when the face is turned toward the old home, human nature asserts itself. We wish to show in that most difficult of lands, our "ain countrie", that the world beyond the hills has dealt kindly with us. For this reason all the parlor car seats and sleepers will be filled with those seeking holiday joys.

The American people have been so busy in welcoming the coming, speeding the parting Irish guest who came after "the cup" that they seem to have forgotten an old trait of human nature. We have hardly had time to congratulate Columbia. In fact all the bouquets and ribboned wreaths have been for the defeated. We have all been like Whittier's little heroine who was 'sorry that I spelt the word, I hate to go above you, because, the brown eyes lower fell, because you see I love." This may be courtesy but it is certainly not sport. The surest way to rob all future contests for the cup of any element of sport or excitement is to put ourselves in the attitude of sighing for defeat.

An institute for the study of the Russian language has been established in London. We have established a chair for the study of the Chinese language. Both those difficult languages are now necessary in a thorough commercial education. The future history-making events may be looked for through the Slav and the Mongolian. It is these two races that are the only ones that are not traced back to The Celt, the Tenton and the glo-Saxon have dominated the history of the world. It is a significant fact when the aggressive commercialism of the Anglo-Saxon forces him to endeavor to acquire the languages of the two great nations that seem to be relics of outgrown ideas of government.

Andrew Carnegie has developed and extended the library craze within the last decade. Libraries, books, authors and readers have increased at a rate that is simply phenomenal. The more conservative portion of the people are led to wonder if a thinking public is keeping pace with a reading public. The passion for reading seems to have broken all bounds and whether on street cars or traveling, in city, town or lonely farmhouse the average American seems absorbed in a newspaper, magazine or book. Language may have been given to many to conceal his thoughts, as the wicked and witty old Frenchman asserted, but the written language seems to be developing. has the largest circulation of any periodical published, but add to its already great number of subscribers, and we make every honorable effort to maintain such kindly feeling with our friends and patrons as will induce voluntary renewals and additions. It is customary to present, particularly at the holiday season, an array of Household Goods that are attractive to the eye of our readers and obtain for us a canvassing representative in every town and hamlet in the United States.

The unlimited number of readers and like-

and our voices through lack of exercise. and our voices through lack of exercise. We are too subjective, no not even that, our minds are becoming thorough fares through which all the beggars of the written words are allowed to pass. Think more, read less!

A representative of our government has just gone to France to examine the details of mush-A representative of our government has just gone to France to examine the details of mushroom culture, with the idea of developing the industry in the United States. There is a growing interest and knowledge of the wild edible fungi of America but it is still too limited to be of any great practical value to the poorer people of the country. The French peasant understands fully the food value of mushrooms and is taught to know the edible varieties. With us the taste for mushrooms as a food is confined almost entirely to cities, and the markets are furnished from the mushrooms grown in cellars. A few women have succeeded in establishing a business through the culture of a few varieties. The demand is so far in excess of the supply that the price is still high enough to class mushrooms as a luxury. This, in spite of the fact that the process and growth is comparatively inexpensive. It is hoped that this visit to France may increase our knowledge so that the growth of mushrooms may become a considerable industry. The use of those that grow wild should be taught in the schools. The characteristics of certain edible varieties are so marked that a knowledge of the mushroom is quickly obtained. The poisonous kind is yet more easily distinguished. Any attempt to extend a knowledge of this delicious food should be encouraged.

Men seem to have awakened to an overwhelm-ing discontent with the way the Lord has separated the land from the water on this earth. separated the land from the water on this earth. The commerce of today is upsetting political conditions and is no longer content with physical ones. The English have never been able to bring Ireland near to England politically but now there is a demand for physical nearness. A tunnel is proposed which shall connect Scotland and Ireland at a point where the two coasts lie within about twenty-five miles of each other. It is claimed that the tunnel could be constructed in twelve years and at a cost not to exceed \$50,000,000. It is hoped that the Isthmian canal which shall connect the Atlantic and the Pacific may be constructed in less than and the Pacific may be constructed in less than that time. A list of the canals, tunnels and dams that are altering the physical appearance dams that are altering the physical suppearance of the earth would awaken wonder at the vast undertakings that have sprung from the necessities of man's life upon the earth. Man may confidently be said to have conquered his environment. When he has tunneled and dug and tore up mother earth until she will have to establish her identity by means of the old nursery rhyme, "It I be I, as I hopes I be," he may turn his attention to reaching other worlds. The airship that has sailed around the Eiffel Tower has certainly proven that the a, b, c's of aerial navigation have been successfully conquered. If man overcomes the air with the same advance he has shown in dealing with the limitation that the physical surface of the earth has endeavored to impose, he will be visiting Mars and the Moon before the end of the century.

The discussion over the possibilities of a change in the tenor of government because of a change in the personality of our chief executive is most prevalent just at the opening of the new congress. The general public and the press seem to ignore one important fact. The choice of a Speaker of the House is far more important in its possible effect on legislation than the fact that President Roosevelt instead of President McKinley stands at the head of the nation. The unwritten authority which precedent has given to the Speaker of the House of Representatives makes him in many ways the most powerful factor in our law making. He is conceded to be next to the President in influence and he is actually in possession of more direct power. This power of the Speaker was probably not intended by the makers of the constitution. It is not even necessary by the provisions of that document, that the Speaker be a member of the House. The constitution states that the House may appoint its speaker and other officers. The "other officers" are never members of the House but custom has decreed that the Speaker shall be and the same custom has thrown into the hands of this one man an almost absolute con-The discussion over the possibilities of a but custom has decreed that the Speaker shall be and the same custom has thrown into the hands of this one man an almost absolute control over the possible legislation of the nation. The House is divided into at least forty committees. All of the topics likely to be subjects for legislation are given a committee. The Speaker appoints these committees. They must be bi-partisan but the party in power always has the majority in all important committees. If the Speaker has any personal views concerning a law it is easy for him to choose a committee that will be in sympathy with him. All bills that come before the House must first pass through the hands of a committee in orhas that come before the House must hist pass through the hands of a committee in order to gain a hearing before the House as a whole. The power thus given the Speaker is one of vast importance and he can literally prevent the policy of any President from being carried out by the process of committee making. ing. The tendency in modern government is toward the gain of power by the legislature at the expense of the executive authority, and our government furnishes the most marked illustration.

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# O FOR THE DEAR, DEAR FACES.

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WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

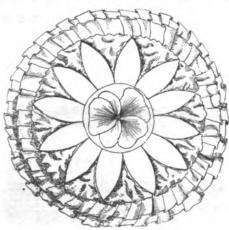


HE hope of being able to give our readers something novel for Christ-mas ideas has been with us constantly, but we find it early for the sale of Christmas goods, as they are not put on sale until a month later than COMFORT goes to press, so we are reduced to two really new ideas in the fancy work

in the fancy work line. But if our readers are inclined to do things in burnt wood and leather, another field is opened up to them in Pyrography. We give an article with illustrations in another column on this new and delightful art.

Now for our own illustrations. The sofa pillow is very handsome and very elaborate,—not such a one as you would use in the Den, but for so-called "parlor" use, or, more properly speaking, decoration.

There are several designs of this cushion, among them being the holly wreath, the La France rose, the violets, nasturtiums, wild roses, and pansies. The cushions are round. There are front and back pieces of linen, cut as shown in our illustration, the edges of the points being bound in green braid. On the piece designed for the front, the center is embroidered in whatever design is chosen. We chose the pansy design, working the flower in the purple silks. The China silk used in making the cushion up is of two shades of purple, light and diark. A ruffle or broad puff of each shade is cushion up is of two shades of purple, light and dark. A ruffle or broad puff of each shade is put around the edge of the cushion, the outer one



PANSY PILLOW.

being wider than the inner one. Then between the points of the linen center, pieces of the silk are set in, very full, so that they puff out between the points. It is a difficult cushion to make, but one is more than repaid for the amount of work put into it, for it is so odd and

amount of work put into it, for it is so odd and striking.

Those decorated with violets are made up either with violet silk or with green silk. The rose design is made up with pink silk, the holly with red silk, and the nasturtium with deep orange and yellow silks. These cushions retail for \$13.50, all made. The front and back can be bought for one dollar, and it takes a dollar's worth of silk to embroider any one of the designs. Then there is the cost of the pillow and the China silk besides.

signs. Then there is the cost of the pillow and the China silk besides.

What we call a "comfortable" pen wiper is our other offering, by which we mean one easily handled without soiling the hands, and one not

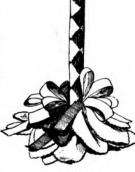
easily tost.

The foundation is a round stick about as large as a pencil, and four inches long. This is wound with two colors of narrow satin ribbon in the manner shown, forming squares. The ribbon ends in a flat rosette on the end of the stick, which is the beginning of the base of the pen wiper. Then fitteen leaves measuring about two and one-half inches long by one and one-half inches wide are cut from soft chamois skin and pinked around the edges. These leaves are sewed to the stick in such a manner leaves are sewed to the stick in such a manner as to spread out flat, to allow the pen wiper to

stand up. They are sewed on ev-enly around the stick, fasten in g to the ribbon with which the stick is wound. To cover where the top and last row of leaves is fastened to the stick, a piece of the ribbon is tied around the stick and finished with

and nnished with loops and ends.

The cost of such a pen wiper is thirty-eight cents, but one could make half a dozen for that



PEN WIPER.

a dozen for that price, as only one skin would be needed and about one yard of each color of ribbon, for each pen wiper. The ribbon bought by the piece would bring the cost down, if several were to be made. Some of those we saw were made with yellow and purple ribbon, some with gold and black and some with pink and green.

Now for some answers to questions by our readers. E. S. M. of South Bend wants to know how to wash eider down quilts. Make a good lather of soap jelly (boiled soap) and warm water, and add to it a little borax or ammonia.

Into this put the quilt and knead it about; repeat the process in fresh suds if very soiled. Then rinse all the soap out with two or three changes of water, shake and hang out to dry. During the drying and afterward, shake the quilt well, and it will be as full looking and soft as when new the soft as when new the source. soft as when new.

soft as when new.

Another anxious inquirer wants to know how to develop her neck. To fill the troublesome hollows on each side of the collar bone a system of deep breathing is invaluable. Take a deep breath, hold it as long as possible, and then exhale it very slowly. Repeat this ten times. Do this twice a day. As it is absolutely essential that the muscles should be developed, the following exercises must become a part of one's lowing exercises must become a part of one's

Slowly bend the head forward till the chin touches the neck. Then raise it very gradually. Slowly bend the head backwards and raise it

Bend sideways to right and left. Bend sideways to right and left.
All these movements should be repeated ten or fifteen times, and when you have done this you will feel that every muscle in your throat and neck is aching. Then bathe the throat and neck in hot water. Dry thoroughly, and well massage in any good cold cream, rubbing it in with the tips of the fingers till the skin has absorbed it all, and your neck is in a glow. With a soft rag or towel wipe off any cream that may remain. The massaging should be done with a rotary motion.

Now dampen a soft rag or sponge, moisten

Now dampen a soft rag or sponge, moisten the throat and neck with benzoin and rosewater, which is a skin tonic, and helps to close the pores and so prevents dirt from entering. In the morning wash with warm water and a good soap or almond meal, rinsing and thoroughly and bathing afterward with the very coldest water you can get. It is also well to add lavender water or toilet vinegar to the water.

Then, before finishing dressing, go through the exercise in the same way as you did the previous evening.

### Chinese Printing.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT.

HOUGH the art of printing as practiced by us now was not discovered until the fifteenth century, the Chinese have been making books for a considerably longer period. Foong Taow, so the account reads, who was the Chinese have been making books for a considerably longer period. Foong Taow, so the account reads, who was the Chinese have been inventor of their minister of state somewhere back in the tenth century, is said to be the inventor of their method of printing. He was greatly hindered in the discharge of his duties because he could not secure good accurate copies of his writings. After many trials and failures he hit upon the plan of dampening a sheet of writing. This was pressed upon a smooth piece of wood and a transfer taken. He then cut away all the parts of the wood that were not inked by the writing, leaving the lines in relief. These lines were inked, a paper pressed upon them, and thus an impression was taken. In 1041 an ingenious Chinese blacksmith named Pi-Ching invented types made of porcelain. These were all sorts of shapes and sizes, but were arranged in lines and then pressed into a yielding composition until they were of a uniform height. As the composition hardened they were held firmly in position. After use the composition base was melted, and the porcelain types were cleaned and put away. Pi-Ching, however, was the only one able to use this method of bookmaking, which died with him.

The present Chinese method of printing is practically the same as that used by Foong Taow. The printer takes a block of pear-wood large enough to hold two pages of the book to be printed. The blocks, after being planed and squared are sized with a thick solution of rice, and when this is hard the block is ready for the engraver. The writing or design is transferred from the sheet of paper upon which it is drawn to the block. The engraver then cuts away the surface of the blocks everywhere but where the lines occur, thus leaving them in relief. If a mistake is made or the tool slips a hole is bored in the bloc HOUGH the art of

York wood-engraver.

York wood-engraver.

A daily newspaper, known as the Pekin Gazette, has been printed in China for centuries. It consists chiefly of the orders of the emperor and the proceedings and papers of his general council. A composition of hard wax is used instead of wood for the pages of the Gazette, as this substance is of course easier to

engrave.

After the block is finished it is ready for the After the block is finished it is ready for the printer. No press is used. Instead the operator has a double brush, one end of which is used for inking while the other end is dry. The block is first brushed over lightly with ink and a sheet of thin paper is laid over it. The operator then brushes the back of the paper

# NEW FIELD FOR WOMEN.

A new and profitable avenue for women's work along artistic, practical and exceptionally useful lines, has been opened up by the general introduction throughout the country of the now famous Gearhart Knitter. This wonderful machine will knit every description of hosiery and woolen wear from homespun or factory yarn. A post card addressed to the manufacturer, J. E. Gearhart, Clearfield, Pa., will bring full particulars by return mail.

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Health and Beauty. Wholly external, fits the figure. Worn with or without corsets. Invaluable to the prospective mother. See how it Feels: Press a hand on the small on back, throw your shoulders back, put the other and under the abdomen and lift it up. Wha

Thousands write us like this:

Thousands write us like this:
Rushville, N. Y., June 2, 1901.
I had been ailing for fifteen years from backache, head
the, bearing down pains, constipation, leucorrhoes an
rolapsus of both womb and bladder. I had been treated b
ome of the best specialists in the country without avail Your brace cured me. The organs have gone back to prope four brace cured me. The organs have gone back to prope position and remain there. Mrs. G. C. Shuman. Free trial for 30 days. Write today for particulars and illus trated book, mailed free in plain, sealed envelope. Addre

THE NATURAL BODY BRACE CO., Box 27, Salina, Kansas.

with the dry side of the brush, which causes the ink on the block to transfer to the paper. The paper is then folded so that the printed pages come opposite one another and thus two pages of the book are made. Two thousand sheets a day is about what one man can do. When the sheets are all printed and folded back the ends at the back of the book are stitched together, the fold coming in front. This of course is exactly the reverse of our method. The first Chinese books were printed upon cloth, cotton or silk, and in order to keep the leaves from fraying the method was adopted of leaving this fold in front.

One of the principal reasons why the Chinese have never resorted to printing by means of moveable types is that it would be almost impossible on account of the peculiarities of the language. In Chinese every word is represented by a different character, and as the words in the Chinese vocabulary are estimated to be at least eighty thousand in number the difficulties the Chinese vocabulary are estimated to be at least eighty thousand in number the difficulties are very apparent. In order to provide for all these characters five hundred times as much room would be required as is occupied in the storing of an English alphabet, which requires one hundred and fifty-two different compartments. ments.
The National Printing office at Paris

had a collection of forty-three thousand Chinese characters, and other offices have had enough made to print special books; but a complete outfit of Chinese letters has never yet been

made.

In spite of the seeming slowness and clumsiness of Chinese printing methods, books in China are very cheap. It is possible there to buy a book for eight or ten cents equal in size to books sold in America for ten times that amount. Certainly if the Chinese have not advanced it is not because their printing matter is expensive or scarce, but rather, no doubt, because of the contents of their hooks.

cause of the contents of their books.



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MRS. MARY BLASWICH, TULARE CITY, CAL., November 14, 1901.

Please send me three more packages of Silks. I have just received my others and am very much pleased with them.

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Enclosed find subscription money; please send me the silk remnants for crazy work for premium. Last year I sent to you and got as many as 18 packages. You sent me nice large pieces.

I will order again soon.

I remain as ever, your subscriber,
MARY FRITZPATRICK, OZONA, TEXAS, November 18, 1901.





d please find money for subscriptions. Send me three lots of Premium Remnants. Was well pleased with other package.

LOURILA TRAKEY, KEYSTONE, WIS., November 15, 1901.

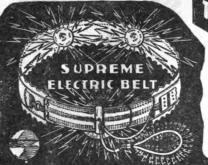
LOUELLA YEAKEY, KEYSTONE, WIS., November 10, 1891.

Please send me the lot of Silk and Plush, also stamped satin used for crazy patchwork. Enclosed you will find 25-t to pay for a cription to "COMFORT". I have ordered one of the Remnant Lots before and like them very much.

MRS. J. H. LEE, R. F. D., ABERDEEN, S. D., November 11, 1991.

I send you two more subscribers to the "COMFORT" for another lot of Silk Pieces. Send as soon as you can, the others were so Mrs. DORA L. NULL, POCA, W. VA., November 13, 1901. SPECIAL. If you want to first take "COMFORT" on 3 months trial, send 25c. for trial subscription and a regular full and constitution of Remnants, Plush, Stamped Satin, 5 skeins Silk, Book, etc., will be sent postpaid.

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ood as the Supreme, which we will send you if you write to-day ASSOLUTELY FREE. Don't know what the Supreme will do; it would take pages of this publication in which to print hich we have received; but you can convince yourself of its wonderful curative powers if knowing that when once used it will be advertised by the man whom it has cured, although

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BY EVERETT G. WHEELMAN.

ING Edward has been an enthusiastic champion of the bicycle for years. Now he has had the finest automobile in the world made for him. A correspondent

he has had the finest automobile in the world made for him. A correspondent says:

"I was fortunate in finding the manager of M. Serpollett's establishment, and he kindly told me one or two things regarding the most important order the firm has yet received. The vehicle now being made for His Majesty will be a nine-horse-power Gardner-Serpollett phaeton, light and elegant, and capable, should the king be in a hurry, of getting over the ground at the rate of fifty miles an hour. It is a slightly reduced model of the twelve-horse-power carriage with which M. Serpollett at Nice did one hundred and two kilometres (over sixty-three miles) in an hour, the greatest speed yet attained by an automobile. It is to be the finest 'voiture de luxe' ever constructed. It will have accommodations for four persons, and the motive power will be supplied by paraffine. The motion of the car will be smoother than that of an electric vehicle; it will be noiseless and odorless, and there will be a total absence of vibration. 'In fact,' said the manager, 'it is just as if one were seated in an arm chair, a circumstance that has led to the Serpolletts being called by our customers "les Silencieuses".'

"Nearly all the metal parts of the carriage are of the finest steel, and the body of the vehicle painted red. It is an open carriage, but so constructed that it can be closed in bad weather, and cost about six hundred or six hundred and fifty pounds. His Majesty takes a great interest in his new motor-car, and gave personal directions concerning the plans of the royal automobile."

The smallest "auto" in the world was at the Pan American Exposition and was the prover-

that when he has put ten-inch tires on it, with teeth to them to catch the ground, it will be a

teeth to them to catch the ground, it will be a success.

What a difference between the bike of 1882 and the bike of 1902! The now obsolete Columbia Light Roadster marked the era between 1882 and the advent of the Safety. Every essential of the perfection of its type was combined in this machine, and not a few of the older devotees of the sport who have followed the bicycle through all its fluctuations associate the "good old Ordinary" with their most pleasant reminiscences. From its inception until its final capitulation in competition with the unpretentious safety, such improvements as were made from year to year were merely in the line of slight modifications in weight. If we acknowledge that the high grade models of the coming year are as near perfection as is possible to the type, and with an unimportant reservation affecting slight details the quality between the two is emphasized.

Perhaps the best example of a modern bicycle to choose as the parent of our matured idea was the safety of 1889 with spring front fork and cushion tire.

Then the Dunlop pneumatic tire created a genuine sensation in England, but was not

Then the Dunlop pneumatic tire created a genuine sensation in England, but was not long a curiosity in America where its fame had preceded it. It was a bit of favorite humor with the first riders to adopt the innovation, to advise those of more cautious inclination never to try the pneumatic until they were ready to renounce their former faith. Nowa-days the fin de siecle model constructed for a

painted red. It is an open carriage, but so constructed that it can be closed in bad weather, and cost about six hundred or six hundred and fifty pounds. His Majesty takes a great interest in his new motor-car, and gave personal directions concerning the plans of the royal automobile."

The smallest "auto" in the world was at the Pan American Exposition and was the property of Chiquita, the Cuban atom of humanity,

tremendous amount of abuse, but its a tremendous amount of abuse, but its length of serviceable life still depends very much upon the watchful regard and attention of its owner. Bad adjustments cause improper strains and may result in disastrous breakage; want of lubrication leads to destructive gear.

Mud should be removed from the frame while still damp, as after it becomes dry and hard, its removal is liable to cause injury to the enamel. When it has been allowed to harden upon the enamel, a wet carriage stonge may be

enamel. When it has been allowed to harden upon the enamel, a wet carriage sponge may be advantageously used in getting it off.

Do not allow oil to collect on the enamel, as in time it will affect it; neither should oil be allowed to touch the tires. Do not use oil lavishly. Little and often is a good rule.

The traveler by wheel is independent; he is not answerable to the demands of the general public, nor subjected to the delays of annoyances through the instability of equine soundness or health.

Every rider who wishes to have his or her machine perform its full ratio of useful work should be able to tell when it is in good running order, and know what to do to maintain

should be able to tell when it is in good running order, and know what to do to maintain it in such order.

If you add a little salt to the water you use in your acetylene lamp it will have a tendency to prevent freezing and possibly save you considerable annoyance.

Don't ride a wheel for the ostensible purpose of seeing how many miles of road you can cover in a given time. Ride because it is a means of healthful, exhilarating and joyous pleasure, and you will never regret it.

Next to disputing the right of way with a railway train one of the most dangerous things a rider can do is to coast with a brakeless

can do is to coast with a brakeless

If you suffer from Epileptic Fits, Falling Sickness or St. Vitus' Dance, or have children or friends that do so, my New Discovery will CURE them, and all you are asked to do is to send for my FREE REMEDIES and try them. They have cured thousands where everything else failed. Sent absolutely free with complete directions, express prepaid. Please give AGE and full address.

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a trial of his wonderful treatment that cured him and has cured hundreds of others. Do not delay, but write to-day. Capt. Collings had a ce with rupture and will gladly send a free trial. WRITE HIM.





Two Rings Free! We will give these Two SOLID GOLD laid Rings, one set with large Garnet and three Pearls, one with Ruby and two Brilliants, FREE to any one that will sell 12 of our Gold Plate Enameled Brooches, set with different colored stones at 10 cents each, and sends us the \$81.20. No money required until brooches are sold. We take back all not sold. Address Howard Mfg. Co., Providence, R.L.



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Comely Young Widow worth \$400.00 unfortunately blind one eye, wants home loving No triflers. UNION, 69 Dearborn St., Chicago.

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new style thin knife that just fits the pocket without making holes in the cloth. Better for vest pocket use than scissors and given absolutely free as a present. FREE

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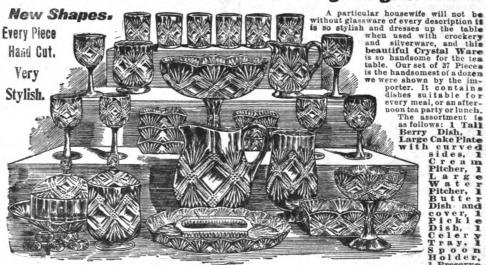
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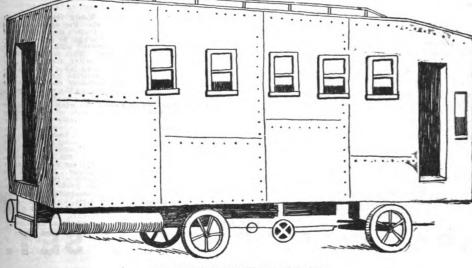
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Dish, 1 Sugar Bowl and cover, 1 Tall Jelly Dish, 6 Individual Salt Holders, 6 Goblets, 6 Tumblers, 6 Berry or Ice Cream Dishes. For a short time we are to make low prices on this ware and it is best that you send your order early. For a club of only eight new trial yearly subscriptions to this paper at 25c. each per year, we will send our magazine one year to each subscriber and the Glass Eto you as a free premium for your effort.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



AUTOMOBILE HOUSE IN CHICAGO.

membered:

who was said to be the official Pan American mascot. It is an exact miniature of a full-grown electric victoria, perfect in all its appointments. Chiquita's automobile is operated by electricity, and with the batteries charged

ed by electricity, and with the batteries charged and in position, weighs two hundred and twenty-five pounds. It runs fifteen hours at an average speed of ten miles an hour. In everything it is complete, from electric side-lights and alarm gong down to the tiny card case.

The body is dark green in color, with running gear of vermillion, nickle-plated wheels and pneumatic tires twelve inches in diameter. The seat is eighteen inches long, and the forward wheels are eight inches in diameter. With the top raised it does not come up to a man's elbow, and is apparently only a pretty toy. Despite its smallness, however, the machine is a practical road vehicle.

In order that the chauffeur might be in keeping with the size of the machine, Chiquita

In order that the chauffeur might be in keeping with the size of the machine, Chiquita secured a negro dwarf and had him taught the art of running the smallest "auto" ever built.

A novelty in the line of automobiles is to be seen in the accompanying cut which is a picture of a steam-driven automobile designed and built by George Washington, a resident of Chicago. A paper of that city describes the strange vehicle as follows:

It is a traveling van propelled by a forty

strange vehicle as follows:

It is a traveling van propelled by a forty horse-power gasoline motor, and is intended for its owner and his wife during their wanderings about the country. An old street car has been rebuilt for the body of the house, to which are added an observation and operating platform at the front end, surrounded by large windows, and a porch in the rear. The machinery is mounted on a heavy steel frame, the whole weighing about four tons. Although no great success attended Mr. Washington's efforts to navigate in the new craft he believes

extremes, rather than as part of a mistaken policy which present close margins of profit prohibit.

Progress is comparative, and it would be rank injustice to that beautiful little machine which can be seen any pleasant day in spring led from the store by its proud owner, or carried from curb to curb to avoid soiling its clean gray tires, to trace its genealogy to a crude and clumsy hobby horse, sans pedals and cranks, which men bestrode a century ago.

Here are some excellent maying to be re-

Here are some excellent maxims to be re-

The modern chainless bicycle is the desidera-

The modern chainless bicycle is the desideratum. It is a combination of utility, beauty, economy and vitality. Its noiselessness, its simple mechanism, its graceful lines, inspire the rider and please the spectator.

Every fresh excursion awheel reveals new beauties in nature, the fleeting glimpses of which tempt a farther pursuit away from the beaten track, where even more picturesque "bits" are discovered which fully repay the trouble of the divergence.

"bits" are discovered which fully repay the trouble of the divergence.

Let every man have his mind fully made up, and when investing in a bicycle by all means select a good one. In this, as in perhaps no other commodity, "The best is the cheapest."

Power applied to the pedals of a bicycle of any type necessarily results in a strain upon the frame and a tension upon its joiners. In a chain-driven bicycle this strain is necessarily upoyen and in a sense intermittent and hos uneven and in a sense intermittent, and has the effect of a series of blows. In the bevel-gear bicycle, the tension is even and distributed. Considered what the bicycle is, it will stand



Everyone well pleased with what they ordered. Like my tea set very much; much nicer than any I have MISS MOLLIE COX, Turon, Kans,

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Our inducements are enormous. To every purchaser of a pound can Queen Baking Powder we give FREE a beautiful PiToHER AND alatest cut glass pattern (like picture). To the lady who sells 15 pound can Queen Baking Powder, giving free present of a handsome 80-PIECE DINNER SET, 'I'll size tableware, handsomely decorated and gold traced. We also give Waisis, Skirts, Jackets. Furniture, Sowing Machines, Musteal Instruments, or any article you wish for selling our groceries. We also give cash commission. Write today for our illustrated plans offering many valuable premiums to customers; it will pay you. No money required. You risk absolutely mething, as we send you the goods and collect for them before paying us. Write today for the easiest plan on earth to get anything you want ab AMERICAN SUPPLY CO., Department 57, St. Louis, Machines, Musteal Instruments, and the supplement of the paying us. Write today for the easiest plan on earth to get anything you want ab AMERICAN SUPPLY CO., Department 57, St. Louis, Machines, Musteal Instruments, and the supplement of the paying us. Write today for the easiest plan on earth to get anything you want ab AMERICAN SUPPLY CO., Department 57, St. Louis, Machines, Musteal Instruments, and the premium you want ab AMERICAN SUPPLY CO., Department 57, St. Louis, Machines, Mac

FOR A FEW HOURS' PLEASANT WORK SELLING OUR QUEEN BAKING POWDER.

I am more than pleased with the dinner set; they are simply handsome; words fail to tell how pleased I am with them.

MRS. ETTA L. TIMERMAN,
Marietta, III.

Bullds 100 fires with 3 cents
worth of coal oil or keroseae
r invented. Does away with "pickings." Does away with explosions.
d., agent for Frederick County, has
a Marshall County. J. G. ArmAm selling more than ever now, SAVES HOURS OF TIME AND GALLONS OF OIL



CONDUCTED BY AUNT SARAH.



HERE are so many inquiries from our readers for menus for luncheons that will not cost a great deal, that we are going to answer them by giving one them by giving one for six guests, at a cost of four dollars and a half. It is so hard to tell what people consider as costing "a great deal," that we hope this will fit in with the ideas and wishes of our insome of our in-quirers, and if more elaborate and

more elaborate and expensive men us are required we shall be glad to give them. Of course this is a timely menu,—one to be used in the game season. When used at another time of the year croquettes could be substituted for the bird course.

course.

Regarding, also, the Concord cream. This is the grape season also, and later or earlier it would be difficult to procure unfermented grape juice,—so cream or ice of another flavor would have to be served. For this reason, it is often difficult to give a luncheon or dinner menu which is suitable for all seasons and for all parts of this country, which has such a varied climate and therefore such varied fruits and vegetables. Our readers in the extreme south and north will, of course, take these things into consideration when reading our suggestions and recipes. and recipes.

CREAM OF SCALLOP SOUP.

Wash one quart scallops, reserve one-half cup, and finely chop remainder. Add chopped scallops to one quart milk, and cook slowly twenty minutes with two cloves, a bit of bayleat, one-fourth teaspoon peppercorns, one tablespoon chopped onion, and two tablespoons butter. Strain and thicken with three tablespoons butter and one-fourth cup flour cooked together. Parboil one-half cup scallops, add to soup and serve with dinner biscuits or oysterettes.

Separate cold boiled halibut in flakes, moisten with one cup thick white sauce made of three tablespoons butter, one-third cup flour and one cup scalded milk; season highly with salt, cayenne and lemon juice. Cool, shape in form of fishes, dip in crumbs, egg, and again in crumbs, and fry in deep fat. Drain on brown paper and serve with

HOLLANDAISE SAUCE. Wash one-third cup butter and divide into three parts. Put one piece in a sauce-pan with one-half tablespoon vinegar and the yolks of two eggs. Cook over hot water until butter begins to melt, then add second piece, and when that is melted, third piece. Remove from range as soon as thickened and season with one-fourth teaspoon salt, a few grains cavenne and tomato catsup.

cayenne and tomato catsup.

We have already explained how to wash butter.

Parboil one pair sweetbreads, cool and cut in small pieces; there should be one cup. Melt two tablespoons butter, add two tablespoons flour and one-half cup chicken stock. As soon as boiling point is reached add one-fourth cup heavy cream, the sweetbread and one-fourth cup mushrooms. Season with salt, pepper and Worcestershire sauce. Remove a slice from the stem end of six peppers, remove seeds and parboil peppers fifteen minutes. Cool, fill, cover with buttered crumbs and bake in a hot oven until crumbs are brown. Serve with or SWEETBREAD IN PEPPERS.



FISH A LA DENVER.

without a sauce. If sweetbreads are not obtainable, use the white meat of boiled chicken cut in small pieces.

Of course everyone knows what a Canape is, but for fear some may not, and therefore would not understand the following recipe, we will

say that a Canape is simply a piece of toast up-on which has been piled and browned some on which has been plied and browned some sort of a mixture of minced meat, fish or fowl, with seasoning. Canapes are served at evening suppers where the chafing dish is used, though not made in the chafing dish. They are also served in a course luncheon with nothing but the mixture on top. In the present case this course is made more hearty by adding

BIRDS ON CANAPES Split birds and steam until tender. Season with salt and pepper, and spread with four tablespoons butter stirred until creamy and mixed with three tablespoons flour. Cook in



SWEETBREAD IN PEPPERS.

Chop six hot oven until well browned. chickens' livers, season with salt, pepper and onion juice, moisten with butter and add one teaspoon finely-chopped parsley. Spread mixture on six pieces of toasted bread and place in a hot oven. As soon as thoroughly heated put a bird on each canape and garnish with parsley.

CELERY SALAD.
Clean celery and cut in small pieces. Let stand in ice water, allowing one slice of lemon to a bunch of celery. Drain as dry as possible, mix with French dressing and serve with lettuce gress or chicory.

mix with French dressing and serve with let-tuce, cress, or chicory.

We have several times spoken of curled celery, explaining how it is done. If our readers haven't read our description of how to do it we shall be glad to explain and illustrate it again, as it makes such a desirable garnish for so many

as it makes such a desirable garnish for so many kinds of salad.

Of course you all know that French dressing is a mixture of one-half teaspoon salt, one-fourth teaspoon paprika, two tablespoons vine-gar and four tablespoons olive oil.

CONCORD CREAM.

Mix one pint cream, one and one-fourth cups unfermented grape juice and one-third cup sugar. Add lemon or fresh lime juice to taste. Freeze and serve, garnished with whipped cream sprinkled with finely-chopped pistachio

nuts.

This cream may be served as illustrated, in a small straight glass, which stands on a green grape leaf in a plate, or may be served on a flat dish very daintily. Take the cream out of the freezer with a large spoon, and have it look like the bowl of the spoon as it lies on the plate. Then fill a pastry bag with whipped cream which has been sweetened and flavored with one-third teaspoon lemon and two-thirds teaspoon vanilla flavoring. Cover the cream teaspoon vanilla flavoring. Cover the cream



CONCORD CREAM.

from end to end with a rufley covering of the cream, and sprinkle powdered pistachio nuts

INE-tenths of the people of Porto Rico are miserably poor. The nominal wages of the laboring classes is fifty centavos per day, or about thirty cents of our money; and this is for first-class labor. Even this is not paid in money, but in little disks of a certain size which can only be exchanged for goods at the store of the employer.

THE COMICAL MIRROR.

Greatest joke of the season. Perpetual fun. Can't be resisted, everyone interested and when they "Rubber" you laugh, and when they laugh it won't be so funny for them. Two ways to work it. Two kinds of fun. The lean look fat, the fat look lean. A substantial, well-made novelty. Going with a rush everywhere. Send 3 two cent stamps for special agents sample and you won't regret it. COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

ES I Make Big Wages
—AT HOME—

and you can readily do the same, for the nd will easily pay \$18 weekly. I have often made our spare time is valuable. This is no deception, and will gladly sond full particulars to all send. A. A. H. WIGGINS, Box 8, Benton Harbor, Mich.







peculiarity about the chocolate trade is the fact that it is more expensive in South America, where it is produced, than in any other place. In South America the retail price for the better grades averages about it per pound, while in Italy, France, England and in the United States the better grades sell at a much lower price. The producers claim that the reason for this is that the original product is greatly adulterated before reaching its final sale, a cheaper article than the cocoa bean being substituted in a great deal of the ordinary

ing substituted in a great deal of the ordinary

Good-bye is an abbreviation of "God be with

When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office.

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Our premium watch has a SOLID GOLD: some dial, dust proof, adjusted to position, ment, expansion balance, quick train, and i and is a remarkable watch. We guarant proper care it should wear and give sait years. The movement is an AMERICAN, can rely upon it that when you own one handown eaches you will at all times handown eaches you will be a supported to the support of the support time in your possession. DO YOU WANT A WAT THIS CHAR- WE GIVE IT FREE TO

is our business. No eatch-words in this and WALTER S. SIMPSON, New

CENTS Portraits 25c. Frames and Religious Pictures. AGENTS, you can make oney hand over fist. Send for new catalogue. We ust You. Keiser Art Co., 6002 Went. Ave., Chicago, III.



"Goo Goo."

The popular "Goo Goo" Winking Eye is what you must wear on your coat or vest if you want to cut out all the other fellows and mash the pretty girls. You can engage in conversation and slyly turn back your coat lapel and wink your "Goo Goo" eye so easily you will win the girl and fool the other fellow or if a stelling a funny story that is old and stale or not e, you can bring your winking eye into play

# A NOTTY WINK.

and turn him down without any hard feeling. The eye is strongly made of metal, the front is painted in natural life-like colors and the wink is produced by pulling an invisible string from behind and there is a long strong pin to fasten through your clothing. The whole thing is strong and durable and the most talked about novelty today. Every one is wild for one, every young man in the big cities has one and all the girls too. "Just because she made dem Goo Goo eyes" is why you should have one, so send 12c. today for a special sample. 6 for 50c.; 1 doz., \$1.00. Agents make big money. Address LANE & CO., Dept. C, Augusta, Maine.

TABLE Armenian Needlework Designs So Closely Followed

as to Defy Detection. Read How You May Get this Splendid Japanese Gift for Your Own Home. The most gifted race in the world with the needle are the Orientals. For centuries the rich and varied designs worked by their hands have been the admiration and delight of overs of art. A few years ago an American was fortunate enough to invent machinery that would reproduce these rich designs of embossed embroidery and needlework, even to the delicate films of gold-thread work. Still more curious the Japanese obtained plans and made similar machinery, so that they have the addition of "cheap labor" to Yankee machinery. In this way the most delicate Armenian and Turkish needlework is imitated so closely that none but the expert, on close examination, reveals the minor points of imitation.

An Art Table Cover Free. We wish to introduce Oxien Nazone Salve into thousands of new homes and to accomplish this intend to actually give away these rich and ornamental Table Covers to our friends. We shall send a handsome cover, about two feet and a half square, of the richest and most pleasing designs, and being in appearance like the hand-made covers that Armenian experts sell for from \$12 to \$25 each, to one agent in each city or town who will sell for us only two boxes Nazone Salve at 25c. apiece. We send the goods on credit and trust to your honor in returning the moment your 50c. arrives. This is the greatest offer ever made, for, besides receiving this Heautifull Art Gift, which will give a whole room an air of luxury and refinement, you learn of other inducements that are rich with money profits and grand presents. Address THE GIANT OXIE CO., Box 987, Augusta, Maine.

WARE BUREAU



Our premium goods are always the highest class of merchandise and we take pleasure in calling to your attention our latest addition to the long list of desirable articles offered to our friends as premiums for slight labor in our behalf. My ladies toilet is her one particular personal charm, without the proper furnishings on the dresser it cannot be a pleasure. See what a happy thought this beautiful Bureau Toilet Set was. Can you resist it?

A WORD ABOUT IT. The ware is an entirely new product called Embossed Opal, from its similarity in shade to the famous opal stone. It is a magnificent embossed semi-white ware, very firm, not brittle and made in just the attractive shapes pictured in our illustration. There are ten useful pieces in the complete set. A pair of Jugs 10 inches high and 19 inches in circumference fitted with stoppers for Toilet Waters or Bay Rum; one large Tray II inches long, § inches wide, for Comb, Brush and Mirror; another Tray for Tooth Brush, Curlers and knick-knacks; one round cornered Puff Box and an oblong Hair Pin Box. Every article very useful.

THE HAND PAINTING. The decorations on each piece are in matural flower interviolets, pansies, roses, etc., furnishing the subjects, and the colorings are equal to nature's own work. The effect of a beautiful spray of violets in the center of the large tray with Gold embossed edge produces a most charming finish and makes the set aluxury indeed. Every piece has the same color scheme throughout, thus harmonizing the whole beautiful effect. You need not wait for Christmas nor go without anything else to buy one of these sets. We agreed to introduce them for the firm that decorates them and shall send by express, carefully packed, one complete 10 Piece Set as a grand free premium for a club of only six trial yearly subscriptions to this monthly at 25c. each.

Address

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT.



E are told by scientists that there are over ten thousand different kinds of water-birds, nd of this vast family there are some peculiar members that are not only dependent on the water for a livelihood, but that are as much at home in and under the water as they are

in the air.

The first odd thing that strikes us about some of these aquatic birds is that they are not all web-footed, as

not all web-footed, as just the contrary is the case. One species that is fondest of the water is a little songster belonging to the thrush family, and called the dipper or water-ousel. This species is widely-distributed, but is usually found in the vicinity of swiftly-flowing mountain streams. Here it darts in and out of rapids, pools and waterfalls with perfect fearlessness and great apparent enjoyment, in search of food. An instance is recorded of a pair of dippers that built their nest under a waterfall, in the vacant space behind where the waterfall leaped from the rock above, and in this strange place successfully above, and in this strange place successfully raised their brood of young.

While in the water the ousel uses its wings

above, and in this strange place successfully raised their brood of young.

While in the water the ousel uses its wings in the same manner as when flying, and thus makes very rapid progress. Their wings being short and broad are well adapted for this use, the tail is very short and the whole body is covered thick with soft down, which thoroughly protects the bird from the water.

On the approach of an enemy the ousel always dives and runs along the stream for yards before coming up to breathe. Even the young birds will do this with the greatest confidence. Sometimes a bird that is not strictly an aquatic bird becomes one in a case of emergency. An instance is related of a king-fisher that was attacked by a king-bird. He started to fly, but was no match for his persistent little tormenter while in the air, so he dove under water, only coming up to float on the surface and then dive again, and in this way escaped.

Another curious bird is the Chinese yacana or water-pheasant, which is almost as much at home under the surface of the water as on the shore. The yacana has long legs and very long toes, which enable it to walk on the pads of lily or lotus that grow near the shore where it finds its food. When searching for food or on the approach of danger the yacana slips under water and walks along the bottom of the stream. When it wishes to conceal itself it makes its way to where the pads are thickest, and thrusting its bill above the surface is enabled to remain in this position indefinitely.

The water-hen, a cousin of the yacana is another bird that is quite at home under water, but does not seem bright enough to adopt the yacana's method of breathing when hiding, and is therefore sometimes drowned. Cases have been known where a water-hen, on being wounded by a hunter, has dived to the bottom of a stream and seizing a tough weed in its bill has held on until death came to prevent being captured.

Another bird with similar habits is the grebe. It is an excellent swimmer and diver and has

captured.
Another bird with similar habits is the grebe.

Another bird with similar habits is the grebe. It is an excellent swimmer and diver and has the same habit the jacana has, of hiding under water, with its bill thrust up above the surface, until danger is over.

The water-hen makes up for its stupidity while under water for the skill it displays in nest building. The nest is placed near the water's edge, but so nicely is the distance calculated that it is seldom flooded by high tides or freshets. A story is told of a pair of water-hens that had a nest with the eggs in it nearly hatched, when an unexpected rise of the water threatened to flood their home. They at once set to work, and by building up underneath, succeeded in raising the nest out of harm's way.

A well-known Cincinnati physician has discovered a remedy that cures Goitre or Thick Neck. And to prove this he sends a free trial package so that patients may try and know positively that gives it the appearance of a large snake in the water. We are told that when collecting food for its young the bird swallows the fish it captures, and then the young bird runs its bill down the old one's neck and swallows the fish for its own dinner.

The guillemont, which is sometimes, though incorrectly called a loon, is another aquatic bird that has some interesting habits. The guillemont lays only one egg on the bare cliffs of the nesting-ground. When the young are ready to launch out, the guillemont takes the chick on its back, and flying beyond the breakers to the smooth water, drops the youngster

A well-known Cincinnati physician has discovered a remedy that cures Goitre or Thick Neck. And to prove this he sends a free trial package so that patients may try and know positively that Goitre can be cured at home.

Mrs. Ellen A. Glaynor, Covington, Ky, was cured after suffering for 28 years; if you wish you are at liberty to write to her. Send your name and address to Dr. John P. Haig, 3142 Glenn Bidg., Cincinnati, the goitre and how long you have had it, and he will forward a trial treatment by return mail, postage prepaid.

off, quickly dropping beside it to defend it from the rapacious gulls that are always on the alert to snatch the young bird for a meal. The little guillemonts soon become able to care for them-selves however.

guillemonts soon become able to care for themselves however.
Instances of curious water-birds could be multiplied indefinitely, and in fact the whole subject of the habits of our friends of fur, fins, and feathers, as animals, birds and fishes have been called is one of the rarest interest to all Nature lovers.

V'ood-Engraving.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT.



HE art of wood-engraving is very old, older by some two hundred years than the art of printing. The first use of engravings of any sort of which we have any record are the stamps which the ancient Egyptians used to impress upon bricks. These stamps were made of stone with the inscription cut upon them in high relief, and they were used by the ancient builders in stamping the bricks in the proing the bricks in the pro-cess of making which were used in ancient buildings. Some of these bricks have come down to us at the present day; and there are some specimens of them in the British Museum. Later it became customary to use a sort of engraved stamp for signing docu-ments. Pope Adrian and Charlemagne were among the first known possessors of stamps of this sort.

of stamps of this sort.

These early engravings of course were not woodengravings, but they probably furnished the idea for wood-engravings. The Chinese have for many centuries printed books from blocks engraved on wood, and still use this method at the present day. The first wood-engravings we know anything about among European nations were used by the German playing-card makers, who used to manufacture their wares by this method. Later whole books were made from engraved blocks and are now known as block-books. Religious prints were also issued in considerable numbers, most of them very wide specimens indeed.

With the invention of morable types blocks.

In considerable numbers, most of them very wide specimens indeed.

With the invention of movable types blockbooks became a thing of the past, and for a time the art of engraving fell into disuse, but soon the demand for illustrations caused a revival of the art, which began to enjoy a popularity greater than ever before. The engravings of this period were extremely crude, with little or no artistic merit.

In the 16th century an engraver by the name

little or no artistic merit.

In the 16th century an engraver by the name of Durer began to produce work that was far better than anything of the kind that had preceded him. After Durer however the art fell into disuse again until it was revived by an English engraver, Bewick by name, whose work, compared with that of his predecessors was truly wonderful. Even today the lover of wood-engravings finds a great deal to admire in Bewick's work. Bewick lived to a ripe old age and during his life time produced thousands of fine illustrations. From Bewick's time until within a few years wood-engraving flourished, as it was the only way known for

Gures Goitre well-known Cin-ati physician has

making illustrations for books and papers, except steel or copper engraving which of course were far too expensive for ordinary work. Wood engravers became very skillful, as the demand for their services increased, and some demand for their services increased, and some of the publications of fifteen or twenty years ago contain some beautiful specimens of their work. In order to complete large illustrations quickly it was customary to divide the large block upon which the drawing was made into a number of small pieces which were given to different workmen, and the whole was after—

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22.)

#### THE CARNEGIE PHILANTHROPY.

An eminent librarian is authority for the statement that "Andrew Carnegie's magnificent benefaction will not only dot the country with free libraries but will greatly stimulate private collections." This is true, for since the above words were spoken the embargo has been lifted from certain excellent copyrighted books through the International Association of Newspapers and Authors, and we invite COMFORT papers and Authors, and we invite Comfort readers to carefully notice the great Free Book offer on page 21.

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We Trust You with a Christmas Box of Games and Jewelry FREE. 🕢

A special Holiday privilege will be given all Common fort Subserfbers to have one of these boxes sent to their home at our expense for free examination.

As Christmas comes so soon we realize you have but little time to get up clubs and make selections of Gitts that will be suited to all the ones you must remember so we have gotten together in this Family Jewel Casket



an assortment of seasonable stylish articles, something for every one in the family to enjoy and we propose to put these into the hands of our valued subscribers who renew durfing that has month omly, allowing them the privilege of looking the goods all over at their pleasure and in their own home where no one will persuade them to choose or not choose.

It is understood that we send these Caskets on inspection only when 26c, is sent to us for renewal, extention or new subscription to Comport for the year 1902.

Then if you decide to keep the entire assortment you are privileged to do so if you send us three more subscriptions to Comfort for 1902, making in all four subscriptions amounting to \$1.00, and the only manner in which we will dispose of these caskets now or at any future time.

Should you decide after seeing the casket that you wish to retain certain articles but not the entire assortment or are unable to secure the full club required we shall send a schedule in each casket showing the number of subscribers required for portions of this assortment.

At this season we are

# Revival of Watch Fobs.

In ye old colonial times every gentleman wore a Fob Chain. Today the revival of the Fob Chain is sweeping the country and all, men and women alike, are again adopting this style of watch guard and what appeared to be at first a fad has now grown to be a permanent fashion.

From an assortment of nine thousand different chains Comport has selected an original and exclusive pattern.

These Fobs are over aix inches long, about one and a quarter inches wide of fine quality black ribbed silk. The illustration is about one half regular size but shows the style and great beauty of the gold plated portions. The pendant charm is a brilliant stone cut in such a way as to give the very best effect, while the whole is neat, attractive and above all extremely stylish. If for any reason you prefer a regular double Gold-plated Gents' Vest Chain with Charm, or a Ladies' long Neck Chain for Watch, we will substitute one of either for the Fobs, if you will tell us which one you prefer.

Gents' Stick Pin.

For his necktie, or a lady finds a solitaire diamond pin is useful in many places. (See illus above.)
A genuine old mine diamond could not sparkle more nor shed more glittering rays in daylight or evening than this Sicilian Gem. The gold-plated setting is the usual style, clean, neat and quite invisible, all being mounted on a strong center twisted pin post. A HAT PIN

for my lady's hat is indispensable. These regular 25c. pins with the spiral tops are very handsome, are fitted with a six inch long strong pin.

Each has a generous stone, imitation exact of genuine turquolese, emersid, garnet, ruby and are brilliamily cut stones set in a fancy ornamental gold-plated setting. The stones are large and brilliant and the effect given as it is scintillized by the constant motion of the spiral spring is very pleasing.

# Gilt and Enamel Brooch.

A useful brooch pin, or for the belt, it is serviceable also in many other ways best kown to woman. This pin has the very handsome enamel work in addition to the gold effect.

The enamel pins nowadays are much sought by the best dressed people and are fast succeeding all other kinds. This has a strong pin post and can be worn safely with no danger of losing.



# Roman Gold Barette.

The latest Parisian hair ornament is the stray lock holder or Barette pin.
This pin is oval in shape, and is very necessary for ladies wear to keep the so-called "scolding" locks in place.
It is an inch and a half long, has a double hairpin-like attachment to gather up the locks and hold them in place, giving a neat appearance to the back hair and a finish to the head dress.

# ARL'S TREASURE CABINET This Assortment of Games A Trio of Lace or Beauty Pins. Mother or sister and a unish to the head dress. Mother or sister and a unish to the head dress. of GAMES. PUZZIES & MAGIC Game of Authors, 48 cards, the neck ribbon or around the set Dominoes, Chess and bables clothes are they useful. So we have arranged a set of Checker Board and Men three for each casket.

for same, Fox and Geese dainty and pretty as can be. and other nice board games, Magic Age Tablet, Books of Pantomine,

Clairvovance. and the A WHOLE TABLE LOAD OF FUN, Language of Flowers and

Morse Telegraph Alphabet, 50 Conundrums and their answers, 11 Parlor Games and 275

other helpers, making a nice winter evening assortment that all will



appreciate, giving instruction and amusement to all, young or old.

FREE

The above seven pieces of fine Gold-plated Jewelry (only six of which are illustrated), as well as the complete lots of Games are all to be sent you free for examination as per offer above. If you are not perfectly pleased with the articles you can immediately return the additional subscribers names and the complete lot will be yours.

SPECIALs Caskets as long as they last. The sets are warranted by the manufacturer and have best lever mounted tops, celluiold back, and are just what every person needs. Bend your 26c, subscription at once and the above whole lot of goods will be sent you immediately, including the Shirt and Waist Button Set.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. appreciate, giving instruction and amusement to all, young or old.

WONDERFUL \$3.75 FOLDING CAMERA. Cut this ad.out and send to un, enclose \$8.75 and we will send you think and the send to un, enclose \$8.75 and we will send you think and to un, enclose \$8.75 and we will send you think and to un, enclose \$8.75 and we will send you think and to un, enclose \$8.75 and we will send you think and you think and to un, enclose \$8.75 and we will send you think and you think and to un, enclose \$8.75 and we will send you think and you think and to un, enclose \$8.75 and we will send you think and you the send of folding betteres \$4.75 and the end of folding seneral that others of the best selected material throughout, of solid mahog any plano finish wood and lacquered finished brass. High grade for leather bellows, the whole covered with a fine black seal grain leather. It is provided with a pring actuated ground grade selected material throughout, or solid mahog any plano finish wood and lacquered finished brass. High grade and distant objects into sharp focus at the same time. The VIEW FINDER 18 REVENTIBLE, making the plane sharp for a variable for either unfalling front, enabling the operator to control the relative and covering storeen and accurate focusing scale, rising and falling front, enabling the operator to control the relative and covering the endire plate sharply.

the Meniscus type, giving great depth of focus and covering the entire plate sharply. THE DELMAR is suitable for either interior landscapes, portraits, buildings, groups, flashlight pictures, interiors, etc.

SIMPLE AND DURABLE, Handsomest Cameras Made. IT MEASURES, CLOSED. 2½x5¾x6¼ INCHES.

IT IS LIGHT,

and weighs 24 ounces. THE CARRYING CASE measures 2 V SOLVEN COMERA CLOSED. and weighs 24 ounces. BUR \$1.20 DEVELOPING OUTFIT. To the start improvement and adjust the DELMAR CAMERA CLOSED. THE CARRYING CASE Measures 2 with 1 to the belians of the bell with the Delmar Camera as the FURNISH FREE with the Delmar Camera as the foreign to the complete control with the case of the camera as the with the delmar Camera as the with the destate of the camera as the with the destate of the camera to the complete with less, and abutter and one double plate holder. It sates of the complete with less, and abutter and one double plate holder. It will be the complete with less, and abutter and one double plate holder. It will be the complete developing outfat to the contains. The DELMAR is the very late at style for 1902, the complete with less, and abutter and one double plate holder. At 95 the complete with less, and abutter and one double plate holder. At 95 the complete with less than one the complete developing outfat to the complete developing outfat to the contains the complete with less than one the complete with the developing outfat to the contains the complete with less than one the complete developing outfat to the contains the complete with less than one the complete developing outfat to the contains the complete with less than one the complete with the developing outfat contains the a complete picture developing out the and material, we furnish for \$1.20 the following goods and supplies, the equal of any you could buy elsewhere at double the price. If you wish the developing out it at \$1.20 extra, be sure to se state and enclose the amount whose ordering. Our big \$1.20 developing out fit contains:

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1 Prains Boller

Toning and Fixing

1 Package Toner

12 Card Hounts

AT All B Charles

### The Stranger at Our Gates.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



VERY visitor to New York is familiar with the sight of the groups of emi-grants that fre-quent the vicini-ty of the railway ty of the railway stations and the steamboat docks. Queerly dressed, helpless folk in ones, twos and groups of whole families ignorant of the language and manners of the great coun-try that they have chosen for their new home, huddled together like herds of cattle, and gazing in open eyed wonder at the strange sights and scenes, or waiting with stolid indifference and brute-like patience for the next stage in their journey, they seem the very personification of helpless-g Americans. er like herds of

tion of helplessness and ignorance to hustling Americans.
Yet before being admitted to this country,
these people have been obliged to undergo a
rather strict examination before a board of inquiry and must be adjudged by this board to
be in good condition mentally, physically and
financially before they are allowed to enter our
portals. Uncle Sam has found it very necessary to protect this country from those who
would probably turn out to be only public
charges. Hundreds of these imigrants are sent
back each year to the ports at which they embarked.

barked.

Figures of the Immigration Department show that in the year ending June 1899, nearly 219,000 emigrants landed in America, and of this large number nearly 179,000 landed at New York. This means considerable work for the York. This means considerable work for the Board of Inquiry there, and it is needless to say that the examinations conducted are rapid and to the point. Over five-hundred applicants a day are considered, and the members of the Board are obliged to keep sharply on the look-out for emigrants who are not able to comply with the requirements for admission to this country.

with the requirements for admission to this country.

Those who are rejected are at once shipped back to the port of embarkation where they are left by the steamboat company to find their way home as best they can. Many a poor foreigner has been induced by some oilytongued steamship agent to turn his worldly goods into money and set sail for America, the golden land of promise, only to find upon arrival that he is lacking in some of the requirements for entrance, and accordingly is obliged to return, worse off than he was before.

One of the requirements of the law is that each emigrant must have at least \$30 in his possession, or convince the board that there is no immediate danger of his becoming a public charge. Most of the foreigners are able to do this, but some are not, and are accordingly sent

this, but some are not, and are accordingly sent back on the next steamer.

The number of emigrants that come to the

back on the next steamer.

The number of emigrants that come to the United States each year to join relatives who have previously made their homes here, shows that thousands find life here pleasanter than in Europe, and have succeeded in reaching a state of comparative prosperity. Others have stayed here a time, and then return to bring their families back with them. Figures show that most of our arrivals stay and eventually become citizens of the United States, the larger number of this class coming from England, Scotland, or Ireland. On the other hand some stay only long enough to accumulate a small sum of money, and then returned to their native land to live in ease for the rest of their days. This was especially true in the case of the Chinese, who are now, however, denied admission to this country.

Recently the buildings on Ellis Island, where the emigrants stayed while awaiting examination, were burned, so temporary quarters were arranged for them on board the sound steamer Narragansett. Here there is a kitchen, and comfortable and clean sleeping quarters for men and women. The Barge Office where the Board of Inquiry sits now contains an office for exchanging money, and also a place where railroad tickets may be purchased. This is a great advantage to the poor foreigners, who frequently fell into the hands of sharpers and swindlers who fleeced them of their money on their arrival.

Castle Garden, formerly the building occu-

on their arrival.

Castle Garden, formerly the building occupied by the immigration officers, and now known as the Aquarium, was also celebrated in the earlier days of New York as a favorite summer amusement place. Here Jenny Lind made her debut under the management of the immortal P. T. Barnum, and by her sweet voice charmed all who listened, and proved her right to the title of the "Swedish Nightingale."

Of the vast number of foreigners arriving daily in New York, few stay in the city, but hurry on to different points in the United States, chiefly to the west, where they engage in farming. Italians lead in point of numbers, though a rather small percentage stay and become citizens. Great Britain next, while Germany, France, Sweden, and in fact representatives from nearly all the European countries swell the total. Turkey had the distinction last year of sending the fewest immigrants here.

It is a motley throng that pass through the

It is a motley throng that pass through the arge office. The examiners listen to many Barge office. The examiners listen to many strange tales, some sad, some humorous, some quaint, all are represented in the course of a day's business. And so the procession continues, day after day, the servants of the United States separating the wheat from the chaff in the cargoes that every ocean steamer brings to

Every race of people on the face of the earth has furnished immigration to the United States during the past year except Wallachians.

# BE A HYPNOTIST AND MAKE FUN AND MONEYS

Inkless Printing.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HESE are the days of painless surgery horseless carriages smokeless powder, and wireless telegraphy, and it now seems like-

and it now seems likely that one more will be added to this list of paradoxes, and inkless printing become an established fact.

This art of printing is accomplished by a current of electricity which passes through paper and type at the moment of contact.

The process is as yet in its infancy, though it is understood that it is being rapidly perfected, and it is quite likely that it may become sufficiently so to prove of great commercial importance. Inkless printing may become one of the

and it is quite likely that it may become surficiently so to prove of great commercial importance. Inkless printing may become one of the great innovations of the 20th century, though at present it is not evident that the new process is causing the magnates of the ink trust any sleepless nights.

In 1897 the first patent was taken out for a process of inkless printing. It was necessary by the method then patented to use wet paper. After coming from the press the paper apparently was unchanged, and it was only after a bath in a developing solution that the printing made its appearance. This was found to be unsatisfactory for two reasons: first because it was hard to manage wet paper, and second, because the time required for developing each sheet more than offset any advantages the new method possessed. The needs of modern printers demand that the work be done on dry paper and that it issue complete from the press, without any subsequent handling being necessary.

These conditions, it is now claimed, have been fulfilled. A new chemical has been discovered

These conditions, it is now claimed, have been fulfilled. A new chemical has been discovered which is abundant and cheap. It is mixed with the paper pulp in the process of manufacture. As the paper passes through the cylinder press at the instant it meets the type a current of electricity passes through, and at every point of contact the image immediately appears, a beautiful bright black. No further handling is necessary. It is stated that some fine effects have been produced, especially on illustrated work. In many respects the new process is the same as printing with ink. It is just as necessary to secure a good, even impression of the type to produce good results, and by overlaying parts of the form the same beautiful variations of color may be produced as in regular work.

An ordinary press is used in the new process with the exception that all parts that have to do with the distribution of the ink are removed. This is an advantage in that these parts of the press and their removal makes it easier to run and less liable to get of order. The cylinder of These conditions, it is now claimed, have been

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the press is covered with a thin sheet of zinc which forms one of the poles of the current. For supplying the current an ordinary electric light wire is used with a little device called an adaptor introduced into the circuit in order to regulate the current to the needs of the work in hand.

It is said that work produced by the new process is as durable and permanent as ordinary work, and that samples of inkless printing that have been exposed to direct sunlight for over a year show no signs of fading, but are

over a year show no signs of fading, but are still as bright, and show the same beautiful shading as they did when they were first printed.

Though inkless printing is as yet an innovation and has hardly been given a thorough enough trial to determine its practicability, it is certainly a most interesting subject and its development will be closely watched by all who are interested in books or their manufacture.

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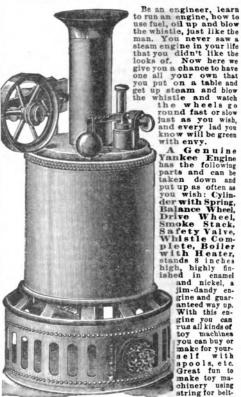
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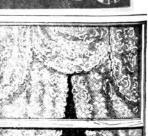
Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

Gentlemen:—Fours of a recent date received and also the curtains by express. I will let you know that I am very greatly pleased with the curtains and will send you in another club order in a week or two for another pair, which I want to give to my aunt for a "Christmas" present.

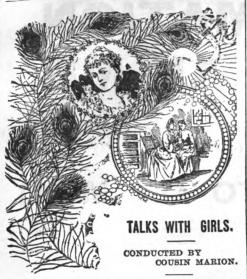
I am telling all my friends that I am working for a company in Augusta, Maine, and that they publish a magatine which I think they would like to get as it has many little readings in it and the price is so small that they would two the money at me to get the paper one year. Please send me another catalogue of your presents to agents as I want to get a pair of "Portieres" for my mother for a Christmas present and I believe that I will be able to get enough subscribers for the curtains and Portieres before Christmas. I will do all in my power to introduce your paper in my section of the town, at I know that I will receive some return for the same. Hoping your subscription list is growing very high, I remain,

Very truly yours,

P. S. Have 2 subscribers already for the next order. I just got the Book-keeper to take one.







The last month of the old year, my dears, is here, and what a very little while it does seem since I greeted you all at the first of the year and the opening of the twentieth century. It is a sad thought this ending of the year, but it is gladdened by Christmas and the holiday season, the merriest time of the year, and let us all be bright and cheery as the old one goes, and meet the new one with a smile and start off with it hand in hand.

Now to our talk, and the first one comes from Tebo, Mich., from Cousin Birdie who wants to know if she should return a ring to a young man who asks her for it, though he gave it to her as a birthday gift. Give it back to him, of course. I wouldn't want to be seen with anything belonging to that kind of an individual.—As to going driving with hired help, it would depend on who the help is. If he is a nice man, all right; if not, don't go, even if there is nobody else to go with.—I should say that eighteen was too young to have "steady company".

Three School Girls, Loup, Neb.—No to all your questions about fourteen-year-old girls and young men. Time enough for them five or six years from

Nellie Jane, Willoughby, Pa.—It is not unlady-like to allow the clerk in the store to try on a pair of new rubbers. That is part of his business. (2) Don't go with your school teacher after term time, unless it is your last term, and you are old enough to have company. (3) Your sister's old beaus may be very nice, and if you like them go with them, of course. (4) Your writing is plain, and will improve as you write more.

Brown Eyes. Hyde, Ia.—I believe that it is one.

prove as you write more.

Brown Eyes, Hyde, La.—I believe that it is customary to follow a declaration of love by a kiss, but it must be serious.

Sweet Autumn, Bellville, Texas.—If the young man is at all appreciative he will be glad to see the new dresses and nice things, and you should show them to him. (2) Act as though you were really surprised and enjoyed it fully. (3) Visit the school where the young man is teaching, but not the young man. (4) Address, care of Comfort.

Sweetheart. Detroit. Mich.—Better wait till you

Sweetheart, Detroit, Mich.—Better wait till you are twenty and the young man twenty-two. (2) If the young man likes you he will let you know it. If not, stop thinking about him. (3) It is proper to give a young man a birthday present.

Pansy, New York City.—Put the man question out of your mind entirely, my dear, until you are four years older, at least. Sixteen-year-old girls should not have any heart troubles; they will have enough of that by and by. (2) You may walk in the evening with your girl friend, but not on the street unless accompanied by some older person.

Old Friend, Ontario, Canada.—You are superior to your class and what pleases the girls you speak of is distateful to you because of your better mind. Go on improving yourself and some day the kind of a man you should have will find you; or if he does not, you will be happier than if you tied yourself down to one who was inferior.

Brown Eyes, Pentwater, Mich.—If the young man

Brown Eyes, Pentwater, Mich.—If the young man does not come to see you, cut him off your list of friends. (2) Compliments are not flattery when they are true. (3) Don't send your picture to the gentleman. And never write except in answer to his letter.

his letter.

Minnie, May and Claire, Evening Shade, Ark.—
The young men you mention seem to be lacking in
good manners, and you should drop their acquaintance. There are plenty with good manners.

Trouble and Black Eyes, Garrett, Ind.—Marry
and leave your dreary home, but be sure first that
you will not do worse. (2) Obey your parents about
the young man until after you are twenty. (3)
White, pearl, or very light tinted gloves for evening, except for ordinary wear. (4) Don't leave
school at present.

Homely, Iowa City, La.—It is proper for a man to

school at present.

Homely, Iowa City, La.—It is proper for a man to stop a lady on the street and talk to her if she has no objections. (2) If the man comes to take the lady out he should tell her so as soon as he arrives. (3) If he does not know enough to take off his overcoat, ask him to do so. (4) An introduction may be made at any time or place that is convenient. It is even done sometimes in the street. (5) It would be less embarrassing if he asked you to go to places with him, when only you two were present. He is evidently very frank and honest.

Bessie. Pensacola. Fla.—The young man is a vil-

Bessie, Pensacola, Fla.—The young man is a villain and your safety lies in not seeing him again. The final result is entirely in your hands and you alone are to blame if harm comes. (2, Love goeth where it listeth and it cannot be kept. (3) The use of hair destroyers is dangerous. Consult your physician.

Red and White Roses, Austin, Kan.—It is improper to sit in a young man's lap. (2) Don't have your pleture taken with a young man. (3) You may go to his home if you are engaged, and he may kiss you if you are engaged.

Goldy and Snowy, Galesburg, Kans.—Yes, lovers will sometimes torment those they love, but it is not very manly or kind. No to your next two questions about kissing. Twenty to twenty-two seems to be the most popular marrying age for girls, but twenty-five is better, and I think the man should be ten years older, at least.

May and Leavnette Lovell. Mays.—The bride we

May and Jeannette, Lowell, Mass.—The bride usually chooses the minister, but there is no rule. (2) Ordinarily, parents are consulted by a girl before she chooses a husband, but not always. They should be the consulted by the co fore she chooses a h should be, however

Blue Bell, Buckhorn, Miss.—If the man is all right marry him, provided his people are not positively disreputable. You must remember, however, that as his wife you are part of his people.

Adele, Washburn, Wis.—Adele, dear, you are only fitteen and I can only answer your questions by advising you to think about your books and not about the beaus. Every question you ask shows that you are too young to have anything to do with them.

Abbie, Colita, Ills.—A pretty scarf pin is as nice a Christmas present as you could make the young man. (2) There is no rule for the number of times a man should call on his best girl. She should be consulted. (3) Sweethearts determine for themselves when they shall become engaged. No kissing till engaged.

Blue Eves Mantagaray Md —Your questions

Blue Eyes, Montgomery, Md.—Your questions are all too hard for me. Nobody can tell whether men mean it or not when they say pleasant things to you. It is different with unpleasant things.

Daffodil, Toronto, Ont .- Ask your parents first.

See answer to May and Jeannette above. (2) Of course not. (3) There never was a goose so old and gray, etc., so you may still hope. (4) Their deeds are evil, loving darkness better than light.

Ambrose, Oakland, Calif.—You may give him a present, but must it be a ring? Try something less significant. (2) Politely decline the present you do not wish to accept.

E. M. E., Providence, R. I.—The formula seems to be harmless enough, but ask your druggist. I am not an authority.

Babe, Meetze, Va.—The third Sunday in August, 1878, was the 18th day of the month.

That is all for this time, my dears, and for the year 1901. May the New Year bring you many blessings and may you have many new years to say that you have done much good in the old ones and God be with you till we meet again, A Merry Christmas to you all.

COUSIN MARION.

### A Musical Masquerade.

A True Story.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



WO gentlemen in evening dress and carrying light overcoats left the door of overcoats left the door of a handsome brown-stone house on Fifth Avenue, New York, one summer evening at nearly six o'-

clock.

Chatting pleasantly they went their way down the busy thoroughfare, nodding to this one and that, as men whose long residence in the place gave them acquaintance. gave them acquaintance with many people. They were then on their way to dine with one of "earth's favored ones," at whose palatial mansion they were to meet the fairest debutante of the past sea-

The evening being so

The evening being so warm and they somewhat early for their appointment, they had agreed to walk and while crossing a street their attention was attracted by the sound of music. Street musicians are not so uncommon as to ordinarily attract attention, but there was something in this which these gentlemen, both musicians of no mean ability, although amateurs, recognized as out of the ordinary; and as if by one impulse they stopped, looked at each other and then down the side street from whence the sound came.

looked at each other and then down the side street from whence the sound came.

"That's not bad," said Colfax, the elder of the two. "In fact, it's very good," he added as a gentle breeze sent the sound of violins towards them with increased volume.

"Let's go down and see about it," suggested the younger man. "We've time enough."

The two turned west and in the middle of the square they came upon a little crowd gathered round two men, who with violins under their chins, were playing in the street. These men were dark, foreign-looking chaps, roughly dressed, but one forgot their appearance while listening to their really wonderful playing. It was not the catchy dance music which one aswas not the catchy dance music which one associates with street musicians in common, but the works of famous composers found rare in-terpretation, and Colfax and his friend ex-changed glances of keen appreciation as one familiar number after another was played with unfailing accuracy and precision. After two or three selections had been played, one of the men took off his cap and passed it to the peo-

men took off his cap and passed it to the people standing round.

Mr. Colfax's familiarity with Italian made it easy for him to engage the men in talk and he quickly learned their story. They had arrived in New York a week before from Italy in company with a man who had promised them work and big wages, but who had disappeared and they had been obliged to play in the streets to earn their bread.

Mr. Colfax thought a moment and then said, "Come to this number at ten o'clock this even-

"Come to this number at ten o'clock this evening and play for me. I think I can get work for you.

for you."

The men thankfully promised to be at his rooms at the hour appointed and Colfax and his friend, hailing a passing cab were whirled on to their destination.

A few moments past ten they reached Colfax's rooms. "I wonder if they will be here," he remarked. "Probably not."

As he spoke two dark figures rose from the steps.

As he spoke two dark figures rose from the steps.

"Ah, here you are. That's good. Come in. Now for some music."

The men played as if inspired. Duets for two violins and each in turn at the piano, they played for an hour. At the end of that time Colfax was wild with delight.

"No more street playing for you?" he said.

"No more street playing for you," he said.
"Tomorrow I'll get you places in the best orchestra in the city." As the men started to go Colfax handed to one a bill, saying, "For present needs, my friend. You'll soon be able to earn more."

The man bowed and murmured some words of thanks, then as he passed out he rolled the bill into a taper and with it lighted the cigar

which Colfax had given him.

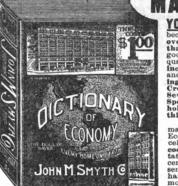
"Well," said Colfax to his friend, "that's cool. Maybe he hasn't been long enough in this country to know that that kind of paper means something. He'll have to be looked after a little."

The two gentlemen sat smoking and talking together till it was nearly twelve o'clock when there was a knock at the door. Colfax opened it and nearly fell over backwards in his aston-

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That Sells

On Sight.

ishment. Before him, violins in hand, stood the street musicians, but no longer tramps. Both were in perfect evening dress, complete even to flowers in the buttonhole. Colfax was speechless, and the man to whom an hour ago he had given money stepped forward, and bowing low said:

he had given money stepped forward, and bowing low said:
"Gentlemen, allow me to explain and at the same time apologize for the little trick we have played upon you. First let me introduce my friend and myself as the First Violins of the Damrosch orchestra, now playing in the city. Our masquerade was the result of a desire to determine whether the so-called popular music was the only kind appreciated by the common people. We determined to try for a week playing the best music in the streets and see by practical experience if one could pick up a liv-

playing the best music in the streets and see by practical experience if one could pick up a living."

"Did you?" asked Colfax.

"Not a bountiful one, I confess," laughed the man. "The first night we made sixty-two cents, some other nights a little more."

"But we had great fun," added his companion, "and we concluded we would end our play by telling you the story, and now gentlemen, do us the honor to dine with us tomorrow night at Delmonico's."

#### Frank Stockton's Humor.

There has long been a question among bookish people as to whether even the inimitable Mark Twain can extract more genuine humor from a given set of circumstances than the gender Grangers" have now "long been tenants of one of the most delightful farms ever planted in the fields of fiction," says the Boston Commonwealth. The Stockton stories are selling strongly this week at Wanamaker's, under the strongly this week at Wanamaker's, under the auspices of the International Association of Authors. Some of the other authors specially selected for issue by the Association are Paul Leicester Ford, Max Pemberton, Mrs. Atherton, and George W. Cable, all of whom continue to be prime favorites. Those desirous of learning the way to get a representative book by any of these authors and get it for nothing instead of above a dollar, should read our Free Library club offer on page 21 of this month's COMFORT.



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home, store, hotel, car company will sight. We have manufacturers to covery, and we wholecasle terms Medium or A for house lamps—dozen, 25 cents; wicks, for hand wide, sample, 5 gross, \$2.50. hall, store, or sample, 5 cents; overy, and we wholecsale terms Medium or A for house lampsed dozen, 25 cents wicks, for hand wide, sample, 5 gross, \$2.50. hand wide, sample, 5 gross, \$2.50. hand ple, 5 ents; per gross, \$2.50. b wick, 1.2 hall, bracket, or 33 cents dozen; parlor lamps, sample, 5 cents; per gross, 1896, by mail, sample, 8 cents; per gross, 1896, by more accompanied by Morse & Co. 35 where the sample, sample, 8 cents; per gross, 1896, by 25.00 cor sample, 8 cent

SPECIAL FREE COUPON OFFER. To all who send this coupon we will send 2 samples of A B or E wick just to prove our wicks are the best in the world. Address COMFORT, Box 859, Augusta, Maine.



# A Gold Lined Silver Dish FREE!

To introduce our famous little Giant Oxien Pills, giving all the chance to derive the won-derful benefits from these new life-giving won-ders, we send two boxes absolutely free, all charges paid. You sell the Pills for 25c. per box, send us the money within 20 days, 50c. in all, and we give you as a premium this wonderful Gold
Lined Silver Dish free. These dishes are warranted quadruple plated silver; they are
fluted top and beautiful and useful ornaments;
they are suitable for dining table use, or used as
side dish for bon bons they are elegant and will
last for years. Send your name and address at
once so your friends can derive the great benefits
coming from the use of Oxien Pills and you
get the profits as the dish can be sold in a minute
for 75c. These Pills are noted for their quick action on Liver, Stomach, Heart, Bowels,
and special organs of either sex. All ills
wanish as if by magic if you use these
Pills. Send quick so as to be sure of a
dish before they all go, and get full particulars of our great money-making
agency proposition, where you get hundreds of dollars from a one dollar investment. Address,

GIANT OXIE PILL DEPT. M. Augusta. Maine. we give you as a premium this wonderful Gold

THE GIANT OXIE PILL DEPT. M, Augusta, Maine.

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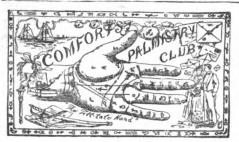
# CHRISTMAS CLUB OFFER.

PRICE OF TEA SETS ADVANCING. We find ourselves in a fortunate position in obtaining for our old club raisers an extraordinary value in China Ware. There are more opportunities to obtain as a premium a set of dishes than any other kind of merchandise, probably because of the great usefulness of the same. It is our cusstom at this season of the year to renew all subscriptions, also obtain large numbers of new readers for the coming year. So we have made a special effort to add attractive features to our already popular magazine and can promise every issue next year will please every member of the household.

A Word About the Tea Sets. These sets are of the latest and most beautiful design, of choicest coloring and pattern, they are regular \$4.00 to \$6.00 store price sets. This useful and ornamental set, which would adorn and beautify any abode of luxury, we shall give away for a short time to our club raisers. Let us tell you what it is. It is a 56-piece tea set consisting of teapot, sugar bowl, cream pitcher, 12 cups, 12 saucers, 12 tea plates, 2 cake plates, 12 preserve dishes and one slop bowl. It is of the finest style ware and every piece perfect in design and shape. Never was a more handsome set put together and it will be a marvel of beauty for years. It is the perfection of daintiness and every woman will find instant delight and constant pleasure in owning one.

SPECIAL CLUB OFFER. If you will send a club of only twelve subscribers to Comport to date until January, 1903, we will send Comport regularly during this period and as a Christmas gift for sending the club we will send you, carefully packed, one complete 56-Piece Tea Set exactly as above described.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



CONDUCTED BY DIGITUS.

#### CONDITIONS.

CONDITIONS.

To have one's hands read in this department, by Digitus, one of the finest living paimists, it is necessary to observe the following conditions:
Impressions of both hands must be sent, fully postpaid and having the name, address and nom de plume of the sender enclosed in the package also.

The package must in every instance be accompanied by the names and addresses of eight new subscribers at twenty-five cents each, the whole amount, \$2.00 being remitted, with the package, addressed to Comfort Palmistry Club, Augusta, Maine.

No notice will be taken of impressions and requests for readings unless the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank

tor readings unless the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank paper over a candle or similar flame, until they are heavily coaled with the smoke. Then lay these pieces down, smoke side uppermost on a pad of cotton. Now place the two hands, palms downward, one on each sheel of paper, pressing firmly and steadily down, but taking care not to move the hand. Keep them so for one minute and lift carfully, so as not to disturb the impression. Have ready some fixatif, which can be bought at a drug store or an art store or made with gum arabic and water in an atomizer. Spray this over the impressions before they are moved and allow them to dry. Then they are ready to send.

Smoked paper impressions are the best. But if it is desired to send a plaster cast, take plaster of Paris and dissolve in water to the consistency of thick cream. Pour this into a large shallow dish and when it is hardening place the hand, well-greased, palm downward, in the plaster, pressing downward. Several minutes will be required to get this impression and great care must be taken in removing the hand, not to break the plaster. Casts are exceedingly difficult to send without breaking and should be very carefully packed in a box with the name of the sender written on it. Putly is sometimes successfully used in place of plaster. A good photograph if sufficiently well laken to bring out all the ines, can also be read, although in all cases the smoked paper is the best, if properly treated with fixait.

Bear in Mind that all the above conditions must be observed.

Also, that letters not complying with them will go into the waste-basket. Readings cannot appear for several months after impressions are sent.

HE present article will have to be given

HE present article will have to be given up for the most part to readings, but I trust it will be found helpful to the average club member as well.

K. J. L., has a hand denoting a great deal of character with courage, perseverance and energy. The life line is not very long, ending in the impression I have before me, at about fifty to fifty-five. There will be a decided change in this life between the ages of forty and forty-five and I think a second marriage will take place then. The first marriage, or if not a marriage a very close friendship or love affair appears between the ages of eighteen and thirty. The fate line is very good in this hand, indicating excellent success up to the age of fifty, although I do not see many signs of wealth. There is an excellent head line also, showing good sense and business ability with plenty of self confidence and an evenly balanced mind. The heart line indicates that this subject will be eminently sensible in love affairs, choosing a mate for life from a practical standpoint rather than a sentimental. A good deal of traveling about is indicated, with popularity and many close friendships. I see few signs of trouble, and although the life will be successful, the subject will always work hard.

Hilldrop has a hand that is much more lined

ways work hard. Hilldrop has a hand that is much more lined



much more lined than the last one and with very marked characteristics. This person is very ambitious and will marry well. There will be a good deal of trouble in love affairs during the first twenty-five first twenty-five years of her life and she will have one disappoi ntment which will
cause her a good
deal of anxiety.
But s he will
marry well and
her second marri-

her second marriage I think will be happier than her first. She is very attractive to the opposite sex and will have many suitors and several serious love affairs. In some of these she will be strongly opposed by relatives of either party, but will finally marry according to her ambition and will be quite successful for a while. In middle life she will make a second marriage, which as I have said, will be more successful than the first and will be attended by more wealth. She will travel considerable, although not in this country. She is inclined to be not in this country. She is inclined to be sentimental and sometimes to prevarications. She is also inclined to be melancholy at times, and should strive against this latter feeling. She was much hampered in her youth and had an unhappy childhood; by far the happier and more successful portion of her life will come after she is thirty and she will live to a good

old age.

B. O. S. sends an excellent impression, made secure with fixatif so that it is easy to read.

The two pre-ceding ones were very badly blurred. B. O. S. has a hand which shows a good deal of trial and trouble but one in which the fate line rises supreme and by turning diag-onally across to onally across to the mount of the Sun brings fame



affected the subject in an unexpected way. I think there was a marriage or a serious love affair at that time but it disappears in the course of a few years, after which the life flows on more placidly and the fate line grows stronger. I think this subject has a great fature before her and has talent for the stage. If she were to study for the stage she would be attended with success in proportion to the amount of perseverance which she develops, a quality in which she is somewhat lacking. I think there was some mystery connected with her birth or possibly some scandal or disgrace for which she is not responsible. She will rise superior to it however, and is sure to make her mark in the world either as an actress, a lecturer, a writer or a teacher. She is somewhat sentimentally inclined and if anything a little lacking in regard for truth. She needs to cultivate this quality, to have more courage and to develop patience. It would be better for this person not to marry, although she will have plenty of opportunities. She will have to make her way through difficulties but will succeed and have both fame and money in her old age. I see much traveling for her and a nervous disposition with some rather startling and unusual changes during middle life.

A member of the Club asks for prices of good

changes during middle life.

A member of the Club asks for prices of good books on palmistry. Most of the larger books, such as Cheiro's Language of the Hand and Professor Hargett's are two dollars. Heron Allen's is \$1.50 and there are others at from \$1 upwards. If any of you desire these books, it would be well to write to Breateney's Union So New well to write to Brentano's, Union Sq., New York.

As there are stars on several of the hands

read lately, I will give you the signs of the star according to Heron Allen:

"A star, wherever it appears, is generally the indication of

B. O. S.

some event we cannot possibly control; it is generally a danger and always something unavoid-able. Whether, however, it is good or bad, depends of course upon the aspect of the lines, particu-larly of the line of fortune. This, however, is fixed —that a star, where yer it is found, always means something

and what that something is, be it the task of

the chirosophist to discover.
On the Mount of Jupiter, it signifies gratified ambition, good luck, honour, love and success. With a cross on this Mount it indicates a happy marriage with some one of brilliant antecedents or high position.

On the Mount of Saturn it indicates a great

fatality, generally a very bad one, indicating with corroborative signs, probably murder, and in a criminal or otherwise bad hand a probability of doth when the senfold

in a criminal or otherwise bad hand a probability of death upon the scaffold.

On the Mount of Apollo, with no line of Apollo in the hand, it betokens wealth without happiness, and celebrity after a hazardous struggle for it. With the line of brilliancy it denotes excessive celebrity, as the combined result of labor and talent; with several lines also on the mount it is a sure indication of wealth. wealth.

wealth.

On the Mount of Mercury it betrays dishonesty and theft. On the Mount of Mars, violence leading to homicide.

On the Mount of the Moon it indicates hypocrisy and dissimulation, with misfortune resulting from excess of the imagination. The old chiromants looked upon this as a warning of death by drowning, and stated that combined with a high mount invaded by the line of the head, it indicated suicide by drowning.

On the base of the Mount of Venus it indicated a misfortune brought about by the influence of women.

cated a misfortune brought about by the influence of women.

On the first (or outer) phalanx of any finger (but especially that of Saturn) a star indicates either strange good luck or else folly. On the third (or lowest) phalanx of the finger, or Saturn, a star warns the subject of a danger of assassination, and if at this point it is joined by the line of Saturn, a disgraceful death is almost inevitable, resulting as a rule from the vices shown elsewhere in the hand.

On the base of the phalanx of logic of the thumb—in fact, on the junction of the phalanx of logic and the Mount of Venus—it points to a misfortune connected with a woman, probably indicating an unhappy marriage, which will be the curse of the subject's whole life unless the Mount of Jupiter be developed, in which case there is a probability that the subject will get over it.

which case there is a probability that the subject will get over it.

A star on the voyage line indicates with certainty death by drowning.

If a star be found on the center of the quadrangle, the subject, though true and honest as the day, will be the absolute plaything of women, a trait which will result in misfortune, from which, however, he will recover in time."

'Thus it will be seen that a star is almost the most important sign to seek for in a hand.



# EVERY LADY READ THIS.

I will send free a positive cure for all female diseases, irregularities, etc. A simple home treatment, a common sense remedy that never fails. FREE with valuable advice. Mrs. L. D. HUDNUT, South Bend, Ind.

# EVERYBODY WEARS COLLAR BUTTONS

Send us only 5c. and we send you Six Gold Plated lever collar buttons, either for Gentlemen or Ladies. This can only be done to introduce our great catalogue of Novelties. 5 cents for 6. Write to-day to Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

# WOMEN WHO DREAD MOTHERHOOD!

Information How They May Give Birth to Happy, Healthy Children Absolutely Without Pain—Sent Free.

and glory to the subject. In early life the childhood was rather represed and there was a serious love affair before the subject was twenty. There was a distinct break in the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance which is the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance with the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance with the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance with the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance with the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance with the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance with the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance with the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance with the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance with the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance with the life line between the ages of twenty-five and thirty when a very strange circumstance with the life line between the ages of twenty-five and the life line between the ages of twenty-five and the life line between the ages of twenty-five and the life line between the ages of twenty-five and the life line between the ages of twenty-five and the life line between the ages of twenty-five and the life line between the ages of twenty-five and the life line between the ages of twenty-five and the life line between the ages of twenty-five and the life line between the ages of twenty-five and life line line life line between the ages of twenty-five and life life line between the ages of twenty-five and life life line life line between the ages of twenty-five and life life line life line life line between the ages of twe

# PROCLAMATION TO WEAK MEN

Charity, the Noblest Impulse of Man, Exemplified by a Well Known Missourian.

# FREE TO ALL

W. S. Harter, an honored and Influential citizen of Nevada, Mo., makes a statement and an overgenerous offer that comes in the shape of a proclamation of health to all afflicted with loss of vitality and its kindred allments. His case was a most pitiable one, nightly emissions so



draining and his constitution was weakened to such a degree that it was impossible for him to perform his duties. He spent hundreds of dollars for remedies and to specialists, but could not regain his vitality or check the awful nightly emissions. One day a brother lodge member called his attention to a remedy, in fact, implored Mr. Harter to take the remedy for his affliction; he did so, and in one month's time was entirely cured, his constitution rejuvenated and his vitality regained. Today he is a man in every sense which that word would imply. Mr. Harter is not what one would call an immensely rich man, but his gratitude for this marvelous remedy is so great that he says he intends making his life's labor that of putting his remedy in the hands of all those afflicted as he was. Mr. Harter, being a very conscientious man, TWO RINGS FREE!



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GIANT OXIE CO., 125 Willow St., Augusta, Me



# GIVE THIS FOR A CLUB OF 4.

Thirty Minutes is a short time, but many have earned one at these watches in less time than that. It is one of the very best watches for time ever offered to our readers at no matter what the price asked for it. We know, of course, there are watches that oss more money, because they are in gold or silver cases, but they will not keep any better time, simply because they cannot. This watch as near perfect time, we never saw the watch that did, but it keeps not perfect time as watches usually do. We have such faith in this watch as a timekeeper that we send with every one a guarante just as binding as that given with any watch, no matter what make We are willing to give you this watch if you will do us a slight service, which you can easily do in an hour. We wish to increase our subscription list, and we want the assistance of every reader of this paper to that end. We do not want you to do it for nothing, we will reward you for it. You can easily secure this valuable watch if you get four subscribers to this paper, at our special subscription price of the subscribers to this paper, and we will send our paper to eat subscriber for one year, and we will send our paper to eat subscriber for one year, and we will send our paper to eat subscriber for one year, and we will send our paper to eat subscriber for one year, and we will send our paper to eat subscriber for one year, and we will send you the watch to reward you for your efforts in our behalf. Start out now and see what you can do. Remember we guarantee every watch. If you get five she scribers and send us \$1.25 for the same we will also send you and chain. Address



### Great American Givers.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



ANDREW Carnegie the Iron and Steel King of Pittsburgh, while he has been a man of large and general benvolen ce will be rememwill be remem-bered chiefly through the series —it might almost —It might almost be called a system —of public libra-ries which he has founded. "The value of the pub-lic library as an educational force

in American life" says Mr. William M. Stevenson, Librarian of the Free Library of Allegheny, Pa., "is inestimable. It is the most democratic of all forms of popular recreation. The public library comes closer to the people in this country than any other institution, the aim of which is the uplifting and upbuilding of the masses."

No man has done more to the people in the country than any other institution, the same of which is the uplifting and upbuilding of the masses."

No man has done more to foster this form of popular education than has Andrew Carnegie. He has now aided and founded a score of public libraries and his benefactions in this direction exceed six millions of dollars. This is more than the annual appropriation for Common Schools made by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The libraries founded by Mr. Carnegie have placed in the hands of their readers more than ten million volumes of books. They have refunded for maintenance up to August 1899 a million and a quarter of dollars. The area of their influence extends from Edinburgh, Scotland, in the east, to Fairfield, Iowa, in the west, and from Inverness, Scotland, in the north to Atlanta, Georgia, in the south.

Mr. Carnegie's motto, notwithstanding he is one of our great modern philanthropists is that "God helps those who help themselves." The principles therefore on which his libraries are founded is that the community must support them, wholly, where possible. If not, at least partially, although in one or two instances, notably his beloved city of Allegheny, the gift is absolutely without restriction.

In the short space of ten years, Mr. Carnegie has given twelve library buildings fully equipped with books to as many different communities.

There are thus two classes in Mr. Carnegie's benefaction, the Free Library and the Free Public Library. The former is an absolute gift maintained wholly or in part by the donor, the latter is a free library supported by public taxation. The great institutionat Allegheny, Pa., is a Free Library of which the entire cost of building and books and for current maintenance and support is contributed by Mr. Carnegie. The Library at Edinburgh, Scotland, is, on the other hand, the largest and most notable in the list of Free Public Libraries that comes under the general head of this remarkable benefaction. Mr. Carnegie is a Scotchman, having been born in the "land' ocakes" in 1837. He came to this country along with the family when only ten years old. Although a mere boy, he was stron

Mr. Carnegie, unlike many other builders and owners of great fortunes is a conspicuous benefactor in other ways. Although he has never held public office he is a public spirited citizen of the highest and broadest type. A man from whom an important public utterance may be expected when any great issue is pending. Perhaps nothing is more explanatory of the man and his success than that he had all his life been a close student of men and affairs; of life, of literature, even of the arts.

A recent writer pays him this tribute: "With but rudimentary education he has become a facile writer, a ready speaker, well informed on social, political and philosophical questions, the practical matters so closely related to human happiness and progress."

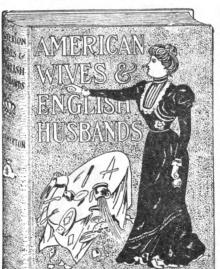
Probably no man has wasted fewer hours in a long and useful life than Andrew Carnegie. Even his outings have been made famous and profitable to the public. His "American Four-In-Hand In Britain," the record of a coaching trip through the British Isles, has had a large public sale, and by sheer force of literary charm it became, when published, a generally popular book. When he speaks on public questions with his pen, he commands an audience that is only bounded by the confines of civilization. His "Triumphant Democracy" has sold fifty thousand copies, and he is a contributor of much force and moment to the leading English and American reviews.

Mr. Carnegie's public benefactions including the Carnegie Institute at Pittsburg and his series of libraries are upwards of ten millions of dollars and are being constantly added to. He is an eminent example of that noble spec-

of dollars and are being constantly added to.
He is an eminent example of that noble spectacle which is represented in America by several people invites them.

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are reading this very month.

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They are five inches wide and seven inches long and average over 300 pages and each in a decorated jacket wrapper. Royalties and profits suffer, for a limited time, in exchange for widespread publicity and to create demands for future works which means big profits to the authors. The COMFORT reader has the opportunity of a lifetime to obtain the books for nothing that the original lifetime to obtain the books for nothing that the original

publishers even now charge the regular price for. At the expiration of time agreed upon, which has already nearly expired. The arrangement is for all unused copies to go back to the binders and be distributed through the regular channels at old prices, \$1.50 and \$1.75 each.



# READ THE LIST CAREFULLY \*

# And Make Your Selection of One or More of These Great Books as Per Our "Sent on Approved Plan" below.

101. "The Great K. and A. Train Robbery,"
Paul Leicester Ford (author of "Janice Meredith")—Exciting chase for

GERTRUDE ATHERTON

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139. "With the Best Intentions," by Marion Harland (author of "Judith")—A Mid-summer episode.

140. Guerndale," by F. J. Stimson (author of "The Residuary Legatee")-A romance of early New England.

# DRIVEN BACK 0 Edward P. Roe was the most popular writer of his generation. Every one of his novels has had a wide circulation. and "Driven Back to Eden" probably best exemplifies his simple, wholesome style. As preacher, writer, man, he was "always near to nature's heart." In America, England and the colonies his his works have been translated into German and French. In soliciting subscribers you can promise the best magazine for the next twelve months that has been gotten out anywhere for 25c. a year and we know if you care to start a circulating library of your own that you can let these books, which you obtain for your club work, among friends and acquaintances at the regular library rate, 2c. per day. Among these famous copyrighted books there will be found something to suit about every mood and taste. Just think of getting an Anthony Hope, Frank R. Stockton or Paul Leicester Ford cloth bound book for such a slight service. Positively these books cannot be obtained in any other way as Comfort has exclusive control of the entire forty books for the general country mail distribution. Don't fail to select your one free book to-day as during the Holiday rush the supply is liable to run short. Renew or subscribe at once, sending 25c. for same, and the book will be sent on inspection by return mail.

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other men; of great wealth being wisely disposed for the benefit of posterity by its own creator during his lifetime. It is not unlikely, judging from present appearances, that Andrew Carnegie will thus invest the larger part of his forture himself before he disc fortune himself before he dies.

O clear the island of Cuba from the germs of yellow fever will be a long, hard fight. The soil is saturated with them; the marshes are their breeding places, and the hot, moist atmosphere there gives them vitality; the filth of the communities harbors them, and the personal carelessness of the people invites them



OR several years oil has been used in some towns to lay the dust on the streets in summer, and also improve them in quality. This expedient has also been used by a number of eastern railroads to lay the dust on the roadbed and therefore.

NE of the curiosities of the Bank of England is to be seen in its printing room, where is a mechanic resistance.

when the oil first touches the dust-covered street it spreads out among the atoms as it does when dropped upon water. When a quantity of oil has been spread and the surface of the street is covered, the oil gravitates down through the

wards fastened together with bolts.

Recently several processes combining photography with etching have come into vogue, and furnished a cheap and effective way of producing illustrations. Some beautiful effects have been obtained by means of these illustra-tions, and they are certainly invaluable in a great many ways. Cheap reproductions of painting and scenes from nature have been possible, and hardly a magazine or book is issued now-a-days that is not filled with these illustrations.

At the same time the lovers of the beautiful and artistic in fine book-making have never been quite satisfied with the new order of been quite satisfied with the new order of things, and though of recent years wood-engraving has become much less common, it has never lost its admirers. For years the leading publishers have employed wood-engravers to re-touch copper process cuts, and give them the artistic feeling and individuality that the originals lacked. At the present day the wood-engraver's art seems to be on the increase, rather than sinking into oblivion.

As a pastime, wood-engraving will be found very fascinating for those who care to try it. Boxwood or maple is the material used; boxwood is better for fine work though maple will

wood is better for fine work though maple will as they are in the original.

serve the beginner's purpose quite as well. The best boxwood comes from Turkey, though very good wood is also grown in America. It is cut across the grain so that the engraver works on the end of the wood fibres. It may be bought all ready prepared in any of our large cities and costs from one cent an inch for maple up to ten or fifteen cents an inch for the best imported boxwood. For implements the beginner

and costs from one cent an inch for maple upto ten or fifteen cents an inch for the best imported boxwood. For implements the beginner
will require four or five gravers of different
shapes, a small oil-stone for sharpening the
tools, a leather pad upon which to rest the
work, and a magnifying glass of moderate
power supported on a standard, and adjustable
as to height. The whole outfit need not cost
more than four or five dollars.

The first step is to prepare the block for use,
and this is done by painting it over with a thin
coat of Chinese white. The drawing may now
be drawn or traced directly on the wood. It is
best for a first attempt to start with some
drawing that contains only a few coarse lines.
After the drawing is traced it may be gone
over carefully with India ink. In tracing the
drawing care should be taken to have it the
reverse of the way it is to appear in the finished print, so that letters and figures will appear
as they are in the original.

After the drawing is complete the block is After the drawing is complete the block is placed on the pad and held with one hand, while the other hand works with the graver, cutting away all the wood from the black lines, and leaving the drawing in relief. Great care must be taken not to let the tool slip, as every scratch that marks the black lines of the drawing will show in the finished print. It is necessary first to outline the work with very fine lines of the graver, and then to clear away the waste wood taking care not to let the tool bear on the edge of any finished line, as the marks

waste wood taking care not to let the tool bear on the edge of any finished line, as the marks will show in the print.

There are a number of different kinds of gravers, but the beginner will need only three or four; a graver for cutting very fine lines and for outlining the work, one a little coarser for cutting thicker lines and for cleaning away small spaces, and a gouge with a round point for cleaning away superfluous wood.

A good light is of course essential, and to avoid the galare and focus the respective work.

avoid the glare and focus the rays on their work engravers sometimes place a glass globe full of water in such a way that the light is focused

on the block.

The production of really fine work calls for artistic as well as mechanical skill of no mean

heavy black and white effects are by no means difficult to execute, and are very pleasing. To take a proof of one's work it will be necessary to obtain a roller such as printers use, or a pad covered with soft leather, and a small quantity of printer's ink. This is spread on a smooth surface, preferably wood or glass, and a thin layer rolled or dabbed evenly over the engraving. A sheet of paper is next placed over the

layer rolled or dabbed evenly over the engraving. A sheet of paper is next placed over the design, and the whole is covered with a thicker piece. Next rub over the whole of the surface with a burnisher—the handle of an old toothbrush will do very well, and the print of the engraving will be transferred to the paper. It will usually be necessary to go over the work again, correcting some of its irregularities and defects. Only a hint of the process of course can be given in a short article, but the beginner in engraving can find plenty of instruction on the subject in any public library, and as the work goes on and simple designs are executed, the interest will grow, and the ambition will be aroused to do more difficult pieces of work. In this connection it is interesting of work. In this connection it is interesting to note that Robert Louis Stevenson was an enthusiastic amateur wood-engraver, and some of the first blocks done by him are on exhibiquality; but simple designs in outline with tion in the Boston Public Library.

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dressed portion of the wrapper in which you receive this copy.

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AN'T YOU TALK? A \$2000.00 Dog and An Artist's Proof for \$1600.00. As a painter of child and dog life, the world knows no superior to George A. Holmes. In this, considered his best canvas, he has caught the true spirit of friendship which exists between children and dogs of riendship best canvas, he has AN'T YOU TALK? A \$2000.00 Dog and An Artist's Proof for \$1600.00. As a painter of child and dog life, the world knows no superior to George A. Holmes. In this, considered his best canvas, he has caught the true spirit of friendship which exists between children and dogs, a friendship which is proverbial, and in this subject he creates a true delineation of character, showing a thorough appreciation of the nature of his subjects. It was a real incident which furnished Mr. Holmes with the subject of "Can't You Talk?" He heard a little child ask a big dog that very question one day and determined to reproduce the scene. So "taking" was it that the picture was sold for a large sum at the private view of the Academy where it was first exhibited, and so great was the run on the reproductions that frame makers were kept constantly at work night and day to keep pace with the demand. Even the dog that was used for the model acquired value beyond its worth in the eves of the publisher, and he offered the owner \$2000.00 for it, but the sum was refused. The picture is one of those with a legal history, for the court has, on more than one occasion, decided questions involving the infringement of the copyright of this valuable property. The early prints themselves have increased enormously in price, and not very long ago an artist's proof was sold for \$1600.00.

Read Special Offer above "Has Your Subscription Towner and not very long ago and the state of the copyright of the court has the court has the contract of the copyright of the court has the contract of the copyright of the court has the court had not very long ago an artist's proof was sold for \$1600.00.

Read Special Offer above "Has Your Subscription Towner to the court has the court has the court has the court had not been considered to the court has the court has the court had not been considered to the court had not been considered to the court had not



BITTER MEDICINE. The Doctor Orders It. There is not one among us, from the youngest to the oldest but what dislike to take medicine in any form. This distaste is especially strong among the younger generation. In such cases it often becomes necessary for the Family Doctor to administer his dose by force Our picture shows the critical moment when the Doctor, with the baby in his arms, who is crying, kicking and protesting in every way possible, is endeavoring to make it take the contents of the big spoon which he holds in his left hand. Gathered around the chair of the Doctor is arranged the balance of the family, all eager and anxious to see the results of his efforts. The baby's sister has heard the cries of her little brother and come running to see what is the matter, and stands looking at the Doctor, enjoying his unsuccessful attempts to overcome the violent protests of the little baby brother. The mother is directly in the rear of the Doctor's chair, and leaning over his shoulder, watches his efforts and those of her baby with motherly interest; while the father, leaning on the table, takes things more seriously. The scene is one which every family who has been through this homely and familiar experience will recognize, for families are perpetuated by babies. Babies become sick and either the parent or the Doctor must of necessity give the medicine, and to accomplish this, as our picture shows, heroic measures are sometimes necessary. In this particular instance, Resistance and Patience seem to be pitted against each other, with the chances in favor of Patience. Mr. Fleischer, the painter, belongs to the Munich school.

24 inches and when suitably framed looks as nice hanging on the wall as any genuine, original, handpainted canvass costing \$10.00, \$20.00 or even \$1000.00. In preparing the paper for these pictures, by a process taken from the Germans, a canvass-like appearance is given the surface and is quite as prominent as in pictures that are actually painted on canvass.

This feature alone dispels any thought of the viewer that the cost was any small sum because the color harmonizing is perfect in every minute detail giving about nineteen blends and hues in some of the subjects. By arrangements with the Publishers to take one-half million or more of this assortment of the four most popular pictures in the world we are enabled to make these most liberal offers.

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DEFIANCE—OR STAG AT BAY. A Million Bollar Artist. This particular subject was one of Landseere; best pictures. The love of this great painter for all dumb creatures found expression in his art, and wide spread appreciation of his paintings show how firmly the love of animals is fixed in the human mind. No painting has ever been more popular and no one, with the possible exception of Rosa Bonheur, has approached him as a painter of animals. Sir Edwin Landseere, the son of John Landseere, the celebrated engraver, was born in London, March 7th, 1802, and died October 1st, 1873. His remains were interred among the Nation's honored dead in St. Paul's Cathedral. When he died his property amounted to over \$800,000. His various canvasses selling for \$30,000 to \$50,000 each, he thus easily earned more than a million dollars from his work. The incident of the picture "Defiance" shows the end of a long hunt over the mountains. The hounds have followed the stag so closely, and in the hope of baffling his pursuers he has taken to the lake, but, nothing daunted, two of the pack follow, yelping, barking and biting at his haunches. When knee deep in water, the gallant stag stops and makes a stand; with a thrust of his noble antlers, born of desperation, he strikes and fells one of the dogs, severely injuring the other which immediately sets up a cry of mingled pain and terror, endeavoring by his yelps to secure the assistance of the rest of the pack, who are standing on the shore a faraid to follow. The shades of the long winter day are falling on the shores of the lonely mountain lake where the rivals have finished their fearful race of the afternoon. Night falls, and the moon makes her appearance, and there, bleeding from long gashes, breathless, but dauntless, the stag stands, bellowing forth defiance with all his waning energy. The moon sets and darkness throws a veil over the scene, not to be lifted until morning breaks showing the stag still at bay.

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CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.



HE Lunation or New Moon occurs this month at about six minutes past 4 o'clock in the after-noon of the 9th day, ore of the attermoon of the 9th day,
Washington Mean
Time. The figure
shows five of the
heavenly bodies
setting in the 7th
house; Herschel
has already gone
down in the westinto the 6th house:
Mars stands in the
8thhouse a nd
figure.

Mars stands in the 8thhouse of the figure.

The indications of the scheme are not as promising for the welfare of the nation as usual, threatening more than usual mortality from cold and wasting diseases, involving the stomach, liver, kidneys and lungs. The lunation falls almost exactly upon the planet Saturn and the people generally are urged not to be neglectful of colds, but to protect the body as faithfully as possible. At best there must be an unusual prevalence of stomach and digestive troubles, many of them induced, no doubt, by carelessness of diet. Indulgencies in alcoholic beverages in past months will have inflicted serious injury to health upon a great many whose condition at this time will testify to their follies in the past. Nor is this alone confined to those who have so foolishly indulged, but indulgencies of the appetite for equally unhealthful and stimulating foods will be responsible for much dyspepsia and many rheumatic and neuralgiac aches and pains.

The presence of Saturn with the conjoined luminaries in the 7th house indicates some lack of harmony between the people and the executive authority of the government or some growing unpopularity of the ruler; also some treachery by which harm is done by public foes or rebellious persons in western and southwestern regions or upon the Mexican frontier. This antagonism of Saturn to the significator of the people prompts unusual activity of the benevolent and charitably classes by reason of extreme cold or inclemency of the season.

Aside from these untoward promises as to physical being and safety, the indications of the

Aside from these untoward promises as to physical well being and safety the indications of the figure are not adverse to steady improvement in commercial and monetary affairs.

### CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR JANUARY, 1902.

JANUARY I-Wednesday. Do not use this day for engaging in affairs of importance, for misfortune will surely attend them if so begun. Social indulgencies will prove very mischievous if temperance and moderation are not observed; use the pen very cautiously, if at all, on this day; give no cause for offence to thine employer nor should favors be expected from such sources; brain and nervous diseases are aggravated at this time and it will be wise to be very prudent in diet; be on guard against fraud and deceit during the first ten days of this month; do not bargain for houses or lands nor change thy residence on this day.

2-Thursday. Money transactions are best left

2—Thursday. Money transactions are best left alone during the forenoon of this day, nor should any purchases be made for purposes of profit; have no dealings with judges, counsellors, or ecclesiastics; give preference to the afternoon for the elegant pursuits and all polite avocations; deal with the musician, artist, jeweler, and furnisher and seek pleasure from the drama and social and musical entertainments in the evening.

and social and musical entertainments in the evening.

3-Friday. Defer matters of much importance during the morning hours, but as the day advances let every energy be given to the prosecution of all regularly established business: specially urge all transactions in connection with the literary world: make contracts pertaining to printing and publishing and press all commercial engagements; adjust accounts, hasten correspondence, do press-writing and employ the mind to its fullest extent for the next 36 hours; make applications to superiors for favors or advantages and expect agreeable experiences from real estate and mining matters, unless thy nativity be very evil generally in this respect.

4-Saturday. Continue thine efforts of yesterday in

unless thy nativity be very evil generally in this respect.

4-Saturday. Continue thine efforts of yesterday in the particulars indicated, wasting no time in pleasure seeking; the merchant and traveller are peculiarly favored on this day; when also accounts should be attended to and all mathematical and scientific work should be pushed to the utmost; bargain and sell real estate; purchase printing material in established business of this nature; sell mining stocks and all certificates pertaining to land or its products; make contracts relative to mortgages or the development or improvement of buildings or lands and adjust all controversies concerning same.

5-Sunday. The foreneous is the best contracts.

5-Sunday. The forenoon is the best part of this day for religious exercises, although the musical portion of service is less promotive of good than usual and the elegant and artistic in life give less than usual satisfaction.

6—Monday. This day has but little to recommend it, and should not be chosen for the execution of deeds or writings, nor should the judgment be too implicitly relied upon during the day. This is particularly true of persons born about the 9th of January, April, July, or October, of past years, for such persons are likely to be now immersed in troublesome circumstances, business setbacks or physical ailments, according to the time of day at which born; mental anxieties or embarrassments, day at which born; mental anxieties or embarrassments, troubles through accounts or in correspondences, or anayances from slanderous or malicious tongues are frequently indicated for such nativities under like conditions. Let all persons so born studiously avoid all contracts concerning houses, lands, mines, or oil wells, and many of those here indicated are likely to be now brought to a realization of losses from past dealings in such matters; they certainly should not now make any beginnings of such nature but should act conservatively in every venture in their passing life; should run no risks with surplus capital nor be deluded by false promises of new ventures now presenting themselves.

7—Tuesday. Make no application to persons high

7.—Tuesday. Make no application to persons high in official position for any favor or advantage; control the temper and be slow and judicious in all the business moves of the day; keep out of disputes and have no dealings with mechanics or manufacturers; the afternoon and evening are the better parts of the day.

8 Wednesday. Avoid thy landlord at this time and beware of any extensive dealings in lands, mines il wells or any of the products of the earth. and beware of any extensive dealings in lands, mines, oil wells or any of the products of the earth.

9—Thursday. This is to be counted an extremely evil day; and RegCLUS cautions his friends against entering at this time upon any new business or enterprise, for nothing now begun will prosper nor should any permanent benefit or advantage be expected from the general transactions of the day; travel not, if it can be avoided, and beware of incurring the displeasure of those in authority. If this be the anniversary of thy birthday, or if born about the 9th of April, 11th of July, or 12th of October, of past years, do thou exercise extraordinary care in all thine acts for several weeks to come and particular caution is prompted as to diet and such habits as upset the digestive apparatus. The tendency in many such nativities is to lower the moral standard and incline the person to "dip" into a lower moral plane than that on which he was born. This results in many cases from discouraging circumstances which for a season seem to surround them and hinder their usual good fortune. Let all marriageable ladies, so born, beware of entering upon any matrimonial engagement at this time if their desire is for peace or good fortune in the marriage relation. Many of those so born who are already married are likely to be now considerably troubled in mind over the tide of misfortune that now seems to be falling to their lot

through husband, father, or brother; patience and con-sideration are counselled for a season until the storn clouds break away and disclose the bright sunshine be-yond.

yond.

10—Friday. Close upon the heels of the evil conditions of yesterday come the benevolent influences of this day, promising to shorten the reign of mischief referred to and relieve in great measure the troubles and anxieties resulting from the inharmonious elements in such lives, Push business to the utmost during the first half of this day; buy goods for trade; consult lawyers; deal with bankers, judges, and persons of wealth and prominence; make money collections, urge correspondence, sign writings pertaining to commercial affairs; deal with printers, publishers, authors, ceientists and mathematicans, and give attention to all educational enterprises and the intellectual pursuits generally.

11—Saturday. Look out for disputes in the early

and the interlectual pursuits generally.

11—Saturday. Look out for disputes in the early hours and avoid any unusual excitement if the heart be constitutionally affected, or serious complications arise at this time. Some bad fires are likely during the early morning hours; the mid hours of the day are the best.

12-Sunday. The forenoon conduces to happy efforts of the clergy, giving special eloquence and zeal to the temporaneous speaker and closer attention and more ready comprehension from the listener.

category, giving special enoquence and zeal to the extemporaneous speaker and closer attention and more ready comprehension from the listener.

13—Monday. Avoid speculations in houses and lands and give a wide berth to thy landlord and those engaged in the dirty and laborious occupations in life.

14—Tuesday. Be not rash in the early forencon, when also employees of great corporations and public officials are likely to give thee little consideration; but as the forencon advances let every energy be given to the prosecution of all business; make engagements concerning lands, buildings, excavations, wells, and stocks, mortgages, deeds, leases etc., pertaining to such things; deal in lumber, coal, wood, lead, petroleum, lime and all agricultural products; attend to the financial part of such dealings, purchase goods for trade, seek money accommodations, adjust accounts and make collections.

15—Wednesday. Waste none of the moments of this day, but pursue thine avocations vigorously, for thine exertions for pecuniary advantage in all honorable undertakings will meet with more than ordinary success; buy goods for profit; open new stores for business purposes, and make beginnings in the major enterprises; urge all literary pursuits, sign deeds and writings and file suits at law; give preference to the afternoon for transaction of business with dealers in hardware, cutlery, firearms, metals, glassware, brass and iron work, and chemical and electrical apparatus and also with all persons engaged in manufacture and in the ingenious and mechanical trades; mathematical and scientific work of magnitude should be commenced on this day.

16—Thursday. Use the forencon for thine engagements with public officials or with persons concerned

mechanical traces; mathematical and scientific work of magnitude should be commenced on this day.

16.—Thursday. Use the forenoon for thine engagements with public officials or with persons concerned with trade marks, patents, or copyrights, but do not expect much progress in thine affairs in the afternoon when more baffling conditions prevail, more likely to bring disappointments if not actual losses; hold on to the purse-strings and see that thy pennies are not given for needless and unsatisfactory articles.

17.—Friday. The forenoon is indifferent but the afternoon and evening encourage prosecution of musical and artistic studies and good progress in all the elegant trades and avocations and give enjoyment from the drama, the fine arts, amusements and social gatherings; the evening is less favorable for the strictly intellectual engagements, discouraging mental efforts and giving unsatisfactory conclusions from such engagements of the past; the night hours increase activity among thieves and will witness some bad experiences from fires, explosions, or other classes of violent accidents.

plosions, or other classes of violent accidents.

18—Saturday. The early morning gives no promise of advantage from any enterprise but as the sun passes the moon mark thou mayst expect profit and benefit from all honorable pursuits; urge business to the utmost; enter into contracts concerning landed properties of all kinds and the products of the earth, such as produce, timber, lumber, coal, petroleum and wood; attend to financial transactions during the afternoon when also urge every honorable pursuit more vigorously than usual and despite the fact that it is the last hours of the week.

19—Sunday. A superior Sabbath day, when religious exercises will be earnest and effective and all church matters are prospered. Favors at the hands of superiors will be more readily obtained than usual and physical conditions will be buoyant and healthful; social matters will be discordant in the evening and lovers will need to be guarded against disagreements.

De guarded against disagreements.

20—Monday. The first two-thirds of this day will be specially fortunate for surveyors, printers, engravers, carvers, chemists and surgeons; have dentistry performed and pursue mathematical and scientific studies; urge all the literary pursuits and deal with the intellectual classes generally; do not expect any degree of success, however, in thy dealings with public men or government officials or with thine employer or thy superior in authority. authority.

21—Tuesday. Scrutinize thy business enterprises born on this day and have eare that thou art not misled by extravagant representations or over flattering ap-pearances. Keep out of all kinds of disputes; seek pleasure from polite literature or from the dramatical or musical entertainment in the evening.

pleasure from polite literature or from the dramatical or musical entertainment in the evening.

22—Wednesday. Give preference to the forenoon for the most important transactions of this day, the afternoon being more likely to give disappointment in most of the ventures in life; have no dealings with persons in the building trades or who are concerned in commerce; do not make any bargain relative to mortgages or leases or any of the earth's products.

23—Thursday. Conditions are very threatening on this day and money transactions have but little, if any, chance of success; inducements may be held out for speculation, but REGULUS advises his friends to beware of temptation; litigation and heavy loss, if not bank-ruptcy, are likely to fall to the lot of a very great majority of those who embark their surplus capital on this day; combustion is quickened and some bad fires and losses therefrom are very probable in these passing hours, and increased mortality from apoplexy and heart disease, also from hemorrhages and violence is more than likely. Persons born about the 17th of January or April, or 21st of July or 20th of October, of past years, will need to exercise more than ordinary care in finances during 1902, and should also be very prudent in diet and look out for fires; those of the gentle sex so born, should counsel their near male relatives to be specially guarded as to both health and pecuniary transactions.

24—Friday. Choose not this day for engaging in matters of great importance; have extra care in handling fire; avoid travelling; defer transactions in law; sign no contracts and postpone correspondence; rashness and violence will characterize many of the events of the day.

25—Saturday. An active and energetic day, encour-aging travel and the pursuit of chemical and all uncom-mon studies.

26—Sunday. Not a satisfactory day for mental engagements nor for religious exercises of any kind, and church matters suffer adversely; do not seek the society of the fair sex nor of persons advanced in years.

Actively pursue thy several avocations during all this day giving preference, however, to the forenoon for dealings in real estate, boots and shoes, dyes, wooi, lead, coal and all classes of building ma-terials; use the afternoon for thy money transactions in connection with thy regular and established business; seek money accommodations and urge all honorable pursuits. the foreno

pursuits. 28—Tuesday. Look out for quarrels in the morning hours; seek favor or advancement during the noon time, but be very cautious in the use of the pen during the afternoon and evening when mental exercises will be less satisfactory than usual; defer correspondence for a few hours.

hours.

29—Wednesday. Make applications to government officials during the morning hours; have nothing to do with house-painters, stucco-workers or decorators, during the middle part of the day when transactions with architects, furniture dealers and upholsterers should not be had; after the noon hours let attention be given to chemical and electrical enterprises, and pursue intellectual and literary labors during the evening and night hours.

hours.

30—Thursday. Attend to correspondence in the early part of the day, though beware of signing any money obligation in that time; use the afternoon for the elegant pursuits; consult thy milliner, dressmaker and tailor, and attend to matters requiring taste for their spaces.

success.

31—Friday. Seek no promotion in official station nor any favor or business advantage from thine employer nor thy competitor in business; the afternoon is the best part of the day, especially for investigations relative to houses or lands.

# NOTICE.

After years of suffering I have at last discov-After years of suffering I have at last discovered a sure and harmless remedy for all female diseases and the piles. I will gladly send a free sample box to any sufferer. Send at once.

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# FREE HELP FOR WEA

# "CALTHOS"

Prof. Larborde's Marvelous French Cure for Lost Manhood. FIVE DAYS' TRIAL TREATMENT

Sent Absolutely Free by Sealed Mail

To All Sufferers.

NO C. O. D. OR DEPOSIT SCHEME.

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The only preparation known to science which really cures Lost Manhood is "CALTHOS," the marvelous French remedy discovered by Prof. Jules Laborde. It is controlled in this country by THE VON MOHL COMPANY, of Cincinnati, Ohio, a concern which occupies a high and honorable place in the world of medicine. It is one of the largest and most responsible houses in Cincinnati, as anyone who is acquainted in that city will testify.

THE VON MOHL COMPANY invites all men suffering from Lost Manhood, Spermatorrhoza, Varicocele, Small Parts or Weakness of any nature in the Nerves or Sexual Organs, to send their names and receive a five days 'treatment. This will prove the wonderful vitalizing powers of "CALTHOS." After using it five days the sufferers will find new vigor in their organs, new force in their muscles, new blood in their veins, new ambition, and rapid progress toward the buoyant feelings and sensations of younger days.

This liberal free offer is genuine. There is no swindling, C. O. D. or Deposit Scheme connected with it. The five days' treatment is sent by sealed mail to all on request, wrapped in plain package, and full printed instructions accompany the medicine, so that each patient becomes his own doctor and cures himself at home. It doesn't make any difference what caused the weakness-whether bad habits in youth, or excess, or overwork, or business troubles. "Calthes" will effect a cure, no matter what big name the disease may be called by doctors.

The VON MOHL Company treats all correspondence in perfect confidence. Under no conditions will it make public the names of the thousands who have written testimonials telling of their restoration to robust manhood after other medicines and appliances have proved worthless. "Calthes" is regularly used in the French and German armies, and the soldiers in those countries have come to be perfect models of strength and vitality. Cures are effected at all ages from twenty to eighty years. There is no case (except where the stage of e

SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE

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Hundreds of dollars are wasted every year in paying for repairs which could be done by you just as well as by the person you hire. Which could be done by you just as well as by the person you hire. Which could be done by you just as well as by the person you hire. You have to hire the plumber or cobbler and pay him for his time while you stand around and look on, watching him do the work which you could do as well as he, but it is always that you have no while you stand around and look on, watching him do the work which you could do as well as he, but it is always that you have no while you stand around and look on, watching him do the work which you could do as well as he, but it is always that you have no while you could you it at any store. The outift consists of fority-four first-class tools, as shown in the above cut, viz: I rom last for work; I iron last for wor

SPECIAL OFFER. If you will send a club of only 8 yearly subscriptions to our charming monthly at 15c. each or 5 two year subscriptions at 25c. each we will send our magazine to each subscriber regularly and the Complete Repairing Outfit to you as a grand reward for the effort.

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A BOTTLE OF SWANSON'S "5-DROPS" SENT POSTPAID TO ANY READER OF THIS PAPER

Cut out the coupon in this advertisement and send direct to Swanson Rheumatic Cure Co., with your name and address, and a bottle of "5-DROPS" will be mailed you at once. All that we ask you in return is that you take it as directed, and you will find it all that we claim. You need not feel under any obligations whatever in securing the trial treatment which we offer. Here is an opportunity to test a remedy without any expense to you. Certainly nothing can be fairer than this, is the medical wonder of the century.

THE ONLY SURE CURE FOR RHEUMATISM

Lumbago, Sciatica, Neuralgia, Asthma, Catarrh, Liver and Kidney Troubles, La Grippe, Nervousness, Backache, Dyspepsia, Gout, Indigestion, Croup, Nervous and Neuralgic Headache, Heart Weakness, Paralysis, Creeping Numbness, Sleeplessness and Blood Diseases.

Swanson's "5-DROPS" not only effects a quick, permanent, positive cure of all the above named diseases, but, by cleansing the system of all impurities, prevents the dreaded after effects, which are frequently as disastrous as the disease itself. No remedy ever produced will cure Rheumatism as safely and surely as Swanson's "5-DROPS." It makes no difference whether you are suffering from inflammatory, Nervous, Muscular or Articular Rheumatism: whether your whole system is full of uric acid; whether every part of your body is aching and every joint is out of shape: "5-DROPS," if used as directed in the necessary quantity, will positively give instant relief and effect a permanent cure. By purifing the blood, it dissolves the uric acid and all other impurities and removes them from the system; it is the grandest builder of nerve force in the world; it strengthens the muscles and puts all the organs of the body in a natural, healthy, condition.



"This time a year ago I was obliged to use crutches on account of Rheumatism, but now, thank God, and the regular and constant use of "5-DROPS," I am active and able to attend to all the duties of my sacred calling. Had my trouble not been chronic before I began to use your wonderful remedy I feel perfectly satisfied that my cure would have been almost immediate."

REV. FATHER MACKEY, St. James' Church, West Duluth, Minn.

"For twenty long years my wife suffered untold tortures from Sciatica Rheumatism and Neuralgia, and I thank God for the day that your heaven-sent remedy fell into my hands, for it completely cured her. I am a minister of the gospel, and when I find any who suffer I cannot help but recommend "5-DROPS," for I know it will do more than you claim for it."

REV. F. M. COOPER, Washington, Center, Mo.

"I suffered terribly for two years from Nervous Prostration. I tried other nerve tonics with very little relief, and, in fact, I began to despair of ever being any better. Fortunately for me, Mr. Allen M. Sage recommended your remedy so highly and told what it had done for him that I was induced to try it. To my great astonishment one bottle of '5-DROPS' and one box of Swanson's Pills did me more good than all other medicines I had ever taken. I believe it to be the most wonderful discovery for nervous and rheumatic diseases of the present age."

REV. I. A. ROUT, Ionia, Mich.





COUPON No. 11,000.

Cut this out and send it with your name and address to Swanson Rheumatic Cure

OF CHARGE,

Swanson's "5-DROPS" is a household remedy that every family should have, at itheral offer made by SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO,, and secure A TRIAL

Every family should have a bottle of "5-DROPS" on hand ready for use in case of emergency. It will stop a pain in less time than any other medicine and if taken occasionally keep the blood and system in such a healthy condition that disease will be almost an impossibility. It cures croup, stops a stomach ache almost instantly, aids digestion, keeps the bowels in good condition. Prevents those terrible pains caused by neuralgia. It is a medicine which will save its cost ten times over by stopping the attack of disease at the outset, thus saving a doctor's bill. Every member of the household will need "5-DROPS" at some time or other.

"5-DROPS" at some time or other.

"5-DROPS" will restore the nerves to their natural healthy condition by going directly to the seat of the trouble. It will restore your energy, vim and push as nothing else will do,

WARNING Accept no substitute for "5-DROPS." Nothing else can do its work. Insist on securior \$1.00. If it is not obtainable in you town order from us direct and we will send it prepaid.

SWANSON RHEUMATIC GURE CO., 160 LAKE ST., CHICAGO

With a Magnifying Glass.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT:



HERE is a wonderful world open to us through the magnify-ing glass. Some one has called this region "the back stairs of Nature," because its work is carried on out of sight It is the out of sight. It is the world of insects and small water-creatures with their queer changes. Look at this tiny crystal tube!

this tiny crystal tube! It darts to and fro, transacts its business deftly, yet it has no legs or wings or hands. Here seem to be a few specks of dust on a leaf. Through the glass we see they are transparent eggs. Very soon you can perceive distinctly the outline of a body inside, with legs, a head with protuberant black eyes; and then a lively creature skips forth, ready to feed or to fight!

a lively creature skips forth, ready to fight!

These water and air worlds, the first lifestations so to speak, have many and odd patterns. Among the birds, quadrupeds and men the pattern is finally decided upon. You know at least how many legs, arms and eyes to expect and also where to expect them. But Nature has some surprising patterns at the back stairs laboratory. What is really needful? she seems to ask. Here is a stomach with a fringe of hairs to catch its prey. That gets on finely as a water hydia. Some polypus have finely as a water hydia. Some polypus have one stomach in common and thrive very well, indeed. Sometimes the tiny animal has but one foot which it uses as an oar, a spade or a hook at will. Sometimes it has many legs and hook at will. Sometimes it has many legs and pro-legs, of unequal lengths. Now the legs will be arranged in two rows like a caterpillar, and again in a circle like the spider's. The eyes may be anywhere, and they may be compound eyes with any number of facets, or they may have several pairs of eyelids, thick and thin, according to need. You can hardly imagine any sort of weapon or defensive device that is not in use by some insect or other. Beside their wings for flight and their own special weapons, horns, claws, beaks, etc., they have side their wings for flight and their own special weapons, horns, claws, beaks, etc., they have every evil device ever known to man; lassoes ingeniously coiled, marks and disguises to conceal their real character, tubes of poison to kill or benumb, the hidden daggers of their sharp sting and all sorts of traps and pitfalls. Yes, certainly here have been tried and tested all things for the primitive life—the capture of load for its devouring hunger. Ways of escapfood for its devouring hunger, ways of escap-ing or over-coming an enemy, devices of the householder for the preservation of its young, though it must be owned these are often of the though it must be owned these are often of the simplest. If eggs, they are dropped in a safe place, or perhaps lashed together on a sort of raft and left to their fate. If the young come by budding, they are nourished from the parent stem for a while and then break off and float away to set up a new household. The simplest method of making a family is by division, each piece an entire creature; but, of thing, feeble and drawf they when it hist appears, and drawfully when it hist appears, and the and then that suppears, but it hangs itself on a nail or a twig, and stretches and stretches itself to its full size, with smooth wings glorious in color, and at last floats away to revel in sunshine and thrown open to the public, it will no doubt become one of the most famous resorts in the country.

There is something that even looks like a moral choice here, for it is said some individual of a small cabin. Immediately upon entering

course, as the animal grows more complex, has more organs, and more intelligence, this method is put aside. Nothing is more wonderful than the instinct with which some insects provide for the children they will never see. They have never known parents, they will never know their offspring, yet they store up food, they spin silken coverlids, they choose safe shelter. Does not one come near a Divine Father's thought here?

There is a wealth of color, grace, fancy in the decoration of these almost invisible cradles and homes. The butterfly eggs look like Mosques and Minarets of a Moorish city in their rich, fantastic arabesques and twisted coils. Some of the stalls on the Azore Islands might be mistaken for grains of sand, and yet each one, in its curve and recurve, is,

"A work divine,

insects refuse to bury themselves, and so die incomplete, while others obey the law, and the others obey the law, and the others obey the law, and the rear, the sound approaching that of a high wind soughing through tree-tops. It is this prevalent wind which has given the cave its that we find here too

Stepping inside, the noise ceases, and one first goes down for about one hundred and fifty steps into the blackness of darkness. From this point, the slope towards the interior of the earth is gradual and so slight as not to require exertion either in descending or ascending.

The first of the peculiar formations to be found is a room about twenty to thirty feet in size. The entire side walls and ceiling is of box-work," consisting of small squares from two tofour inches in diameter, and about the same in depth, opening outward and possessions in the correction of the terrs of boxes in the same in depth, opening outward and possessions.

"A work divine,
Made so fairly well
With delicate spire and whirl.
How exquisitely minute,
A miracle of design!"

For softness of texture and perfect dainti-For softness of texture and perfect daintiness, no human handiwork can excel the silken chrysalids of the moths, the silvery threads of the spider's gossamer, the cell of the burrowing bees, lined with the satin-like petals of the rose and the red poppy. Other insects weave together leaves in bowers of greenery. We find even the grotesque in perfection in the humorous caddis-worm, who covers itself with pebbles and bits of wood until it is quite invisible.

Beauty is given with full hands to the min-

visible.

Beauty is given with full hands to the minute things of air and water. Do you notice the dust or powder on a moth's wing that makes it so soft and velvety? Each grain of this dust is a perfect plume. Look at the jelly fish, how they throb and flicker with beautiful colors and lights! How freely is every little creature decorated with a glitter as of gold or silver!

The beetle of Brazil, one of the hard, horny beatles, which is a privales amount. beetles, shines like a priceless emerald. The fireflies, the glowworms, thousands of seacreatures, are their own lamps as well as lampbearers, and light the whole region where they

are.
No one can make acquaintance with dwellers No one can make acquaintance with dwellers in the sea, or the invisible neighbors of the microscope-world, without growing keenly interested in their life-histories, full of changes and adventures. The simplest insect begins as an egg, with its store provided with strange foresight, then it is a worm or caterpillar with all sorts of disguises from its many enemies,—protective coloration, and queer attitudes, so that it looks like a leaf or a twig or a bit of moss; hiding-places ingeniously constructed in the leaves, and what is odder still, this pulpy, helpless thing erects its homes, lashes itself from side to side, as if it were a furious beast, to keep away its smaller foes! Next comes the curious self-burial, the long, trance like sleep, and the awakening as a butterfly with its grave-clothes or old skin rolled in a heap, and the sepulcher or chrysalis-case rent apart. It is an old-looking, wrinkled, ugly neap, and the sepulcher or chrysans-case rent apart. It is an old-looking, wrinkled, ugly thing, feeble and drawn up when it first ap-pears, but it hangs itself on a nail or a twig, and stretches and stretches itself to its full size, with smooth wings glorious in color, and at last floats away to revel in sunshine and

# The Most Wonderful Cave in the World.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HEN Mammoth Cave and the great Caverns of Luray were discovered they were considered the most wonderful in the world, but with-in a few years, a much more marvelous one has been found in South Da-kota, called "Wind Cave." The United States Government has secured control of the cave the majes-tic extent and wonderful formations of which have been but little described and seldom pictured. As at present managed, but seven miles of the ninety miles of passage ways and chambers which have been invaded by discoverers are open to sight seers. Many of the most gorgeously

altared and tesselated rooms are accessible only after considerable exertion, but under the handiwork of the Government's agents these will have passageways opened or bridges thrown across the narrow chasms, so that the trip can be made not only with safety, but comfort

In Wind Cave ninety miles of underground passageways have been explored, opening up an aggregate of twenty-five hundred rooms or chambers. The entire distance is possible to be traversed without danger or discomfort, and when the cave shall have been equipped with electric lights, according to the plans suggested to the Government officials now in charge, with bridges over the few narrow chasms which are to be encountered, and the cave thrown open to the public, it will no doubt become one of the most famous resorts in the

quire exertion either in descending or ascenaing.

The first of the peculiar formations to be found is a room about twenty to thirty feet in size. The entire side walls and ceiling is of "box-work," consisting of small squares from two to four inches in diameter, and about the same in depth, opening outward and possessing the general appearance of the tiers of boxes in a post-office. The formation is the first process of crystallization, the crystals being very fine and of a reddish brown, similar to the color of the surface soil and rock. From its appearance this room has been called the "post-office," and in the boxes repose the cards of thousands of persons who have visited the cave.

cards of thousands of persons who have visited the cave.

Two or three rooms farther in comes Odd Fellow's hall, two hundred and thirty feet below the surface, and a much larger room than the preceding chambers, but with the crystallization still in a formative state. Beyond this the real beauties of the place begin to be seen. The first change in formation noticeable is that the crystals are growing "crummy" in size and whiteness, in each succeeding chamber becoming harder in appearance and larger in size until the "popcorn" formation is met. This is the first indication of stalactite and stalagmite, and it has been named "Dripstone Paradise."

From this point immense chambers succeed

From this point immense chambers succeed each other, each, as the route descends, showing an increased antiquity and each possessing more of brilliancy of reflection and design of networks convince then the preceding.

more of brilliancy of reflection and design of nature's carvings than the preceding. Caverns of gigantic proportions are traversed, one of the smallest being sixty feet in width and over two hundred in length.

From this point the descent is more rapid, yet not so great as to be uncomfortable. As each cavern is now reached through passageways of fair width and a happy dryness, one of the guides hastens in advance to the opposite side and strikes calcium lights, whose brilliance of the strikes of the strikes calcium lights, whose brilliance of the strikes of the strikes calcium lights, whose brilliance of the strikes calcium lights, whose brilliance of the strikes calcium lights, whose brilliance of the strikes calcium lights. side and strikes calcium lights, whose brilliancy is reflected far into the darkness above and to the walls on either side, which are here of the hardest crystal formation, niched and carved, polished and scintillating, a veritable palace of diamonds.

palace of diamonds.

Four miles of crystal caverns are traversed from this point, each possessing some point of beauty more interesting and wonderful than has before been seen, the Crystal Palace at the end of the journey forming a climax to an entrancing pleasure and sight-seeing excursion. This chamber is estimated to be thirty-five hundred feet below the surface and is seven miles from the entrance.

miles from the entrance.

Truly it would seem, would it not, that we are just beginning to develop the wonders of this "great and glorious country"?

Mt. St. Elias, supposed to be the highest point in Alaska, is now believed to be in Canadian territory. There are reports of moun-tains in Alaska far to the northwest, higher than Mt. St. Elias, but not yet verified.

out Coupon





#### PRIZE STORIES.

The following conditions govern the awarding of cash prices for Nutshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have complied with all these requirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for anyone to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

it will be useless for anyone to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

1. Only persons who are regular paid up yearly subscribere to "Comfort" and who send with every manuscript at least four yearly subscribers (together with 25 cents to pay for each subscriber to sent) may compete for the prites.

2. All contributions must have the number of words they contain plainly noted thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with nom deplume if desired; must be written on one side of the paper only, enclosed in the same envelope as the letter and remittance for new subscriptions, and addressed to Editor NUTSBELL STORY CLUB care of COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributors, and must not have appeared in print before. Competitors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or diction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 2,000 or less than 1,000 words.

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No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Short Story Price Offer.

The Publishers of "Comfort" reserve the right to purchase at their established rates any stories submitted under the formany offer, which failed to secure a price.

Fer Writers who hear nothing of their manuscript may at the end of 90 days after submitting them to "Comfort" feel at liberty to offer their stories for sale elsewhere.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR JANUARY. Max B. Thrasher, First Prize. icar S. Seaver, Second Prize

Elizabeth Bean, Third Prize. Sarah E. Gannett, Fourth Prize Col. Prentiss Ingraham, Fifth Prise.

### A Million Dollar Five Cent Piece.

A Story of the Great Bailroad Deal of 1901.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY MAX B. THRASHER.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.



RIVE on, I say. We don't want the likes of him here."

"Sure I was told to take him to a hotel." "And who told you to do that? It's to the inebriate asylum you should be after taking him, I'm thinking."

The porter of the Manhattan Square Hotel thrust his hands into his pockets as if to intimate that there was nothing for him to do.

"Go on!" He added. The cabby hesitated. "But I was told to

take him to a hotel," he said, once more, "if he was sick."

"Who told you to do that?" the porter inquired scornfully.

"The gentleman who had been riding with him. He stopped me at the L station and got out, and told me to drive about for half an hour, and then if the gent in the carriage didn't feel better to take him to a hotel. He's sick. all right: and this is the third hotel I've been to, and they won't take him in."

"Sick!" exclaimed the porter looking in again at the door of the carriage, where a welldressed, good-looking man was sunk down in a shapeless heap upon the seat. "He's drunk!"

A nickel and three coppers.

Dr. Edward Leeson looked at the coins, and then turned his trousers pockets wrong side out and looked at the pockets.

Eight cents. Should postage stamps to put on the four letters which lay sealed and addressed on the small table in the bare room, or should he spend the money for a cup of coffee and a roll this one last time, and leave his letters as they were with the chance that whoever found him dead would be kind enough of heart to forward a suicide's last letters to the persons to whom they were addressed?

"I'll chance it," he said, almost smiling once more at the grotesque gruesomeness of the gamble. "Heads I buy stamps; tails, coffee."

The nickle spun upward from his thumbnail, and whirling in the air fell clattering on the wooden floor. The big V inside the laurel wreath showed plainly.

"Tails!" the young man said, stooping to pick up the coin from the floor. "Coffee it is, then." Locking the door behind him he went out into the street.

Just why so young and well educated a physician as Dr. Edward Leeson had come to be in a place where he had deliberately decided that he no longer cared to live, was his own business. No doubt he was more or less to blame There was a woman in it, too, naturally. A long hard struggle to get a profession had been with you?"

"You understand, now, do you?" he asked, and then added, "Have you got much money with you?"

followed by a harder struggle to get a practice. Now the game was up, he told himself-or rather not worth the playing longer, and he would withdraw. He had spent the night putting the few things he had left in order and in writing the letters now lying on the table. Thanks to his doctor's drugs—if a scanty remnant-the means for carrying him over into the great Unknown was at hand. As soon as he came back from the street the voyage was to be undertaken.

"Sick!"

The ear of a doctor caught the word unconsciously, and passed it on through all the whirling thoughts in his mind to where it made an impression on the brain.

Dr. Leeson taking a short cut across Manhattan Square to his lodging place from the cheap restaurant where he had been taking his meals of late, stopped beside the open door of the carriage standing in front of the hotel. Leaning out from the curb stone he closed his fingers around the wrist of the unconscious man huddled down on the seat.

"Is he sick, sir?" the driver asked.

"Or drunk?" said the porter.

"He's sick, all right," was the answer. 'Better get him inside at once."

The carriage was driven around to a side door, and the man was soon laid on a couch in one of the hotel rooms. The doctor felt his pulse again, and opening his clothing laid his ear over the sick man's heart. Then, first one and then the other, he raised the lids of the tightly shut eyes.

"I thought so," he said, as he stood up again. "He's been drugged."

He pressed the electric button beside the door, and while a hall boy was coming from the office wrote out two prescriptions. "Get these filled at the nearest drug store,"

he said, "as soon as possible." "Will I have them charged?" the boy asked,

'or pay for them?"

"Charged," was the answer. "Go, quick!" An hour later the man on the couch was slowly coming back to consciousness. His eyes were open. The first word he said was

'time," and then, over and over again, "What

time?" "Is there time?" Finally, as if with one desperate effort to rally his faculties, he said. "Are you a doctor?" "Yes."

"Can't you give me something to clear my head for just five minutes, so I can think? No matter what happens to me afterwards."

The doctor hesitated.

"Can't you?" the man said again, and half whispered, "A fortune depends upon it." "Yes," said the doctor; and taking a hypodermic syringe from his pocket, filled it from a tiny vial and thrust the needle into the man's

arm. The effect was almost instantaneous. The sick man's eyes cleared and his tongue was no longer thick.

"Why, I'm all right," he said.

"Better say what you want to, quick," the doctor said. "You won't be all right long." Instantly the sick man's manner became that of the keen business man, accustomed to think and act promptly.

"Do you know anything about stocks?" he asked.

"Something," said the doctor in surprise, reflecting grimly to himself that if he had known less about stocks-or more-he would not have been in need to kill himself that morning.

"My name is John Dix," the man on the couch said. "I was drugged and robbed in that carriage this morning by a man whom I have always trusted."

He felt in his pockets. "The only thing he took from me was a key to a safe deposit box in the Park Trust Company's building. In that box are twelve hundred shares of Oregon and Atlantic stock. Did you read the papers yesterday?"

"Yes."
"Then you know there is a corner being worked in that stock, and that \$350 a share was offered for it yesterday. It will go to twice that figure today. The man who stole my key means to get that stock, sell it, and get clear.

"Would I have died?" he said suddenly changing the subject, "if I had not fallen into your hands in time?"

"You might," replied the doctor.

"I thought so.

"The only thing that will stop him," he said, going back to his former subject again, "is that two keys are necessary to open the box. My brokers have the second key. He will find that out in time and try to get it. The brokers are Kohl & Thomas, on Broadway. Can I get down there?"

"No," said the doctor promptly.

"Then you must go for me. Tell them what I have told you, and tell them to sell the stock on their best judgment. If you can't get hold of the man who did me up, and get my key from him, blow open the box. Here! Give me that piece of paper."

He wrote on the back of a prescription blank an order to the safety deposit company to do the bearer's bidding, even to blowing open his strong box, and signed it.

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"No," said the doctor.

BIGGER

BOX

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"Take this, then." He pulled out a roll of bills, and handed it to the physician. "Now go down stairs the first thing, and telephone to Kohl & Thomas to wait all business of mine until you get there. Come back here before you start down town."

When Dr. Leeson came back from the telephone, ten minutes later, it was to find his patient unconscious again. For a whole minute the young physician stood looking down at the senseless man.

He had in his pocket an order which would place a million dollars' worth of negotiable securities in his hands. He knew that the man before him, if left alone, would never rouse to consciousness-would slip silently and gently out of life into that Unknown which he himself had thought to have explored before that time. Why was not one man's life as good as another?

This was the mere man's nature, and only for a moment did it hold sway before the higher nature of the physician asserted itself. The physician's first duty was not to himself, but to his patient—to that helpless creature on the couch. Dr. Leeson rang for a bell boy and began mixing some medicine in a glass.

"Give that man a spoonful of this medicine every half hour until I come back," he said. "and do not leave him alone."

A public automobile was halted in front of the hotel when Dr. Leeson hurried from out the house. As he had come through the office he had seen that a clock there had marked half past one. He pulled the roll of bills which the man had given him from his pocket and unrolled it for the first time. There were one, two, three "C's" on the outside, and twenties, tens, and fives within them. Taking out a ten he gave it to the driver, and springing into the automobile said:

"Get me to Kohl & Thomas' on Broadway as quick as you can. If you get me around in season to do what I want to do I'll double that."

The driver grasped the lever of the machine, and guiding it dexterously out of the crowded street into Madison Avenue, turned on power enough to send it flying down that always semi-deserted thoroughfare at a speed which set at defiance all the city ordinances against fast driving.

As they crossed at Madison Square into Fifth Avenue, a policeman shouted to them to stop, but his cry was left behind. On, on they went, down lower Fifth Avenue. Pedestrians fled to the sidewalk, and the drivers of wagons swore roundly. Another officer, and still another, hailed them. Washington Square was passed and then, in spite of all the driver's skill, a block of teams was struck which hindered them. A policeman, puffing, caught up and grasping the side of the machine cried: "Stop that, I say! I arrest you!"

The doctor thrust a twenty dollar bill into the officer's hand.

"Arrest me all you want," he said, "only don't stop me now. Get in here and stay with me." The block had been broken. The wheels of the machine were already beginning to move. The officer leaped to a seat beside the doctor.

"What the hell?" he began, tucking the money inside his blouse. The rest of his question was drowned in the rattle of their flight.

The head of the firm of Kohl & Thomas himself went with Dr. Leeson to the safety deposit building. While preparations were being made to blow open the strong box rented to John Dix the man who had walked in to make another attempt to get into the box, and the policeman who had Dr. Leeson in charge arrested him also. With the help of the keys the box was quickly opened, but the delays had been so many that when the broker finally held the securities in his hands it was quarter to three o'clock; and the stock exchange closed at three.

The history of that day in Wall street in the summer of 1901 will be told as long as this country exists. White faced men bid up and up for Oregon and Atlantic stock until a thousand dollars was being offered for a share. Kohl & Thomas sold the stock belonging to their client for over a million dollars, and the men who bought the stock thought it cheap at that, for the name and honor of a great banking house were saved by the trade.

Dr. Leeson, having squared the policeman to let him off without bail, and having seen the officer's other prisoner taken to the lock-up, hurried back to his patient, whom he found still unconscious. In time, though, although it took much

greater effort than the first time, the man was

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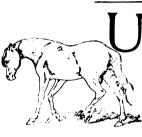
sufficiently recovered to be taken to his home He insisted that Dr. Lesson—to whom he de clared reasonably enough that he owed his 18 -must go with him, and when he had recovered and the physician's circumstances  $u_{\rm c}$ known to him, did not rest until the does was established in a practice more lucration than his wildest dreams had ever pictured.

And that is why the charm on Dr. Edward Leeson's handsome gold watch chain is just a plain nickel five cent piece, set so that the side which shows the letter V inside the laure! wreath is always uppermost.

### The Bonanza Town.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY OSCAR 5. SEAVER.

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PON the great Montana slope of the Bitter Root range, half way between the broken foot hills and the black timber belt, i situated the will pioneer town of Little Creek. !

consists of two straggling rows of log stractures and boasts as municipal ornaments doctor's cabin, three whitewashed stores and two saloons.

It is here that miners and cowboys come to shake off the solitude of their callings. There is company, whiskey, gossip of the outside world, poker in either saloon and three card Monte on a blanket in the open, presided over by white or Indian manipulators. The hitching rails before the two saloons are usually lined with ponies, indicating a brisk business inside, and the plaza is never deserted. There are disputes and wranglings, which if not at all times followed by shooting frays, create an atmosphere conducive to that diversion. Indeed, such is the proclivity of Little Creek for entertainment after the wild tastes of her pstrons that no man "goes broke" without a hot. exciting run for the money; and such being the quest there follow no regrets.

There was no law in Little Creek in 1898 higher than public sentiment and there were no rulers other than the publicly supported celebrities.

These roles fell justly upon two cowboys of repute who had come into the new country a independent stock men. Though young, they were men of wide experience throughout the limits of the Great Western Cow Country. After the cowboy fashion they were mild spoken, but no exteriors ever covered more untamed tempers then theirs. Therefore no be-

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littling "short handles" had accrued to their interrupted. I'm not mistaken. You're the be cut to Mose and Lige.

In the public eye each man had his distinct prestige. Tilford was a skillful arbitor of disputes over stock rights between the Indians and cattlemen. Through his friendship with Yellow Wolf, the old chief, Tilford managed grub, I'm going to send you prospecting for a to share peacefully during the dry months, the water supply to which the Indians held flawless claim. Allen had put a notch in his own score of public achievements to equalize this by winning a complete victory over Tilford at the fair and games in which Little Creek annually indulged.

It cannot be said that the two cowbovs were not rivals. It also cannot be said that they were, until, without their knowledge, Little Creek placed them as such by betting upon which cowboy would first place his brand on a certain four year old stallion that was running wild in the hills.

The animal in question was a prince of his kind and necessarily attracting attention enjoyed a reputation that seemed hardly true. In the summer of 1898 he was a continual challenge to the ability of either Tilford or Allen, and as both of the cowboys had publicly accepted the challenge, the rest of Little Creek extended the courtesy of "hands off."

During one of the long absences of the two men the expectancy that Allen's big "A" or Tilford's triangle in triangle would speedily reach the coveted mark developed at Little Creek and the town awaited with keen excitement the return of the two men; an event which promised to enrich one half of the population at the expense of the other.

It was therefore with no little surprise that the two men learned of the game in which Little Creek had indulged during their absence and the parts they had been expected to play. Both men were in the Paris. Allen's face took on a foolish smile. Tilford laughed. "I'll go it, Lige," he said.

"'Tis about time a rope was on the little cuss," returned Allen complacently, the truth being that his brand was already a day old on the stallion and he was still sore from the struggle that had left the spirited animal comparatively tame and tractable. Allen's vanity. however, was touched, and not content with stealing a legitimate march, he grasped the chance of adding the laugh of a practical joke played at the expense of his would-be competitor. He therefore agreed to the proposition with a sweet sense of irresponsibility, regretting only that for appearances he would have to set out for the Big Hole region sooner than he had intended.

During the absence of Allen and Tilford, just mentioned, the first professional gambler to set foot in Little Creek became a familiar fixture at the poker tables. To his eye the busy little Yellow Wolf happened to know had undertown with its constant stream of transient cowboys and miners was simply a bonanza the hands of Elijah Allen. Scenting trouble awaiting a clear up.

This gentleman, who took the sobriquet of Wizard, had left his real name as well as his latest photograph somewheres in the Chicago rogues' gallery. Since then he had been moving along the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, staying in a place as long as local sentiment would allow; then taking to the trucks of the first west bound freight until the next locality was reached. He therefore stepped from the semi-weekly stage at Little Creek not only with a realization that no town in Dakota could be victimized with the lucrative returns here offered, but also with a belief that he had stepped beyond the long arm of the law.

True, Little Creek was a bonanza town, but disastrously for the gambler's vision, the law of that town which was sentiment, was wielded by the very man the gambler could least afford to meet thus invested. He had not counted upon recognition. As it was he entered into the life of Little Creek, became an adept gossip of local events; became thoroughly Allen, the wagers upon them, and all the while trickery and harvested the beginning of a for-

After the compact at the Paris, Tilford and Allen strode across the plaza and stepped into Jackson's. The men at the tables called out salutations. The gambler took a quick glance and continued his play. Allen went over to the bar, but Tilford keeping his eyes on the gambler slowly approached his table.

He had recognized the Wizard at once as his partner in a game of cards at Glen Dive, North Dakota, several years before. The game had cost Tilford a year's wages and the salable parts of his outfit. Upon regaining his sober senses the victimized cowboy had intended shooting the gambler but as that would entail the added chagrin of borrowing a gun, he finally put it off and left peaceably with empty pocket and stomach. This was merely a passing event in the gambler's career but to the cow-

"Just a minute of your valuable time," interrupted the cowboy using one of the gambler's discarded names and holding his revolver at a proper level. "You didn't seem to recognize an old pal from Glen Dive. Don't pared for the quick action which took place. interrupt. I'm darned sensitive about being

lot, leaving them spoken of as Moses Tilford coyote that bled me back east. Took every red and Elijah Allen, which upon intimacy might I had and sent me prospecting for grub. Now this ain't a conundrum I'm giving; it's dead straight talk. You ain't playing fair. These since. I've been keeping tab on him. I didn't boys don't know it but I do and my word is know where the black stallion was so I folgood here. We can't stand your kind here you understand. Now you sent me prospecting for new town, and you can thank me for not plugging you right here. After noon tomorrow I may show up at any time and if I find you ornamenting this here town it's tar, feathers and lead. Don't let me interrupt your game boys," and with this ultimatum that left every man standing, the cowboy backed out of the door.

The next morning the Wizard sat among the tables at Jackson's in deep thought, contemplating with abstracted gaze the brisk traffic across the bar. It was time to propose a game and there were fat pouches in town that morning to tempt a violation of the injunction. The Wizard did not fear an exchange of shots but he could not hope to brave public sentiment which had turned against him over night. The alternative was, however, to abandon his bonanza town and he was no more disposed to do that than a miner is disposed to leave an uncovered lode.

It was in the last hour of his allotted time that fate put a desperate finesse in the Wizard's hands, which if successfully played would allow him to disappear for a space of time and then return to Little Creek to guilelessly complete his clean up.

A Mexican wrangler known as Pete in the employ of Allen came into Jackson's and remarked that his boss's brand was on the black stallion. He had merely seen it; further he knew nothing. In the excitement which followed the gambler buttonholed Pete presumably to good purpose. Then the two walked up to the bar.

"It's on me," said Jackson a backer of Allen. Then remembering the injunction he laughed harshly and added, "chances are I wont do it again."

"Even chances you won't if I know my business" and leaving Jackson scratching his head over this admission, the Wizard and Pete disappeared from Little Creek.

Because this is the narration of facts as known at Little Creek it must be admitted that aside from one instance, the subsequent movements of the gambler is a mystery. Nevertheless, it is presumable that guided and aided by the astute Mexican, the gambler had little trouble in finding the black stallion and again placing the animal under control. It is a fact, however, that Yellow Wolf riding through the hills to Little Creek discovered the two men in a deep coulee a half mile away from his trail engaged in branding the black stallion which gone the same operation two days previous at merely between the gambler and Allen, however, and being too wise an Indian to mix in white men's trouble, Yellow Wolf rode into Little Creek and out again without giving the slightest intimation of what he had seen.

A cheerful week passed in which Little Creek did not miss the well-dressed fixture at the poker tables. Little Creek was not only actively engaged in preparation for its approaching gala day but was getting careworn over the wagered money which the Mexican wrangler's word had not been sufficient to decide.

"What I want to know," declared McAllister, "is why in h-ll Mose don't come in and say Pete's story is a lie."

"He don't have to," remarked the complacent Jackson.

"You've got the word of a greaser," sneered

McAllister. "Good enough for me," replied Jackson.

"Maybe, but I say he was lying," retorted McAllister.

As if in special corroboration of McAllister's familiar with the reputations of Tilford and statement, Billy Break, a cowboy of veracity rode into Little Creek with the announcement plied his craft with merciless though flawless that it was not Allen's big "A" but Tilford's triangle in triangle that was on the stallion. This put Little Creek in a second spasm of ex-

> "Give up," demanded McAllister and one half the population of Jackson and the other. "No, sir," replied Jackson stolidly. Jackson then took a piece of chalk and continued, "You've missed the point. Now Leigh's big 'A' is like this." He drew it on the bar. "Now add to it here and here and here and you've got Mose's triangle in triangle as sure as shooting. I guess we'll wait for the boys if it's all the same to you Mr. McAllister."

When Tilford returned he found Little Creek in holiday garb. Booths and bunting gave the true tone of celebration while the fringe of schooners and tents upon the outskirts which gave the town the appearance of a new gold strike were in reality a tribute to the gala programme. The mixed holiday crowd boy's pride it was a wound of humiliation still had soon become acquainted with the details of what was publicly termed the doctored brand and were waiting with suppressed excitement an episode.

> It may be said, however that while Little Creek felt trouble impending, it was not pre-

Tilford rode into town first. "Don't worry

about me, Mac," he said to McAllister in the Paris. "If Lige branded that horse, he did it before he came into town last time. I knew it because he'd been in the Big Hole country ever lowed him to find out. I got in talking range of him once.

"He says to me chipper'n blazes, 'been doing any branding lately?' I saw he had a cincher ready for me. 'Waal,' says I, 'been trailing vou to take lessons in the art.' 'Better get up a sweat pretty quick,' sez he. 'Don't mention it' sez I, about as sassy as I knew. 'Some people have their work done before others have begun' and I left him pretty mad.

"Now I've come into a deal against four of a kind, Mac, drew a new hand, found them all blue and walking right up hill and before I lay that hand down there'll be fun."

Said Allen to Jackson's relief, "I put my brand on a clean hide. Pete and Yellow Wolf can prove it. I met Mose in the Big Hole. Said he'd been taking lessons of me. Said some folks had their work done before others began. I see his meaning now. He didn't like my particular design and doctored it into his! I'll make him hum for it Jack; just chalk that up somewhere as a reminder."

Allen, nipped in his own trap, thoroughly enraged, was as good as his word. Learning Tilford's whereabouts he started across the plaza followed by an expectant crowd. Billy Break leaning against the bar in the Paris had time to cry a warning before Allen appeared. Tilford rose in a flash and whipped out his gun. The two reports were almost simultaneous. Tilford slid under a table from which he was subsequently dragged apparently lifeless. Allen rocked a moment and then sank into a

Doc Bailey, into whose cabin the wounded men were carried, quickly diagnosed the cases. Allen was not even prostrated. He had been struck in the shoulder but outside of an ugly fracture was not seriously hurt. Tilford, however, had been shot through the chest and although no blood appeared upon the lips to indicate that the lungs had been pierced, Bailey had no hope for him.

It was before this bulletin was changed that the holiday crowd departed for ranch and claim spreading the false rumor all over the Bitter Root country that Elijah Allen had shot and killed Moses Tilford at Little Creek in a quarrel over the branding of a horse.

In the presence of Doc Bailey, McAllister, Jackson, Billy Break and Lige Allen, Tilford heard Yellow Wolf describe for the hundredth time the scene he had witnessed.

"l calate he played it on us Lige'," was Tilford's comment.

"On me," corrected the other.

"You played fair, Lige," and these words of Tilford's closed the matter between the two men except that when they rode again it was as partners.

What to others was a nasty piece of mischief however was to Jackson a key to the locked motive of the affair. That astute analyst took his chalk again and spent the next two days putting two and two together over his bar.

"He's playing to come back," was his gratify ing discovery, "and chances are he'll bite at the news that Mose was killed, and show up here as meek as a kitten, licking its paw. Don't you fellers see that was his strategy? Just keep mum, boys, and let the ancient law of retribution take its course."

Therefore Little Creek waited patiently, even going so far when abroad as to deny the counter rumor of Tilford's recovery, hoping that the Wizard would return to his bonanza town to enjoy the victory he had so nearly won. But time showed this to be a futile hope. Tilford's recovery spread as quickly as had his rumored death and Little Creek regretfully allowed the matter to pass into history, it having been agreed as a mark of sympathy for Tilford and a matter of just concession to Tilford's supporters that all wagers should be declared off.

# Clock Struck Thirteen.

A New Year's Story.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY BLIZABETH BEAN.

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HE tall clock in the corner struck eleven. Mrs. Root opened the door of the sittingroom stove and looked in meditatively.

"I believe I'll put another chunk in," she said. "Our folks won't be home for an hour and a half yet, and it's so cold tonight they'll want a good fire. You hold the light for me Sarah."

The two women went out into the big, cold farmhouse kitch-

en, and Mrs. Root selected from the well-filled woodbox a large knotty stick of dry maple

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wood. This she introduced into the sittingroom stove by taking the entire top of the stove off. When the stove top had been let down again, and Mrs. Root had brushed the wood dirt off the front of her dress and adjusted the stove dampers, the two women drew their rocking chairs up in front of the fire and

It was the last night of the old year. The 'folks" had gone to the village to attend a 'watch night" service in one of the churches. Mrs. Root and her sister, Mrs. Sarah Parmenter, who lived in Iowa and was making a longlooked-forward-to visit to her old New England home, had elected not to go to the meeting. "Some one will have to stay at home to keep fire, anyway," Mrs. Root had said.

"Hearing that clock strike," said the farmer's wife, after she had got comfortably settled in her chair, "makes me think, Sarah, that with all we've talked about the things that have happened here late years, I haven't thought to tell you about the strangest one of all and that is the goings on about the Butler place."

"You mean the Grandfather Butler place?" inquired Mrs. Parmenter. "The one where the old man lived, with Eunice to take care of him? By the way, what ever became of Eunice? She was about our age, wasn't she?"

"A little older," was the reply. "It was about her that the strange part of it all happened. You see Eunice was not really any relation to Grandfather Butler. She was a girl they took to bring up, to help about the house when the children were small; but after she got grown up she took right hold just like one of the family, and when the other children had all died or got married and gone away, she was the only one that stayed to make a home for the old man. To my own certain knowledge, Eunice Butler—she always called her name Butler, although she never was legally adopted









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—had at least two good chances to get married, and turned her back on both of them because she said the Butlers had taken care of her when she was little and needed a home, and she thought it was no more than she ought to do to stay and take care of the old man when he meded her.

"Grandfather Butler lived and lived, until he

to stay and take care of the old man when he needed her.

"Grandfather Butler lived and lived, until he had got to be ninety-something when he died. Everybody supposed he'd provided for Eunice, because he was well-to-do; but he didn't, it seemed, and when the old man died the estate was settled according to law, and as she was not a legal heir she didn't get anything.

"There were only two heirs left by that time, one the son of the oldest boy, who lives in Chicago, and the other she that was Jane Augusta Butler's only child, a Mrs. Trotter, who lives in Boston. They divided the property up so that the home place here fell to Mrs. Trotter. Folks thought they'd at least give Eunice the house, or do something for her for all she'd done—everybody was provoked with the old man for dying and not providing for her—but land! they didn't do anything of the kind. Mrs. Trotter said the place was just what she had been wanting for years, for a country home. You know it is a big old house, with lots of old-fashioned furniture in it such as folks set such store by now. Mrs. Trotter said you couldn't buy a house with such an 'atmosphere'—whatever she meant by that—and that she wouldn't part with a thing that was in it. So she turned Eunice out, bag and baggage—though there wasn't so very much of the latter—and came up here in the summer to live, bringing her servants with her, and having a lot of company. Eunice went to keep house for a widower over in Glenbank. I was told—on good authority, too—that she asked Mrs. Trotter if she couldn't stay and work for her—because she was so much attached to the place—and look after the house the year round, but that Mrs. Trotter told her she didn't want to have any but trained servants. I don't suppose she meant to be insulting. She probably didn't know any better. Eunice Butler never was anybody's servant; she was always one of the family.

"Well, along toward the end of the year—just before Christmas—Mrs. Trotter sent up some

anybody's servant; she was always one of the family.

"Well, along toward the end of the year—just before Christmas—Mrs. Trotter sent up some extra servants, and then came herself with some of her folks, and then in a day or two quite a lot of company, for what I heard she called a winter house party. They had a Christmas tree and went sleighing and skating, days.

"The last night of the old year they had a party to dance the old year out and the new year in. One of Mrs. Trotter's trained servants had behaved so scandalous—from drinking, folks said—that she had been obliged to let her go, and being left short-handed with company, she hired Ellen Watkins to help out. It was from Ellen said that they had planned an awful fancy dance of some kind for the last thing before midnight. Just before the hour struck they were all going to stop right where they were standing on the kitchen floor, and wait

they were all going to stop right where they were standing, on the kitchen floor, and wait perfectly still until the new year had come in. Then each one was to salute his or her partner and wish them a happy new year, and give them some present that had been got ready beforehand.

"They were all ready on the floor, Ellen said, when somebody asked, 'How will we know when it is midnight?"
"'Why, when the clock strikes,' somebody

'But there ain't but one clock in the house

that strikes,' the first woman said again, 'and that is so far off we can't hear it out here.'
"'Let's bring it out here, then,' two or three

"'Let's bring it out here, then,' two or three said.

"Well, the upshot of it was they lugged old Grandfather Butler's tall clock that had always stood in what was his room, and had been left there when he died, out into the kitchen. It stopped it of course, but they started it going again, and one of the men set it by his watch. Just as the long hand marked two minutes to twelve, the music stopped—it was a piano—and everybody stopped talking and laughing and dancing, and stood still where they were. Ellen said it was a real pretty sight, for there were some children; and the women were dressed to kill.

"When Ellen told me about it it made me think of the time I was in Boston, a number of

think of the time I was in Boston, a number of years ago, new year's, and John's folks took me to Trinity Church to a watch meeting. years ago, new year's, and John's loiks wook me to Trinity Church to a watch meeting. That was when Phillips Brooks was bishop. I had read so much about him I wanted to see him. The church is just grand, and it seemed so great and solemnin the night time, although it was packed full of people. We went early and had good seats. The singing was beautiful. Then Bishop Brooks went up into the pulpit and preached a little sermon—only it didn't seem like a sermon, either. He just talked, and what he said came right home to everybody to comfort and help them. At least I know it did me. When it was almost midnight he stopped a minute, and then looking down at the people, he said, 'The old year has only five minutes more to live. What the new year will have for us, no one of us can know. Let us spend these last few minutes in silent prayer to God that whatever it is that is to prayer to God that whatever it is that is to come to us whether joy or sorrow, we may be given strength and wisdom to live so as to do the most good possible for God and for the

men and women around us.'
"Then he kneeled down in the pulpit, and everybody bowed their heads, and the church was so still you would have thought it was

And then, all at once, out of the darknes and silence somewhere, there came what seemed to be the sound of the most beautiful clock you can imagine—although John told me afterwards that it wasn't a clock at all—striking

terwards that it wasn't a clock at all—striking slowly, 'one—two—three,' and so on.

"When the last note had struck, Bishop Brooks stood up—you know he was a tall man, and grand looking—and looking down on the people he said, 'Friends, dear friends, I wish you all a happy, a very happy'new year.'

"He died a few weeks after that. I've always been so glad I saw him that time."

"Yes,'' said Mrs. Parmenter, "he was a good man."

The two women sat silent for several minutes.

he two women sat silent for several minutes.

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omen, for one of the women had been counting out loud and had counted out thirteen before she thought, that Ellen said it seemed to strike them all kinder dumb, and the last half of the dance didn't go off so lively as they had

""What's the matter with the old clock anyway? asked somebody and then somebody else said, 'Let's look and see.'

"Then some man near the clock opened the door and looked in, and saw something, and then reached in and pulled out a paper which he opened and began to read: 'The last will and testament of Ebenezer Butler.'
"Well, do you know, that was old Grand-

he opened and began to read: 'The last will and testament of Ebenezer Butler.'

"Well, do you know, that was old Grandfather Butler's will; and it left the place to Eunice with everything in it and a good bit of money! How or when that old man ever came to put it in the clock nobody ever knew; but it was a good will all right, properly signed and sealed. It might have been there until doomsday, though, and not been found, if moving the old clock hadn't shook it down to where it caught in the works somehow.

"I don't say Mrs. Trotter would have destroyed the will if she had found it alone—although I can't say I ever liked the looks of her—but as it was, it was found so public she couldn't do anything but make the best of it. She picked up as soon as she could after new year's and went back to Boston for good; and Eunice moved in and has lived there ever since, as happy as she could be."

Into the silence which followed Mrs. Root's last words the silver tones of the old clock's bell broke, beginning to mark the passing of the year:

"One-two-three-"

the year:
"One—two—three—"

"I'm thankful it didn't strike but twelve,"
Mrs. Parmenter said, as the last note died
away. "Your story made me feel quite

Then the two sisters wished each other a happy new year.

# A Russian Picture.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY SARAH E. GANNETT.

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HE day was a scorcher, and in the crowded express train the passengers were in the last degree of discomfort from heat, cinders, dust and smoke, and many were their ways of showing consequent irritation. Babies were crying, children quarreling, an old lady was scolding the porter because he had opened the ventilators, while another, across the aisle, sat ready to annihilate him if he should dare to close them, and two gentlemen near were

engaged in a stormy argument on the policy of expansion. One group, however, bore their trials patiently and uncomplainingly. These were a gentleman of thirty-five or forty—a foreigner, evidently-tall, slender, blue-eyed, and with an unmistakable air of good-breeding and refinement; his wife, four children and three servants. Several times during the day the gentleman had addressed the conductor in his imperfect English on matters connected with the journey, and at last, as the train drew out of Wilmington, Delaware, the conductor approached him, saving:

"The next station is your stopping place, sir." Five minutes later the family were standing on the station platform of the little town of Maitland, alone in their new home.

The two women sat silent for several minutes. "But to go back to my story," said Mrs. Root. "I got clear off the track, didn't I?
"Well, they stood in the kitchen waiting for the clock to strike; and it didn't strike. That is, not at first. When the hands got to twelve, and the folks all standing there, they could hear the works in the clock going, and a sort of rustling. Then finally it began to strike—'one—two—three' up to twelve, and then before anybody had time to say 'Wish you a happy new year,' thirteen!

"It was so strange, and seemed such a bad in the station platform of the little town of Maitland, alone in their new home.
Since early youth Ivan Istrovitch had felt that living in his native land, Russia, was like sitting over the crater of an irregularly active volcano, and never had he dared to freely speak his mind on any subject through fear of ban-ishment to the horrors of a life in Siberia. His father was a talented lawyer in St. Petersburg, and had amassed his wealth solely from the practice of his profession. He had given Ivan the best education to be had, hoping he would follow in his footsteps, but the boy's norror of

the system of police surveillance practiced in Russia was so great that he could not be persuaded to adopt a profession but begged that he be allowed to become a steel manufacturer. He had applied himself assiduously to business, and had soon become rich, but his haunting fear prevented him from enjoying his life, and at last he began, secretly, to make preparations to remove to the United States. Through a friend he purchased an interest in a steel business there, and leaving his father to close up his affairs in St. Petersburg, he quietly set sail for America.

will serve to render your house homelike to him, and if he in dies Siberia you will cherish them."

Ivan's eyes glistened, and he grasped the other's hand. "I cannot thank you," he said, "and I cannot now offer to repay you, for inced all my money; but some day, if we both live, you shall know how highly I appreciate all you have done for me."

We cannot follow our hero in his lonely journey across the continent. We cannot even sail for America.

business there, and leaving his father to close up his affairs in St. Petersburg, he quietly set sail for America.

Time passed, and the strangers grew accustomed to their new surroundings. Ivan thoroughly understood his business, and was so honorable and straightforward in his dealings that he won the respect and esteem of all. In their social relations, too, both he and his wife drew around themselves host of friends. Thus passed several happy years, but one day Ivan came home with pale face and disturbed manner and sought his wife.

"Ritchie, my father has been arrested and thrown into prison. Why, I do not know, but I ought to go to him at once. I cannot tell how long I shall be gone, and I must go secretly for fear of falling into the hands of that horrible gang of spies employed over there, and being myself imprisoned. May I go, Ritchie? I will not go without your consent, but, oh, my darling, think of my poor father and his dreadful fate, and let me go to save him if I can."

if I can."

For many minutes Mrs. Istrovitch could not reply. With her white face pressed close to her husband's breast, and her shaking hands clutching him as if she would never let him go, she seemed almost insensible to what he said; but at last tears came to her relief, and lifting her streaming eyes to his she said:

"Yes, go, my husband. I dare not keep you, but oh, how can I bear it! God grant that you may return to me, and that you may either

"Yes, go, my husband. I dare not keep you, but oh, how can I bear it! God grant that you may return to me, and that you may either bring your father with you or leave him dead." "Amen," solemnly answered her husband. "My own true wife. I can never thank you for this great sacrifice of yours, but you know that I feel it. And now you must make up any story you please to account for my absence. I shall have it given out at the works that I have gone to Scotland on business, but the after details I must leave to you."

That night the train, as it passed through Maitland, bore away Ivan Istrovitch, but the man who boarded the Antwerp steamer at New York at noon of that day and took possession of the stateroom for which he had telegraphed from Wilmington, was a swarthy, black-haired,

of the stateroom for which he had telegraphed from Wilmington, was a swarthy, black-haired, full-bearded man; and the name signed on the steamer's register was Nicholas Lundgren. Secure in his disguise, he went straight from Antwerp to St. Petersburg, to the friend who had written to him of his father's arrest, told him who he was and received from him full

had written to him of his father's arrest, told him who he was, and received from him full accounts of his father's misfortunes. He had been employed as counsel for a nihilist accused of plotting against the life of the Czar. Becoming interested in a professional way in the case, he had argued its defense with all the intensity of which he was capable, and had even gone so far as to spend his own money in hiring witnesses for the accused. But all was of no avail, and the unfortunate man was condemned to die upon the scaffold. The wretch, incensed at his fate, and vowing revenge, swore that the man who had so nobly defended him was alike guilty with him. With the rope around his neck, and death and the other world staring him in the face, he boldly avowed that the old lawyer was a sworn nihilist, and that he had worked so ably for him solely because he was one of the Brotherhood, and he died with the lie upon his lips.

No other testimony was required. The old

with the lie upon his lips.

No other testimony was required. The old barrister's long life of honesty and fidelity to his country went for nothing against the lying rant of a criminal, and he was seized and im-prisoned, his property confiscated, and him-self, after the merest shadow of a trial, had condemned to hard labor for life in the coal mines of Saghalien.

Istrovitch was well-nigh stunned when the enormity of the injustice done his father dawned upon him, and for a time he was so excited that his friend feared that he would bring the police in upon them both; but at length he became sufficiently calm to discuss a plan which his friend thought might possibly result in the rescue of his father. All night they talked, and as morning was breaking Ivan rose to depart.

"One moment," said his friend; and, un-locking the door of a large closet he showed it to be filled with clothes, books, silver, china, portraits and other pictures, a desk and chair, and other articles which Ivan recognized as belonging to his father.

"A sale was held last week," remarked his friend, simply, "of your father's effects, and I instructed my agents to buy these things for me. I knew you would like to have them, and as soon as possible I shall ship them to your wife. If your father ever reaches America they

live, you shall know how highly I appreciate all you have done for me."

We cannot follow our hero in his lonely journey across the continent. We cannot even fathom the depths of his misery as he struggled on by any mode of conveyance available tortured constantly by the thought that every day was taking him further and further from his loved ones, and that no one in the wide world save one true friend, and possibly his wife—secretly informed by that friend—knew of his whereabouts. At last he reached the shores of the Gulf of Tartary, which separate the island of Saghalien from Siberia, and at the town of Nickolaievsk found the Government vessels which convey prisoners to the island Here Ivan sought and found employment as a sailor on one of these vessels, and for more sailor on one of these vessels, and for more than a year he toiled, without once daring to venture on the island and seek the prison town



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of Alexandrovskii, where his father had been taken. During these voyages he was constantly thrown in contact with the other jailors who had the prisoners in charge, and at last he ventured to ask one of them if he knew anything of barrister Istrovitch who had been sent to the identificant of the property of two

who had the prisoners in charge, and at last he ventured to ask one of them if he knew anything of barrister Istrovitch who had been sent to the island from St. Petersburg a year or two before. To his great joy the man did know him, and assured him that he was still alive. Ivan dared ask no more for fear of exciting the other's curiosity as to his reasons for wishing to know, but his relief was so intense that he had much difficulty in hiding his happiness.

At last fortune favored him in the death, during a voyage, of one of the under jailors. It was necessary to at once supply his place, and Ivan was placed in charge of the prisoners until they should reach their journey's end. So well did he perform his duties, and so heartily did he curse and even strike the men that the authorities congratulated themselves on the acquisition of a man after their own hearts, and made his appointment permanent.

Ivan now had free access to the prison, but cautiously refrained from discloing his presence to his father, although he had frequent opportunities of seeing him, and his pitiable plight made his hands clench and his heart burn with agony that he was still powerless to relieve him. At last the head jailor was recalled, and our friend, who had shown himself a model jailor by his harshness to the prisoners, was given his place. It was now his duty to superintend operations in the torture chamber, and his heart was often wrung by the scenes of suffering which he was powerless to prevent or even to ameliorate. Daily he was obliged to witness the death of some poor wretch under torture or on the whipping board. He could do nothing now, but he secretly took notes of all that went on, and even made photographs of the scenes that so revolted him.

At last one day his father, worn to a shadow of his former self, a wreck in body and mind,

of the scenes that so revolted him.

At last one day his father, worn to a shadow of his former self, a wreck in body and mind, was brought in to be flogged because he was unable to accomplish his appointed task in the mines. Ivan ground his teeth and dug his nails into his hands until the blood came to keep a restraint upon himself. His father was bound upon the whipping board, but fainted, as he felt sure he would, after the first three or four strokes.

four strokes,
"Fools!" shouted Ivan, "dolts! idiots! You need the lash yourselves. Could you not see that the blows should be more temperate in this case? Now you have killed him before his punishment was complete. Go, you pigs, go, or I'll kill you for your stupidity!" and the men fled precipitately, leaving Ivan alone with his father.

In an agony he bent over him, fearing that his chiding words to the men were indeed true, but even as he looked the eyelids quivered, opened, and the old man looked up at him with a growing fear in his eyes. Ivan could not

bear it.

"Father," he whispered in his ear, "father, do not fear. I am Ivan, your son, Ivan, father, do you hear? I am your son, and nothing shall ever harm you any more. Hush! Do not say a word, for your life." And quickly lifting him from the whipping board he bore him to a cell opening from the chamber and laid him on a cot. Here, after administering restoratives, he locked him in, cautioning him not to make the slightest noise, and, going to his own house, sought his two servants—a man and a woman who had been convicts, but whose time had expired. He had been able to secretly show them some small kindnesses, and they never forget it, and were ready to serve him to the death if necessary. Ivan told them briefly that he found his father in the prison, nearly dead, and needed their help to get him away.

As soon as darkness favored them they carried the old man from the prison to his son's house, where they concealed him, and then, making a dummy, they clothed it in his clothing and summoned the men who disposed of dead bodies to cremate it as usual. 'Father," he whispered in his ear, "father,

making a dummy, they clothed it in his clothing and summoned the men who disposed of dead bodies to cremate it as usual.

Days and weeks went by, and still Ivan kept his father in concealment, watching for a chance to get him away, but none had yet offered. Freed from his incessant toil and constant fear of punishment, with warm clothing and abundant food, the old man was gradually regaining strength both of body and mind, and was happy in the presence of his son, who had told him the whole story of his search for him, and of whom, since he understood the necessity for his apparent harshness and cruelty in the prison, he had ceased to be afraid.

One night, however, about nine o'clock, his servants came to him with horror in their eyes, to say that they had just overheard a conversation between the prison inspector and an under jailer which showed them that Ivan's attempts at taking notes of prison affairs and

versation between the prison inspector and an under jailer which showed them that Ivan's attempts at taking notes of prison affairs and photographing prison scenes had been observed, and that he was to be arrested and his premises searched the next morning. No time was to be lost, and as soon as the old man could be roused and dressed in his warmest clothing, for the time was December and the cold was intense, Ivan carefully disposed of his notes, photographs and money on his own person, and, taking the two servants with them, they started in a dog team for Langra, on the northern shore of the island. They travelled at a gallop, changing the dogs as often as possible, it needing only his own name as jailer of the prison to procure them fresh relays. The next night they reached Langra, and were so fortunate as to find a vessel on the point of starting for the main land. Here they again took dog teams for Corea, and after incredible toil and difficulty succeeded in reaching the seashore and catching a steamer for Yokohama. The danger was now over, and the various voyages which lay between the travellers and the faraway American home proved a much-needed rest to the worn-out Ivan. which lay between the travellers and the lat-away American home proved a much-needed rest to the worn-out Ivan.

From Yokohama he sent a telegram to his wife, and from San Francisco another to his

MOTOR TTE

curedo Sens le rez la cont this

From Yokohama he sent a telegram to his wife, and from San Francisco another to his friend in S. Petersburg, telling of their safety. We can imagine but not describe the meeting between husband and wife in New York after their five long years of separation. Heaven had been kind to them, and not one was missing from the happy family that gathered around the open fire in their home in Maitland that wild, wet Easter eve. The old grandfather, his eyes wet and shining, was in their midst, and as he sat in his own old chair, and gazed at his familiar books and pictures scattered about the pleasant room he leaned forward and his trembling hands grasped those of his son and daughter.

"Ivan, Ritchie," he cried, "Now I know I am at home. Thank God, and thank you, my children, for all that you have done for me," and without another word the whole family, joining hands, sank to their knees and sent a voiceless prayer of thanks to Him who had safely led them through perilous ways to the glad light of another Easter day.

# Sergeant Searles' Romance.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY COLONEL INGRAHAM.

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T was a camp scene of United States Cavalry and the sentinels that encircled the bivouac showed that there was danger abroad. The campfires burned brightly, the troopers, a hundred in number, were awaiting their supper and upon the faces of the men rested a look of anxiety and determination

man swayed as though about to fall, seeing which, one of the three officers sprung to his side and said:

"Here, Sergeant, lie on this blanket and rest why, you are wounded!"

"It is a trifle, sir, though it has bled freely and weakened me."

Stimulants were given the Sergeant, the surgeon looked to his wound, made by a bullet cutting its way through his thigh, and all watched the handsome sad face of the man, of whom nothing was known save that he had enlisted as a private soldier a year before and had won the regard and admiration of his officers and comrades. Of one thing all were assured, and that was that he had a history no one could fathom. could fathom.

Of good physique, handsome face, courteous manners and possessing a fine education, as well as being thoroughly up in all military drill and rules, he was yet reserved, silent and seemed to carry ever in his heart a great grief.

A man who knew the frontier well, he had been made the guide of Captain Carney's troop when the scout who had left the fort with the command had been killed two days before

Too late the redskins realized how they had been deceived and at once followed him with a

been deceived and at once followed him with a charge, while the troopers, after at first firing upon him as a supposed chief, at once greeted him with yells of delight and set to work to resist the charge of the redskins.

This was successfully done and then Sergeant Searle found that Captain Anthony had been wounded, and having no surgeon with his force needed quick aid to save his life.

"You may not know, sir," he continued, addressing Captain Carney, "that I am a surgeon, having graduated in surgery and medicine and I always carry a small case of instruments and medicine with me, hence I was able to extract the bullet from Captain Anthony's wound and have left him in comparative safety and comfort for at least awhile."

"And how did you get away, Sergeant,

fort for at least awhile."

"And how did you get away, Sergeant. Searle?" asked Captain Carney.

"I had to run the gauntlet of course, sir, and was so fortunate as to be successful, though both my horse and myself were wounded. I was aided by a feint being made by the troopers, as though intending to cut their way through; but it fooled the redskins and gave me a chance to get away and reach you, sir, and me a chance to get away and reach you, sir, and I have to report that I do not believe our comrades can hold out another day, as many are wounded, half a dozen have been killed, two-thirds of their horses are dead or wounded, while their last drop of water is gone and I fear for Captain Anthony unless he receives prompted. for Captain Anthony unless he receives prompt

attention.
"I can guide you tonight to the spot, sir, show you where the Indians have their ponies

show you where the Indians have their ponies pastured under a small guard, and we can capture them, then dash to the rescue of the captain and his men by catching the redskins afoot and severely punishing them."
"Sergeant Searle, I have often said that many a man in the ranks was better fitted to command than some of the officers placed over them, and you are an example as proof of my argument; but are you able to go tonight, for you have just come off of a long hard ride and your wound is not so slight as you would have us believe?"

your wound is not so slight as you would have us believe?"
"I can stand it, sir, and especially does the life of Captain Anthony depend upon our getting there. It is forty miles away and we can strike the Indians by dawn—we must save Captain Anthony, sir."



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Captain Carney saw that the Sergeant had some hidden motive for his anxiety to save Captain Anthony, but he asked no questions, gave orders that the command should move within an hour and made his own cook prepare supper for the wounded Sergeant who ate it and then sunk into a deep sleep.

"I wish we could let him sleep longer, but—"

The words were checked by the Sergeant sud-

denly crying out:
"Hester, I will save him for your sake or die
in the attempt!" As he uttered the words in a ringing voice

Sergeant Searle sprung to his feet, glanced about him and saluting said:
"I beg pardon, sir, but I was dreaming, I suppose."
"Yes, but are you able, Searle, to take the ride?"
"Perfectly sir for I must, save Captain An-

ride?"
"Perfectly, sir, for I must save Captain Anthony—never mind me, sir."
In spite of his words the Sergeant had to be aided to mount, and the set lips showed that his wound gave him great pain. But he took his place at the head of the column, Captain Carney riding with him, and the rapid march of rescue was begun through the trackless wilderness.
On, on, the gallant Sergeant led the way, a halt of half an hour being made after midnight

on, on, the ganant sergeant led the way, a halt of half an hour being made after midnight for a cold lunch and water; then once again the march was begun, a low moan being wrung by pain through the set teeth of the man whose indomitable pluck and will would not allow him to give up.

indomitable pluck and will would not allow him to give up.

"That man is a marvel," said the surgeon, while Captain Carney replied:

"He is indeed, and he has already more than won a commission."

It was just before dawn when the troopers swept down upon the Indian ponies and corraled them, killing their guards, and placing a force of a dozen soldiers to care for the captured animals, the command made a dash for the now alarmed redskins camped in a circle about the besieged men in the timber.

about the besieged men in the timber.

Taken by surprise, their ponies in the hands of their foes, the amazed and frightened Indians made but a half-hearted fight and then fled for their lives, for the troopers rode them down and with revolver and sabre rushed on in

The Sergeant was the first man to reach the rescued party, and he was on foot for his horse had been shot under him and his left arm hung

had been shot under him and his left arm hung limp at his side from a bullet wound.

"God bless you, Sergeant Searle, for to you we owe our lives," cried Captain Anthony feebly, as the tall Sergeant approached him.

"We could never have withstood another charge, and the Indians were preparing to make one at daylight," said the Lieutenant commanding in the place of Captain Anthony.

The Sergeant had heard, but he made no reply. His face was deadly white, his lips quivered and he sunk his length upon the ground, just as Captain Carney and Surgeon Powell came up.

Powell came up.

Then it was found that the wound in his thigh was not the only one he had received in running the gauntlet, for he had two others, though not severe, yet painful, and these, with his bullet shattered arm rendered his condition

But he had saved Captain Anthony and his command and two weeks after all were safe in the fort. But Captain Anthony failed to rally and several weeks after the return to the fort the Surgeon came to the quarters of the wounded Sergeant and said:

"Sergeant Searle, I have two messages for you, one from Colonel Merriam, to advise you that you have been appointed a First Lieutenant of Cavalry in the Army, and I am glad to be the first one to congratulate you upon your well deserved promotion. The second message is from poor Captain Anthony, who wishes to see you, if it is possible for you to go to his quarters, for he cannot last long, and I am glad that his wife has come."

"His wife! is she here?" gasped the Sergeant.

"Yes."

"Will not go to see him then."

"His wife! is she here?" gasped the Sergeant.

"Yes."
"I will not go to see him then."

"You are able, and you must, for he wishes to see you alone."

The Sergeant arose, dressed by the aid of the Surgeon, and with an effort entered the quarters of the dying man.

"Searle Seldon, I sent for you to right a wrong with my own lips. The woman you loved, and who loved you is my wife; but hers was the sacrifice, for she married me for my riches, that she might save her parents from want in their old age, and sent you, a poor doctor, out into the world a wanderer.

"She is here now, come from her far-away home to see me die, and she saw you as she passed your quarters today, beheld your face through the window, and told me that Sergeant Searle, who nearly lost his life to save mine, was Searle Seldon, late a colonel in the Army of Egypt and for several years a wanderer about the world.

"To my wife, Seldon, I leave my fortune, and to you I bequeath my wife, for you love her as the does your and my blessing I give to you

to you I bequeath my wife, for you love her as she does you, and my blessing I give to you both—Hester!"

both—Hester!"

He called her name firmly and a beautiful woman of twenty-five entered the room. Taking her hand and that of Searle Seldon he clasped his own about them and said faintly:
"Now you two will know happiness."

And his words were prophetic, for in the years that have passed since then no sorrow has come upon them, and no longer are their lives divided.

# The Discoverer of Anthracite.

looking black stone. Digging further, out of curiosity, he came upon a bed of the stuff, which seemed to lie in a thick stratum under all his land. Neighboring farmers told him it was only a new kind of rock. Shoemaker, however, loaded a wagon with the black stuff and started for Philadelphia. He took it to the Pennsylvania Bank on Second street and showed it to the bank people. "You've got a big load of nothing there, Shoemaker," said the president with a smile, as he examined the specimens. Shoemaker, disappointed, dumped his load in a vacant lot next to the bank and drove home.

About a year afterward Patrick Lyon, About a year afterward Patrick Lyon, a blacksmith, carried some of the black lumps to his smithy and demonstrated that what Shoemaker had thrown away was the best fuel of which the country at that time had knowledge. It was not long before Shoemaker received big offers for his land, and his farm became the scene of the first mining operations. scene of the first mining operations.

#### Great American Givers.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HERE is an endowed work,"once remarked Phillip D. Armour the Chicago beef and pork magnate "that cannot be altered by death or by misun-derstanding among death or by misun-derstanding a mong trustees, or by bick-ering of any kind. Besides, a man can do something to carry out his own ideas while he lives, that he can't do after he is in his grave." How impressive are these

in his grave." How impressive are these words now that the man who spoke them has been laid away in his own grave. This simple commonsense expression of the principle that

commonsense expression of the principle that underlies nearly all latter-day philanthropy will also explain that grand benefaction, "The Armour Institute of Technology." Like most great American millionaires Mr. Armour was wholly a self-made man, which means that his education was acquired like his fortune. Born in 1832 on a form in Madison. Armour was wholly a self-made man, which means that his education was acquired like his fortune. Born in 1832 on a farm in Madison County, New York, of Scotch parentage, he lived the simple sturdy life of a farmer's son till he was twenty years of age. Three years after the discovery of gold in California he joined the tide of immigration to the Pacific coast. His life was a series of hard knocks and many sided experiences in the West for several years thereafter. Finally after having 'viewed the landscape over' pretty thoroughly he decided on Chicago as the future metropolis of the West and here he has become one of the Merchant Kings not only of America but of the whole world. The business of the Armours is one that passes the confines of this great continent at a bound and reaches literally into the remotest corners of the earth. Armour canned meats are known to-day in Persia as well as in Chicago, New York and London. Writing five years ago of his affairs a statistician says, "Mr. Armour pays six to seven millions of dollars yearly in wages, owns four thousand railway cars, which are used in transporting his goods, and has over seven thousand thousand railway cars, which are used in transporting his goods, and has over seven thousand horses to haul his wagons. Fifty to sixty thousand persons receive direct support from the wages paid in his wag was tracking because thousand persons receive direct support from the wages paid in his meat packing houses alone, if we estimate families on the census basis. He is a larger owner of grain elevators than any other individual in either hemis-phere; he is the proprietor of a glue factory, which turns out a product of seven millions of tons a year; he is the practical controller of one of the great railways of the Northwest." Speaking of himself and his habits of work a few years ago this remarkable man said, "All

Speaking of himself and his habits of work a few years ago this remarkable man said, "All my life I have been up with the sun. The habit is as easy at sixty-one, as it was at sixteen; perhaps easier because I am hardened to it. I have my breakfast at half past five or six: I walk down to my office and am there by seven, and I know what is going on in the world without having to wait for others to come to tell me. At noon I have a simple luncheon of bread and milk, and after that, a short nap, which freshens me again for the afternoon's work. I am in bed again at nine o'clock every night."

Mr. Armour has been a practical philanthropist all his life. His private benefactions are untold, for his hand never remained shut when the cause was worthy. In his modest office in Chicago he has sat for years a true King of men dispensing wisely the wealth of nations that has flowed at his feet.

The three great monuments to Mr. Armour's name in Chicago are the Armour Mission which is a Sunday School of more than two thousand children with a free Kindergatten and free

name in Chicago are the Armour Mission which is a Sunday School of more than two thousand children with a free Kindergarten and free dispensary, which the great millionaire himself attended regularly every Sunday; the Armour flats, a great building adjoining the mission with a large grass plot in the centre where in two hundred and thirteen flats, having each from six to seven rooms, families find clean and attractive homes at the lowest possiclean and attractive homes at the lowest possible rental; and the Armour Institute of Technology. This is the greatest practical Educational institution, stopping just short of university aims, in the whole world. The gifts of its promoter and benefactor to the Armour Institute now amount to about three millions of dollars. The buildings are five stories, fire-proof, of red brick trimmed with brown stone, and stand at the corner of Thirty-third street and Armour Ave. in Chicago. The Institute was dedicated on Dec. 6, 1892. It is divided into four principal departments the whole basis of the course of instruction being the idea of practical utility. In other words a young man or woman need not be exceptionally "smart" to enter the Armour Institute, nor to graduate, Philadelphia coal men are back of a movement to build at Summit Hill, Carbon county, a monument of coal to Phillip Ginter, who discovered anthracite within a short distance of that place. Ginter made his great discovery one hundred and nine years ago. He lived in a cabin in the forest on the Mauch Chunk Mountain. While in quest of game he came on what he supposed was block stone. He built a fire of wood and threw pieces of the supposed stone about it so that the embers might last longer while he was roasting a bird. In a short time he was surprised to see that the stones were burning. They were pieces of anthracite.

Ginter carried some of the coal home and burned it. His few neighbors soon learned of the discovery, but there was no mining to any extent in Carbon county until after the war of 1812 had begun. The first load of anthracite mined in Schuylkill county was shipped to Philadelphia just nine years after Ginter stumbled upon the black stone. George Shoemaker, who owned a small tract of land where Pottsyille now stands, in 1800 dug up a peculiar

tute opened in September 1893 with six hundred pupils and the attendance has increased largely each year. It possesses the fullest equipment of practical machinery, working models and utensils of the various crafts in all departments. Its library is already noted for a choice collection of works on the early history of printing. What Harvard and Yale are doing for classical education, the Armour Institute is accomplishing for the higher classes of mechanical and what may almost be called of mechanical and what may almost be called scientific trades as well as the very humblest walks of life. Its graduates are already to be found in important positions in the great railway and machine shops and among the mines and mills of the west and it bids fair to become a centra virulling even the scientific schools of and mills of the west and it bids fair to become a centre rivalling even the scientific schools of some of the Eastern Universities in practical importance. Education in the modest most practical common every-day sense is given here also as it can be in no other institution in the country. Always original in his ideas and methods Mr. Armour has always devoted a great deal of practical thought to this great benefaction with the result that the Armour Institute of Technology considering the variety and character of its various curriculums is to-day the most unique educational institution on the American continent. And yet its founder believed it to be only the germ of the greater schools of the same type that shall some day dot this broad land of ours.

HE late Colonel Waring left a plan for the cleaning of Havana and the institu-tion of preventive engineering works which commends itself to those expertly acquainted with the problems of municipal sanitation.

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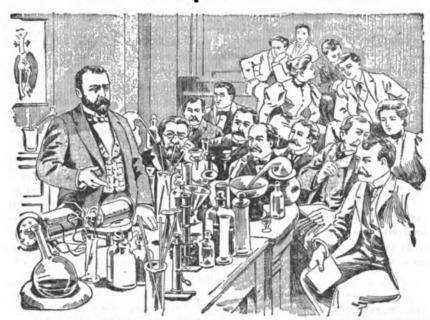
Progressive Catarrh,
Weak Lungs, after Pneumonia, Pleurisy, etc.
Bronchial Asthma,
Cough, dry or moist,
Tonsillitis,
Laryngitis Cough, dry or moist,
Tonsillitis,
Laryngitis,
Bronchitis,
Hemorrhage, throat or lung,
Faulty Nutrition,
Wasting Flesh,
Blood Taint,
Blood Impoverishment,
Night Sweats,
Pallor,
Delusively Rosy Cheeks,
Chest Pains,
Burning Sensation in Lungs,
Rapid Pulse,
Glandular Abscesses,
Extreme Lassitude,
Want of Energy,
Unaccountable Fatigue,
Suppressed Functions,
Sinking Spells,
Nervous Fever and Chills,
Nervous Exhaustion, etc.

When you observe the sign of disease in advance, await not the attack. Avoid the evil by using the wonderful free weapons of defense manufactured in the great laboratories of Dr. Slocum, in New York City and sent by him all over the land free to predisposed and actual victims of Consumption's grasp.

### FOUR GREAT FREE REMEDIES.

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Some need only the Emulsion, the Expectorant or the Tonic; others require all four preparations, according to particular existing

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Through the rare liberality of Dr. Slocum, all four of the above remedies are free to those who are threatened by or are afflicted with Consumption or other wasting malady.

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and you will be at once sent the four free preparations, with full directions. You may as well be one of the increasing army annually saved by modern medical science.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—When writing the Doctor, please mention COMFORT, giving express and post office address, and greatly oblige.

# Unsolicited Testimonials.

DR. T. A. SLOCUM.

Dear Sir: I will write you a letter of recommendation of your treatment. I thought I would wait till I was sure I was benefited. I only weighted 185 lbs. when I commenced taking your treatment and now my weight is 193 lbs. and the old weakness is all gone, and I feel like a new man. I had given up all hope of getting well till your treatment convinced me that there was a cure for weak lungs. Willing to answer all letters from anybody who wants to refer to me.

I remain thankful and sincerely yours.

Asking a reply to this letter. Chas. R. SNYDER.

P. S. Have my letters addressed to Dennison, as I am living there.

518 Dasher St., VALDOSTA, GA., Nov. 19, 1901.

DR. T. A. SLOCUM.

Dear Sir: Will you please pardon me for not writing before now? It is with pleasure that I write to inform you of the great good your medicine has accomplished for me. I have been restored to a perfect condition of health and strength, and I feel that you have saved my life. There is no medicine in the world like your remedies, and I cannot say enough in their praise.

Yours truly,

Obie Bryant.

SKYLAND, S. C., Dec. 3, 1901.

DR. T. A. SLOCUM.

Dear Sir: I have received your medicine and it did me more good than any medicine that I have ever taken. I have been entirely cured of all my diseases, and I think it a God-send and a blessing to all suffering humanity. I wrote you some time ago but you did not receive my letter. So you may print my name as you please, but I will greatly tell others of your good medicine and wonderful cure, and how it cured me, for I did not think I could live, or that I would be alive today, but I am well and enjoying good health.

Yourstruly, Mrs. Pearl A. Rookard.

DR. T. A. SLOCUM.

I am in receipt of your letter reminding me of my neglect. In replying would say, I am at present using the Emulsion and Catarrh Cure purchased from a local druggist, and am pleased to say I am greatly benefited. I think it just what I have been looking for as my hearing is a thousand per cent. better. I can hear a clock tick for the first time in six years. Thanking you for your samples, I am Yours very respectfully, S. T. LEIDY.

The above are from among the hundreds of testimonials received daily. The merits of the Slocum Remedies have been fully proven.

Modern Smuggling.



LL smugglers are not swarthy, piratical chaps. This idea should be dispelled from the mind of the ordinary reader. A trip with one of the customs officers by the writer, while he listened to the "declarations" of the passengers on an ocean steamer, and a subsequent call on my genial friend revealed many strange stories many strange stories of attempts to cheat

Uncle Sam.
When the inspector
boards a steamer he
assembles all the passengers in the cabin
and proceeds to take
their statements.
dutiable goods to de-

their statements.

"Have you any new or dutiable goods to declare?" is the first question launched.

The listener is a woman. Smuggling is as natural as love to a woman and the chances are two to one that the fair creature before us has a selected assortment—of things that she wants to get through the Custom House without paying duties thereon. She has compromised with her conscience by selling the whole contents of her trunks to a fellow passenger, also a woman, for one cent. Consequently she can swear that she has no dutiable goods in her possession and remarks to herself as she does so that they all bemarks to herself as she does so that they all belong to her friend.

She is a trifle nervous in spite of her efforts

to appear calm, and the inspector makes a mysterious mark on the document to which she has sworn. These inspectors are good judges of human nature and can generally determine whether a person is lying or telling the truth.

The inspector evidently enjoys her sufferings, cruel man that he is

"Have you any gloves, piece goods, or presents for anybody?"

'No, that is, none that amount to anything." "Well, what have you? Please give me the

"I have a few gloves, just a few, for my own use and I've two or three trifles to give to my nephews and nieces."
"How many gloves have you, and what are the presents for your relatives?"
"I have a dozen gloves in a box and two or three reins loves in my trunks. I can't tall experiences in the presents to the second of the

"I have a dozen gloves in a box and two or three pairs loose in my trunks; I can't tell exactly how many. The presents are some toys and other trifles that cost very little in Paris and London. Whenever I saw anything that I thought would please the children I bought it."

As the inquisition goes on her nervousness increases and quite likely she would give all the goods she is trying to smuggle if she could only escape the ordeal. The inspector makes up his mind very soon that her baggage will need careful attention, and before 'dismissing her he makes another cabalistic mark on the paper to which she had sworn and affixed her signature.

One of the passengers on the steamer who was evidently anxious to get through with his "declaration" as speedily as possible is a middle aged man, who has carefully kept himself secluded during the entire voyage. He has made the acquaintance of nobody except his roommate, and even that individual has seen very little of him. The passengers are on tiptoe to hear him declare his baggage; his name is not on the printed list of passengers as he secured his accommodations on the day of sailing, and came aboard at Queenstown when the vessel touched there for the mails.

He disappointed the curious ones by handing a card to the inspector when asked, "What is your name?" To the query as to whether he has any dutiable articles to declare, he gives a prompt negative.

"Have you any piece goods, gloves, jewelry, or presents for anybody?"

"None whatever."

"How many pieces of baggage have you?"

"How many pieces of baggage have you?"
"One."
"What is it?"

"One."
"What is it?"
"A small hand-bag. I have also an overcoat and an umbrella."
"That will do. Next!"
Evidently the gentleman came away in a hurry as his hand-bag contains only a night shirt and a few toilet articles of no appreciable value. When his examination is concluded he goes on deck and is followed by a medium sized man who came on board at Quarantine with the revenue officers. The stranger keeps the baggageless traveler in sight every moment until the steamer touches the dock when he steps forward and presents a warrant for the traveler's arrest. For a few moments the latter is inclined to deny his identity but he speedily submits on finding that resistence is useless. The man who made the arrest is a detective from the office of Inspector Byrnes, and his victim has been taken in hand in consequence of cable advices received while the steamer was on cable advices received while the steamer was on

Next to him in the line of declaring passengers is a man who appears very jolly and in-clined to be mirthful with the official, but it is easy to see that under his disguise of jollity there is an uneasiness that he would gladly b there is an uneasiness that he would glady be rid of. He does not swear himself through as did the woman who preceded him, but admits that he has a few trifies of no very great value, perhaps ten dollars in all.

Next comes an honest man, or at any rate he

riext comes an honest man, or at any rate he appears to be one for he promptly declares:

"I have a dozen pairs of gloves for my best girl, a dozen for my sister and a piece of silk for my niece, enough to make her a dress. The bills are all here and I haven't another thing that is dutiable. I've three suits of clothes nearly new but I've worn every one of 'em a whole day at least."

The inspector takes the bills and notes the The inspector takes the bills and notes the articles under the proper heading of the document which is duly signed by the passenger. Then a mark is placed on the back of the declaration to indicate that dutiable goods have been declared and the passenger is free to go

Next comes a woman who is evidently an ex-perienced traveler and her statement is much like that of the man who preceded her. She has several dresses; every one of them has been actually in service enough to meet the requirements of the law. The officer informs her that simply "trying on" is not sufficient, but that

it must have been actually worn.

"I've worn every one of my dresses," she says emphatically. "I've dined at least once in every evening dress and as for the morning dresses they've had their share of use. I've been abroad before and have acted in good faith towards the Custom House in every way. Here is a list of all the things I bought while abroad and everything has been in use or is not in excessive quantity."

The officer marks the paper with a smile which says in very plain language that it is evident that the passenger knows exactly what she is about and is complying with the law to the letter.

So they go, one by one, till all have made

she is about and is complying with the law to the letter.

So they go, one by one, till all have made their declarations. Meantime the steamer is moving on to her pier and is swung to where, she is to lie until the day of her departure. The gang-plank is put out and the passengers impatiently walk ashore to the dock. The baggage is brought ashore and piled on the dock, and each passenger is instructed to get all his belongings together and then apply to the chief of the dock inspectors for an examiner. Oddly enough the first passenger to apply for an examiner is our nervous female friend, on whose "declaration" the inspector had made mysterious marks. His suspicions were well founded. When her baggage is examined it yields handsomely. Instead of one box of gloves she has five boxes each containing a dozen pairs, and she has four dozen pairs of gloves scattered among her gowns and other transments. Every sleeve contains a pair of gloves and sometimes two pairs, and she has gloves, handkerchiefs and lace collars and the like, stitched inside the lining of a quilted petticoat. She has two dresses that have been "cut and basted" but not finished, and she has a goodly array of silk stockings and other feminine articles. The trifling presents intended for her nephews and nieces resolve into several products of the milliner's art that are intended for the wedding of a niece who is to become a for her nephews and nieces resolve into several products of the milliner's art that are intended for the wedding of a niece who is to become a bride within the next fortnight. Some of them may be "trifles light as air" but nevertheless they cost a good deal of money.

As one after another of these costly things that were not on the "declaration" are brought

forth from their hiding place the woman turns red and pale by turns and her strength leaves her to the extent that she is compelled to sit down to avoid falling to the floor.

Yonder is a woman whose appearance is portly while her face is rather thin. She is one

portly while her face is rather thin. She is one of the passengers who has just landed and declared that she had no dutiable goods in her possession. Her face and form are not harmonious as such a plump figure does not belong to that delicately moulded face. Keep an eye on her and see what happens.

Her trunks are examined and evidently she told the truth as there is nothing dutiable to be found. All her dresses have been worn a sufficient number of times to comply with the law and she hasn't many dresses any way. But before marking her trunks the officer asks her to follow him for a moment. The pallor of her face increases and she evidently doesn't respond gladly to the invitation.

spend gladly to the invitation.

But she follows to the room which is set apart for personal examinations and is received by a mild-mannered woman whose nose is bridged with a relief of the control of bridged with a pair of eye-glasses. She is exceedingly polite and as soon as the two are within the room and the door is locked she re-

quests the traveller to remove her dress.

The stranger obeys while the other apologizes for the trouble she is making and explains that it is owing to information that has been received concerning some laces which were to arrive about this time. The removal of the dress shows that the work is not in vain, for concealed beneath it were enough laces to set up a small shop on Broadway, together with silks, gloves and other things which were quilted into a petticoat or deftly woundlaround the waist of the fair traveller.

Half an hour after entering the examination room the woman emerges and is allowed to claim her baggage and leave the dock. She might be detained and sent to prison for violating the revenue laws but the Custom House does not often enforce this part of its duties, except in the case of old and professional offenders. This woman, whose plumpness has vanished and whose dress now hangs about her like a closed umbrella, is a novice in smuggling and was betrayed by her anxiety of manner and by the circumstances that her form and face were not properly matched. The inspectress shows as the result of the examination a pile of heterogeneous and costly articles.

A few years ago one of the passengers on a steamer from Liverpool to New York was an elderly gentleman who was a general favorite among the passengers. He mingled much with the ladies, was delightful in conversation, had a fund of anecdotes of all kinds, and boasted that he knew all the ropes at the Custom House. He was not at all reticent about the dutiable goods that he expected to get through without the least trouble; he had an overcoat and a suit, of clothes for a friend, in addition to several suits for himself, half a dozen watches and as many sets of jewelry, together with gloves and other nice things galore. He was everybody's friend and offered to make himself useful in aiding his new-found acquaintances to run the revenue gauntlet. Many accepted his offer and confidingly told what they everybody's friend and offered to make himself useful in aiding his new-found acquaint-ances to run the revenue gauntlet. Many accepted his offer and confidingly told what they had in their possession; they gave confidence for confidence and something bordering very closely upon vows of eternal friendship were made if he succeeded in his efforts.

One of the passengers was a dressmaker of New York who had a clientele of fashionable people. The old gentleman was perticularly

New York who had a clientele of fashionable people. The old gentleman was particularly attentive to her and intimated that he was a widower who wished to renew his former condition of double blessedness. As a practical test of his friendship he wanted to see her safely through the Custom House; he knew many of the Custom House people and if she got into any trouble he was the man of all others who could set things right.

The dressmaker confided to him that she

others who could set things right.

The dressmaker confided to him that she had been abroad to buy dresses for several of her fashionable patrons and she had half a dozen trunks crowded with garments that were to appear in the best social circles in the following season. She then gave him the names of her customers. of her customers

"Oh, I know Mrs. So-and-so and Mrs. So-and-so and Miss Blank," said the elderly gentleman, "and there's nothing in the world I wouldn't do for them if I could. Make your-self perfectly easy about the dresses; I'll fix it

set perfectly easy about the dresses; I'll fix it so that your trunks won't even be opened when we get to the dock."

He was as good as his word. The trunks were not opened at the dock at all; they were,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9.)

# Men, Women and Things.

CONDUCTED BY JENNIE MELVENE DAVIS.



The great fight to down Tammany Hall in New York City, brought into prominence one of the most interesting characters in the modern arena of politics-Justice William Travers Jerome. He had brought himself into prominence by his vigor in furthering the raids

and prosecution of gamblers, during the campaign of the citizen's Committee of Fifteen. He personally assisted in the raids and served his warrants in person when he had any doubt as to their being used effectively. The Justice held judicial inquiries in his court room which resulted in the indictment of many wardmen. When the Fusion ticket was nominated, Justice Jerome was chosen as the candidate for District Attorney. He made a campaign that well won and kept his name of the Fighting Justice. He was absolutely fearless and emphatic in his statement of the condition of affairs in New York. He made hundreds of speeches all up and down the "East Side" of New York. Wherever he was announced to speak, thousands would gather. From one hall to another he would tear in an automobile followed by others filled with reporters. Everywhere he roused tempestuous enthusiasm and when returns came in the Fighting Justice had received the heaviest vote on his ticket and a triumphant election to the District Attorneyship of New York. His term of office commences this month. It is safe to say that Justice Jerome will be heard from again. The people are thoroughly convinced of his absolute honesty and energy in the administration of public affairs. The Justice is a native born resident of New York City but has a love for country life. He has a fine country home in Connecticut. The house is lighted and heated by electricity and the electrical equipment was entirely put in by the Justice's own hands. He is devoted to mechanical pursuits and one room in his country home is fitted up as a workshop. He is also fond of experiments in chemistry. While fond of country life, the Justice is free to say that he prefers walking to golfing although he has fine links on his estate. The family consists of Mrs. Jerome, a young son, William Travers Jerome, Jr. who is known as "Chinky" and three dogs, a grayhound, a collie and a fox terrier. New York may expect a wise but aggressive administration of her criminal affairs at the hands of her new District Attorney.

William Loeb, President Roosevelt's private secretary, has won his way to what has grown to be an important position through merit and ability. Mr. Loeb is a native of Albany where almost his entire life has been passed. He is in his early thirties. At the age of twelve he was obliged to leave school and go to work. Two years after he was able to return to school and finish his course. A study of shorthand was followed by two years in a law office. He became interested in politics and finally was elected official stenographer to the New York ssembly. He later filled the position of secretary to many prominent state officials and became stenographer for Governor Roosevelt. He succeeded so well in pleasing the President that he was asked to accompany him to Washington when Mr. Roosevelt became President. He holds much the position that Secretary Cortelyou originally did, although that gentleman is also retained as the President's Secretary.

The Marchioness of Granby has seemingly all the good gifts that fairy godmothers could bestow. She already holds a proud title but in time will succeed to that proudest of English titles-duchess. Mere rank does not always convey distinction even

in England but the Marchioness of Granby is

tals-London. It is not however her beauty, rank or wealth that makes her of great interest | ti. The encouragement of a prominent editor to the world but the fact that she is possessed of that city led to her adopting literature as a of rare talent as an artist. Her line drawings of people are unique in their way. She may be said to be the only artist who has the command of line to produce the rare daintiness and strength that mark her portraits. She is one of the most sought for women socially in London and her portrait work is only incidental. Her life has thrown her into contact with the most prominent people in England and her ready pencil has drawn a likeness of these people in less than half an hour. Lady Granby's portraits are remarkable for the wonderful insight into character that they display. Her own family furnish her themes. She lost one son, Lord Hadden but she has many charming pictures of him as well as of the Ladies Victoria and Marjorie Manners and of her eldest son Lord Ross of Belvoir who is his father's heir. Rudyard Kipling, the Hon. Cecil Rhodes and Lord Salisbury are among the famous people whom Lady Granby has drawn. She is fond of the theater and there her pencil is often busy catching the likeness of some stage favorites. Lady Granby is tall with red-gold hair, white complexion and wonderful gray green eyes. Her drawings are as individual and characteristic as could be imagined, for the spirit that makes them unusual is found in every act of their talented maker.

General Sir Redvers Buller has been' retired from the English army under a cloud. He made some statements concerning the details of the South African Campaign at a banquet given in his honor at Westminster. He stated that he advised General White to surrender Ladysmith. General Buller at that time was in supreme command in South Africa but had been repulsed at the Tugela River in an attempt to retain Ladysmith. General Buller was sent to South Africa with a great reputation won in India and Egypt but Africa proved to him as to others a grave for military reputation. His Victoria cross won for gallant deeds could not save him from adverse criticism, but the recent act of government in forcing him to retire on half pay has aroused much enthusiam in his behalf in England and General Buller is quite the popular hero of the hour with the mass of the English people and of the



Tucheta is the Indian name of a talented young woman of the Cherokee nation. Her mother is a full-blooded Cherokee squaw, but her father is a German. Miss Ora V. Eddleman, or Lost Bird, as her Indian name signifies is but twenty years of age, but she is the pro-

prietor and editor of a magazine called Twin Territories, which is devoted to the interests of Indian Territory and Oklahoma. Tucheta speaks the Cherokee language but she speaks German and English with equal fluency. Her education has been of the universal rather than the university type. When she was fourteen her father bought the only daily newspaper published in the territory. The young daughter was absorbed in all that related to the newspaper and soon left school to do the work of a reporter on this paper. She says, "One day I became city editor-a proud day for me." Her own magazine is almost entirely devoted to the interest of the Indian. It is filled with illustrations and scenes photographed in the Indian's home. Miss Eddleman occupies a unique position through her work and her nationality.

One of the recent popular books, "A Japanese Nightingale," is the work of a young woman who is of English and Japanese blood. Onoto Watanna is the daughter of an English consul who married a Japanese. She is one of a number of children but has attained distinction at the early age of twenty-three. Her father removed with his family to Toronto. On his second marriage Onoto Watanna learned typewriting and began the battle of life for herself. She went to Jamaica in the British West Indies where she was one of the first women to report the doings of Parliament. Later, she came to a great lady even in that most critical of capi- the United States where she married a native

of Kentucky, and made her home in Cincinnaprofession. Many of her short stories have been published both here and in Japan and two short novels have met with an appreciative re ception. Her home is now in Chicago.

Mrs. Edwin Gould is a young matron of four years' standing who has already proved that neither social success nor the prestige of the Gould millions can divert her from serious pursuits. Mrs. Gould was Miss Shrady, daughter of the celebrated Dr. Shrady. She makes her summer home



at Ardslev and is naturally prominent in the social life of that well-known place. She has, however, from the first years of her marriage, identified herself with numerous charities. In aid of these she has planned and carried to a successful termination many entertainments. Her own home has been thrown open to aid in a fair for a hospital, and in December she managed a very successful affair at the Waldorf-Astoria for the benefit of a Sanatorium. Mrs. Gould is a beautiful young woman with a bright active personality and great force of character.

The celebrated French lawyer, Maitre Labori, will soon visit this country. He will be remembered through his connection with the world-famed Dreyfus trial and with that of the great French novelist Zola. Madame Labori has had as interesting a life as her husband. She is a woman remarkable for her beauty and charm. As Miss Maggie Okey she was well known in the musical world of London. Her mother kept a boarding house in the West End of London. Labori and Pachman, the great pianist, lived here and both were suitors for the hand of their landlady's daughter. She chose Vladimir de Pachman and as Madame de Pachman Miss Okey played at many of the best concerts in London and Paris. In spite of the mutual interest in music the marriage proved unhappy and the bonds were severed in this country. Returning to Europe Miss Okey met and married her old lover M. Labori. The union has proved very happy. Her musical ability is exhibited still for the entertainment

The Northwestern University of Chicago enrolls in its medical department a student who is no less a person than Princess Sophia Bamba Dhuleep Lingh, daughter of the late Maharajah of Lahore. A year ago this Indian Princess made a tour of the world and visited the different medical schools. She then determined to take the full four years' course at the Woman's Medical College, although it is doubtful if the government of India will allow her to return to her native land. The Princess is about twenty-eight years of age and fairly good looking, with a clear olive complexion and black hair. She came here from England, bringing as companions two great dogs, a great Dane and a Russian wolf hound. The Princess thought America was democratic and consequently was much astonished to find that her English maid was not allowed to sit in place at the table when the Princess was absent. The Princess's eldest brother is married to an English lady, Lady Ann Coventry. The Princess is given to wearing gowns of thin India muslin and many gold bracelets. She dislikes any artificial light except that of lamps.



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# I Will Cure You of

# Rheumatism.

No Pay Until You Know It.

After 2,000 experiments, I have learned how to ure Rheumatism. Not to turn bony joints into esh again; that is impossible. But I can cure the isease always, at any stage, and forever. I ask for no money. Simply write me a postal nd I will send you an order on your nearest ruggist for six bottles of Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic ure, for every druggist keeps it. Use it for onth, and if it does what I claim pay your drugist \$5.50 for it. If it doesn't, I will pay him myelf.

gist \$5.50 for it. If it doesn't, I will pay him myself.

I have no samples. Any medicine that can affect Rheumatism with but a few doses must be drugged to the verge of danger. I use no such drugs. It is folly to take them. You must get the disease out of the blood.

My remedy does that, even in the most difficult obstinate cases. No matter how impossible this seems to you. I know it and I take this risk. I have cured tens of thousands of cases in this way, and my records show that 39 out of 40 who get those six bottles pay, and gladly. I have learned that people in general are honest with a physician who cures them. That is all lask. If I fail I don't expect a penny from you.

Simply write me a postal card or letter. Let me send you an order for the medicine; also a book. Take it for a month, for it won't harm you any way. If it cures pay \$5.50. I leave that entirely to you. Address Dr. Shoop, Box 304, Racine, Wis.

it cures pay \$5.50. I leave that entire ddress Dr. Shoop, Box 304, Racine, Wis

often cured by on. Mild cases, not chronic, are of or two bottles. At all druggists.

A missionary is returning to the Gola country in the center of Africa whose life sounds like a romance. The missionary is an earnest educated Christian bearing the name of Wesley Putman. Seven years ago he made his way out of the Gola country and travelled five hundred miles to see the "Big Water" and the "White Men". Naked, ignorant, he fell into the hands of Mr. Putman, a missionary. Bishop Turner visited the land and sent the colored lad to America to be educated. The Gola savage seemed to possess some Yankee traits for he took a dollar and a half that was given him and by judicious investment in peanuts and apples he established a trade that enabled him to leave the school at Normal. Alabama, with a capital of some few hundred dollars. He will return to his own people as a missionary.



A Great Inducement F. B. MILLS, Seedsman, Rose Hill, N. Y.









cions Records of the Doin's in the Cobl "Writ out" by the Boy Behind the Counter.

(EDITOR'S NOTE:—The quaint philosophers, the dry wags, the shrewd dickerers and the eminent yarn-spinners of the countryside make a forum of the country postoffice when there is room at the rear around the big stove. The stories and incidents on which some of the most successful human interest novels of the day are constructed come from the quaint loungers around the stores in Yankee communities. These official records of "Jeth's Crowd" are to be taken down month by month for the readers of Comfort and we hope that as you become acquainted with the members of the "Congress" your interest in their discourse and stories will deepen.)

HE 'Nited States govument will come down here and swat you once mighty plenty, Jeth," remarked Teed Strout to The Postmaster.

to The Postmaster.

The Postmaster peered through his wicket. His specs were on the end of his nose. He was holding his thumb to the tip of his tongue seeking a little moisture to assist in scaling over the letters that he was distributing.

"Jest where in particular is your bite itchin' today, Teed?" he asked satirically.

"Tom ding ye, ye went and put that postal card in my box, message side up," Strout snapped. "Prob'ly 'fore this time ha'f the old Skeedoobles in town have read it."

"Ser'ous bus'ness, ser'ous bus'ness, Teed,"

"Ser'ous bus'ness, ser'ous bus'ness, Teed," chirped The Postmaster, adding, "Twa'n't a 'p'intment to the Chinese Empire as embassadore, was it?

Strout put his face close to the wicket. "Drat ye, don't ye sass me," he snarled. "Ye're noth-in' but Uncle Sam's hired man, anyway, and

in' but Uncle Sam's hired man, anyway, and the people hire Uncle Sam and we can git ye bounced any time."

"This office pays the princely sum of one hunderd and thutty-five dollars a year," said The Postmaster, drily. "'Less ye git your powder awful cheap 'tain't wuth while to fire me, is it?"

"Wal, when ye don't handle my mail right,"
persisted Strout, "I'll have ye fired if I have to
sell a heifer caff and go to Washington a pur-

sell a helfer can and go to Washington a purpose."

The Postmaster went at his work again.

"When ye go to Washington," he suggested, "better take along your postal card and them three blood renovator circulars ye got two months ago. That will show the govument how big your mail runs in the course of a year. When Roosyvelt sees that pile he will prob'ly have ye up to dinner. Seem's if I can see you and Ted walkin' along to the White House together discussin' the best policy for Cobb's Corner and the Philippines—Ted carryin' two pounds of steak under his arm. You'll have a good time. But what was on your old postal card anyway, that you're so fussy?"

Strout did not reply, but The Postmaster went on: "I know what it was. 'Twas a notice sayin' your two-gallon jug had got along to the express office. Goin' to stand treat, Teed?"

The Postmaster chuckled and Strout, looking rether confused shuffled away to the rear of

The Postmaster chuckled and Strout, looking The Postmaster chuckled and Strout, looking rather confused, shuffled away to the rear of the store where The Crowd was assembled. As he walked away he muttered: "I can see where there's goin' to be a clean sweep in this office, and I'll handle the broom."
"Speakin' of brooms," shouted The Postmaster, "how's your whisk'?"
Then he laughed with a big "Haw, haw, haw-w-w?"
"What's Jeth gettin' off on ve?" inquired

"What's Jeth gettin' off on ye?" inquired Uncle Sam, the dean of the Cobb Corner Cracker-barrel Congress.

"He'll be gittin' off his job pretty quick," growled Strout as he ground his tobacco between his palms. His pipe dangled at one corner of his mouth. "Some men," he continued, "when they git a job with the 'Nited States govument think right off that they're the biggest hunk of meat in the chowder. But I'll show him whuther I've got influence or not. If the govument don't use us jest right here at Cobb's Corner we can take holt and swing the place Democratic sure'n Judas Isecarrot had asbestos whiskers."

Teed jammed the tobacco into his pipe with

asbestos whiskers."

Teed jammed the tobacco into his pipe with much energy.

"Jeth's gittin' so he thinks that he's a reg'lar dictator," whined old Wack Spofford, rubbing his cane head through his scrubby beard. "Next thing he'll be wantin' us to give him the nayshunal salute when he sweeps off the postoffice platform.

"When they changed the stage leavin' time a while ago Jeth had to git up at four mornin's and close the mail bags. Fust mornin' I heered a turrible wheltin' on my back door right yonder there. Says I to mother, 'Who in tunket's round here this time o' mornin'? 'Twa'n't ha'! past three. 'Land o' Goshen,' says she, 'it must be some of Marshy's folks and she's prob'ly been took wuss." And still that wheltin'-tibang kept a goin'.

"Wal, I got on my pants quick's I could in the dark and went to the door holdin' them up with both hands. 'Who is it?' says I. 'Postmaster Hackett,' says he. 'What's wanted?' says I. 'Hev' ye tackled a stamp ye can't lick?' (Git up,' says he, 'and come across into the postoffice jest's quick 's ye can.'

"Wal, I hustled over, for I didn't know what in tunket might be up. There was Jeth standin' there side of a mail bag. 'Keep your eye on me,' says he. I didn't know what in time it all meant but I watched him like a cat watches a mouse. He put some money into envelops and seals 'em up and tucks 'em into the bag. Then he locks the bag and kicks it out of the door where the stage driver could get it. 'See me

do that. didn't ye?' says he. 'I did,' says I, 'but what in furynation is it all about?' 'The 'Nited States govument,' says he, 'is the biggest thing on the face of the earth and the man that is a 'Nited States official like I am has to keep his eye peeled. Now the rules pervide that when the postmaster sends away his returns and his registered letters some unprejudiced witness must see him put 'em into the bags.'

"'Ye don't mean to tell me,' says I, 'that ye've routed me out of bed this time in the mornin' jest to see ye juggle with some cussed old mail bags?'

"'I'll report ye to the 'Nited States govument,' says he, 'if ye talk that way about the great nayshunal mail service. Furthermore, I'm li'ble to call on ye any mornin' now to act as an unprejudiced witness. In the name of the 'Nited States govument I command ye to hold yourself in readiness for all sech calls. And I want ye to be pleasant about it, too. If ye come growlin' in here I'll have the postmaster-general send down one of them secret service fellers and you won't skercely know what's happened to ye when he gits in your hair."

"I don't know jest what the laws is," concluded Wack plaintively, "but it's kind o' tough to have one of them blame govument dictators right here grindin' your nose into the dirt." He made a bull's-eye in the sawdust box with a graceful parabola.

The Postmaster came along at this juncture and put another stick of wood on the fire in the barrel stove.

"Ef ye only had a bushy tail to go along with the terrevilier grown of your week." said The

the barrel stove.

the barrel stove.

"Ef ye only had a bushy tail to go along with that growlity-growl of yourn, Wack," said The Postmaster, "I'd hire ye for a dog to watch the office nights. What's the matter now?"

"I'm tellin' the boys about your routin' me out to look on while you played tag with a mail bag t'other mornin'," grumbled old Wack.

"You've set there thutty years behind that stove chawin' terbacker on one side and the principles of the Republican party on the other was to the stove of the resulting the stove of the resulting the stove of the Republican party on the other was the stove of the Republican party on the other was the stove of the Republican party on the other was the stove of the Republican party on the other was the stove of the Republican party on the other was the stove of the Republican party on the other was the stove of the Republican party on the other was the stove of the Republican party on the other was the stove of the store of the

bag t'other mornin'," grumbled old Wack.
"You've set there thutty years behind that stove chawin' terbacker on one side and the principles of the Republican party on the other," shouted The Postmaster, "and it's time for ye to be payin' a leetle rent by chorin' for me once 'ner while. P'raps you fellers don't think I have troubles of my own jest the same as you do! P'raps you think that bein' a fourth-class postmaster is somethin' like actin' as understudy for J. Pierpont Morgan in the cowponcuttin' business. You fellers that buy a gallon of kairosene a month and think that you are boostin' the dividends of the Standard Oil company and makin' an independent fortune for me remind me of old Sile Bunker. Time of the Civil War he wrote to President Lincoln and asked Abe to send along money enough so that he could run up to Washington. Said that in ten minutes he could arrange it so that the whole war would be stopped. President wrote back that he felt sure Sile could stop the war and personally he was in favor of sendin' for him but he said that as usual he couldn't do anything with Sewall; Sewall was bound to fight. Sile died pretty soon after the war was over. Used to say that it made him fairly sick to figger what that war cost and then to reflect that if he could only have had ten minutes talk with Lincoln he could have saved the whole sum. He got peak-ed over it and dropped away. There was another thing that was kind of a shock and helped kill him off, I expect.

"Sile used to shingle houses for a livin'. One day right after the war closed and when banks were kind o' unsteady for a spell, Sile was shinglin' the passonage here in the village. A man came along and got into talk with the minister who was workin' in the garden. While Sile was stuffin's new load of nails into his mouth he overheered the man say that the Hou Holler Navahunal hank had failed.

his mouth he overheered the man say that there was a rumor down in the next town that the Hog Holler Nayshunal bank had failed.

"Wal, s'r, Sile give a hoot and a beller and fired his hammer one way and his nail box the other. Then he giv' a leap plumb off the roof and lit right between that man and the minis-

ter.
"He grabbed the man by the lappels of his co't. He shook him.

"'Do ye mean to say', yelled Sile, 'that the Hog Holler bank has failed?'
"'Wal, so I heerd—so I heerd', the man stut-

"Sile give one more hoot and started off up the ro'd in a cloud of dust. Said they never see'd a man run so hard as he did. Went out of sight with the man and the minister stand-

of sight with the man and the minister standin' watchin' him with their tongues run out.

"In about half an hour he come back ridin'
in the back of Jase Jephson's wagon. He was
lookin' cheerful as a cricket. When he come
into the yard the minister asked, 'In the name
of mercy and forgivin' grace, Mister Bunker,
what did you tear away so sudden for?'

"'I've been home', said Sile. 'Scart me
pretty nigh to death when I heerd that bank

had failed.'
"'Did you have bank-notes issued by it?''the
minister asked. It was always supposed
around the village that Sile was poorer 'n
Poodic and so the minister commenced to take

interest.

"'I'm sort of careless about my money matters', explained Sile. 'I couldn't remember jest what I had for bills. I run all the way home and I overtook and passed sev'ral mighty good hosses on the road, too. They asked me to ride, the men did, but I told 'em I didn't have the time to spare. I run into the house. Mother see me comin' and was at the door. I didn't notice her tryin' to open the door and I knocked her down by accident when the door flammed back. She hollered bloody murder but I couldn't stop then. In jest two jumps I was upstairs and in the bed room where we keep the big chist. I dug right down into it and got hold of the wallet where we keep our money.'

money.'
"'Did you find any of the bills on that bank?' gasped the minister.
"'Not a bill on that bank and none on any other bank, nuther," said Sile. "There wa'n't a thing in the wallet. I remembered then that we hadn't had anything laid by in the money line for more'n tew year. I tell ye 'twas the greatest relief I ever felt in my life."

The Postmaster was obliged to go to the print counter at this juncture. Aunt Mirandy Bond wanted fifteen yards of a blue figured piece that her cousin had told her about. The Postmaster measured it off, nose and arm

Postmaster measured it off, nose and arm

Postmaster measured it off, nose and arm method.

"Jest fifteen yards", said he.

"I'll take it," said Aunt Mirandy.

"I can't let you have the whole piece," objected the Postmaster. "I sha'n't have any more left in the store if ye take it. I'll split the thing with ye."

"Wal, ye can order more, can't ye?" snapped Aunt Mirandy.

"Wal, ye can order more, can't ye?" snapped Aunt Mirandy.
"I've sold so much of this kind of pattern," said the Postmaster, "that I reckon the demand must be pretty well-cl'yed by this time. I don't dast to order another whole piece but still I shall want a leetle in the store in stock. So I'll have to skinch ye down to shoult seven or sight

have to skinch ye down to about seven or eight yards. Shall I measure it off?"

But Aunt Mirandy allowed that she guessed she would try to get a whole pattern out to the Center.

Center.

"I'm sorry, Aunt Mirandy, that I can't 'commodate ye," said the Postmaster when he put the print back on the shelf. "But store rules has to be observed to the letter if ye're goin' to

do a reg'lar and legitimate bus'ness.

Before the Postmaster went back to the rear of the store he secured a sheet of brown paper of the store he secured a sheet of brown paper that lay on the mailing table in the postoffice pen. He went to the stove, pushed past a few jiggering legs and stood in the center of the group. Cap. Jote Bailey who used to coast from Penobscot to New York was telling a story in the wavering voice of the old.

"—easy," said he. He had a hand that looked like a bunch of bananas. "The anchor laid cocked on one fluke. Wal, he just scooched and hecked his shoulder under the anchor and—uuh!—up he grunted with it. When he walked across the deck his feet sunk tew inches into the solid planks. He—"

The Postmaster settled his specs more firmly on the end of his nose and looked over the rims at the narrator.

The Postmaster settled his specs more firmly on the end of his nose and looked over the rims at the narrator.

"Look here, Jote," said he with decision, "I hain't got no objections to reasonable and proper stories bein' told here in this store. But I hain't goin' to run the chances of any Ananiasses droppin' dead on my primises.

Not if the court knows herself and she thinks she do. I'm willin' to give ye quite a lot of rope. But when ye're tellin' sech a gol-hecked lie that ye dasn't chaw teerbacker for fear of swallerin' the quid, it's time to draw the line. And besides, I want to read ye suthin' I have writ in the poetry line. I—"

"'Tain't fair not to let me finish my story," protested old Jote.

"It's contrary to the rules and regulations of the "'Nited States postoffice laws to have liein' on the postoffice premises," said The Postmaster. "If the President hears I have let The Crowd set here and lie against the statoots made and pervided, there hain't no knowin' what he won't do." He spread the sheet of brown paper before his nose. "This here poetry that I was tellin' ye about," he began, but a bustling about him brought his eyes up over the edge of the paper. Uncle Wack took his package of board nails, Jote tucked his codfish under his arm, Teed drove the small potato more firmly on the snout of his kerosene can and all started for the door.

"Poetry spiles drefful easy," said the last man

and all started for the door.
"Poetry spiles drefful easy," said the last man

A new cure for

# Rheumatism

of which any suffering reader can have

# 50 CENT **BOX FREE!**

On the theory "that seeing is believing," John A. Smith of Milwaukee wants everyone to try his remedy for the cure of rheumatism at his expense. For that reason he proposes to distribute 25,000 free 50c. boxes among all persons sending him their address. Mr. Smith had suffered all the agony and torture from rheumatism, tried all the agony and torture from rheumatism, tried all the remedies known and yet utterly failed to find relief.

At times he was so helpless that he had to take morphine and after considerable doctoring he gave up in despair. He began studying into the causes of rheumatism and after much experimenting, he finally hit upon a combination of drugs which completely cured him. The result was so beneficial to his entire system that he called his new found remedy "Gloria Tonic." Those of his friends, relatives and neighbors suffering from rheumatism were next cured and Mr. Smith concluded to offer his remedy to the world. But he found the task a difficult one as nearly everybody had tried a hundred or more remedies and they couldn't be made to believe that there was such a thing as a cure for rheumatism. But an old gentleman from Sequin, Texas, wrote him saying if Mr. Smith would send him a sample he would try it, but as he had suffered forty-one years and wasted a fortune with doctors and advertised remedies, he wouldn't buy anything more until he knew it was worth something. The sample was sent, he purchased more and the result was astonishing. He was completely cured. This gave Mr. Smith a new idea and ever since that time he has been sending out free sample boxes to all who apply. In Prosser, Neb., it cured a lady of 67 who had suffered 52 years. In Fountain City, Wis., it cured Mrs. John Gehr, who had suffered for 30 years. Rev. C. Sund of Harrisville, Wis., texted this remarkable cure on two members of his congregation, one who had suffered 15 and the other 25 years, both were completely cured. In St. Louis, Mo., it cured Mrs. John Gehr, who had suffered for 30 years. Rev. C. Sund of Harrisvi

JOHN A. SMITH,

3160 Germania Bldg.,

Milwaukee, Wis.

CHILD LOST for 18 years. Stolen from the cradle. She was told who and by ZEMINDAR, Great Hindu Ser, Percent of the control of

out. "Better ice that piece ye've got there."

"That's what a 'Nited States official gits by
tryin' to live amongst the common people,"
soliloquized The Postmaster, and he went into his pen and commenced to read the newspapers in the boxes of the patrons of the office.

# HANDSOME WATCH



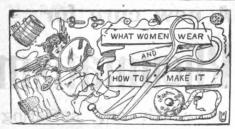
A Solid Gold Ladies' or Gents' watch costs from \$25 to \$50. Don't throw your money away. If you want a watch that will equal for time

any Solid Gold Watch made, send us your name & address at once & agree to sell only 8 boxes of our famous Vegetable Pills at 25 cts. a box. It's the greatest remedy on earth for Constipation, Indigestion & all stomach disorders & they sell like hot cakes. Don't miss the chance of your life. Send us your order & we will send the 8 boxes by mail. When sold you send us the money & we will send you the WATCH with

# A GUARANTEE FOR 20 YEARS

the same day money is received. There is no humbuggery about this. We are giving away these watches to quickly introduce our Remedy-& all we ask is that when you receive the watch you will show it to your friends. Hundreds have received watches from us & are more than delighted with them. This is a glorious opportunity to get a fine watch without paying a cent for it & you should write at once. Address

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WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

HE English raglan has certainly superceded all other form of wrap for intermediate weather. The golf capes have bidden us good bye and our gratitude goes with them, for they were most useful in their day. Newworktets reselved to the

bidden us good bye and our gratitude goes with them, for they were most useful in their day. Newmarkets reach to the bottom of the skirt, never longer. Sometimes they fall perfectly loose from the shoulder and sometimes are fitted in at the back and sides, following the lines of the figure gracefully without clearly defining it. Sometimes the fullness is brought in at the waist by means of a belt caught loosely about the figure and crossed in front, or fastened by means of a handsome buckle.

Too much cannot be said in favor of large collars and revers; they are in evidence on almost every garment. They broaden the shoulders, the flat sleeve top not serving to do this enough to preserve the correct proportions, now that sleeves are so much broader at the elbow.

Velvet ribbons hold their own; narrow velvet ribbon is used for running through laces that are now woven for the purpose, forming intricate patterns. Broad black velvet, two-toned, is used for belts and sashes. Black ribbons with white satin linings are favorites. Quantities of taffeta ribbon are used. Muffs and boas are made entirely of them, with the big flat rosette for garniture, with the "nail head" button in the center. Seemingly everything is trimmed with great flat rosettes of taffeta with the button center. Pink ribbons with large pink roses are used for belts and for the neck to match.

Handkerchiefs, to be refined, must be as sheer as a light cobweb. To carry when gowned in a pocketless toilet the very small "glove handkerchief" is alone possible. It is carried tucked into the palm of the glove and is both small and very fine. The French make most fascinating neckwear of fine hand-



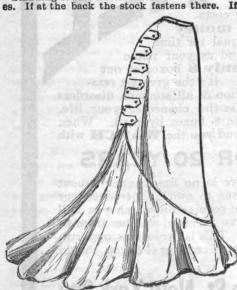
kerchiefs, an art that might be studied to advantage by American women. Above the hem some handkerchiefs have a row of narrow Valenciennes lace insertion and edge. The filmy hand-worked handkerchiefs of the French convent type of workmanship have only a monogram or initial in one corner and a triangular setterm in the opposite one.

gram or initial in one corner and a triangular pattern in the opposite one.

Buttons are to be used more this season than for several years past. The most noticeable novelties show combinations of different materials. A coat button, large, in fanciful openwork design, has cut-steel bars for half the space, the other half in a different design, being of gilt studded with brilliants.

Enameled buttons are shown in great variety, in combination, also plain. Cut steel and red enamel are combined in a handsome big coat button, made with a clustered center of tiny cut steel points surrounded by a rim of red enamel and again by an outer edge of steel points. Gilt and enamel are combined, and pale blue, pink and coral tints in enamel are shown in great variety. The use of handsome buttons and buttonholes bound with velvet is prevalent on imported gowns.

prevalent on imported gowns.
Standing collars fasten wher the waist clos-I



the bodice fastens in front, as so many of the new bodices do, then the stock fastens there.
If at the side the stock fastens at the side.
Among dress garniture, the revival of black

silk embroidery is very noticeable and is chiefly in rococco designs. Ovals, squares, medallions, etc., on mousseline or on fillet. Another quite new combination is made with Chantilly lace as a ground. Upon this is an applique of velvet, giving an unusual effect of lightness with an accentuated pattern. Velvet is a part of all elaborate trimming.

Some of the newest veils now being worn have a general appearance of being white as the mesh and three-quarters of the dots are white, black spots only showing at intervals. Dainty face coverings of white chiffon show borders of tiny scarlet chains in silk embroidery, very



brilliant and yet dainty, especially when draped about the brim of a smart hat. Black veils with large mesh are shown spotted with colors, the favorite being pale blue.

Comb sets for the hair, comprising a large back comb and side combs, are shown in tortoise shell, studded with big turquoises and rhinestones.

rhinestones

rhinestones.

Sleeves of soft wool or silk gowns grow larger and fuller, while those strictly tailor made grow smaller and snugger.

The newest fancy in belts shows a handsome buckle at the back and a big bow with long ends of the same ribbon as the belt, to fasten the front.

### The Saving of Lives.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



the form of a triangle.

HEN Grace Darling and Ida Lewis saved the lives of a ship's crew, they were considered as little less than the great wonders of the world.
Today there are several
schools for teaching the
science of life-saving,
and there are life-saving establishments on
every coast. every coast.

The firemen belonging to engine and hose companies in our cities, too, are taught their business of life-saving as thoroughly as bookkeeping or setting broken limbs is taught. In Syracuse, New York, for the purpose of practice, a five-story building was erected in the rear of an engine house, and a section of this structure is shown in the accompanying

in the accompanying cut, which also shows a number of men clinging ant-like to its perpendicular surface. The apparatus used by the school is shown in the illustration. What are known as "pompier" ladders are seen in the ladders are seen in the foreground, arranged in They consist of 15-foot



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Merely send your name and address to Mme. M. Ribault,
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redness, crow's feet, pimples, blackheads, flesh worms,
sallowness, freckles, tan, sunburn, and all complexion
disfigurements.

sallowness, freekles, tan, sunburn, and all complexion disfigurements. Helen H. Ralston, 628 Lexington Ave., Newport, Ky., has a complexion fair as a May day queen. She says of ti; "I cannot see why any lady should continue to lack a beautiful complexion when it can be so easily obtained by simply sending name and address to Mme. Ribault the same as I did. Write her to-day."



Don't pay out your good money for a beautiful Fur Collarette when you can easily earn one by a few hours pleasant work, during spare time, selling our Jewelry Novelties. This is strictly an honest and straightforward advertisement, we guarantee to do exactly as we say, and every lady who will sell or our latest pattern lisk solid gold plated enameled Venetian Brooches will receive of erons offer of this beautiful Black Canadian Seal Fur Collarette, with 1.2 doz erons offer of this beautiful Black Canadian Seal Fur Collarette, with 1.2 doz or Silver metal front decorated, which we give absolutely free for selling 8 of Brooches. We ask no money in advance, if you agree to sell only 8 of these fast Brooches at 25c each sena name and address and we will mail them post-paid. This trively sell on sight. When sold send us the \$2.00 and we guarantee if you compthe offer we shall send you with the Handker hiefs and Pocket Book, this beautiful collarette will be given absolutely free. These Handkerchiefs are pure white, p white scalloped edge, 12x121-2, floral embroidered in one corner in wash silk. The Book is all leather, elaborate stampings, nickel frame coin compartment, all aror or silver metal front decorated. The Fur Collarette is made of genuine Black Coseal, it is very fashionable for winter wear, but is useful for evening wear all the around. Premiums are sent post-paid same day money is received, and we pour guarantee them to be exactly as represented.

J. A. Berg, Morehead, Minn., writes: "The Premiums received for whank you. Soll THE JEWELRY YOU SENT INSIDE OF AN HOUR

guarantee them to be exactly as represented.

J. A. Berg, Morehead, Minn., writest "The Premiums rectank you. I 80LD THE JEWELRY YOU SENT INSIDE OF PROPERTY FOR COllarctic some time ago, and I THINK IT IS LITTLE WORK. I thank you very much for sending it. My many thanks, Lily Hopkins, Great Falls, Mont. 35" write to St. NATIONAL MERCANTILE COMPANY, Dept. 312, EAST

lengths of narrow and very tough hickory cross-bars every foot of the length. Inside the hook is armed with sharp teeth.

Upon the expert use of these rather frail-looking ladders often depends human life. A three weeks' training in the school fits a man to climb up or across the tallest building in an incredible short space of time. If a fireman who has been working on the roof of a blazing building has been shut off by the burning of his ladder the pompier ladder cannot be used and the captain gets his gun. It is shaped like an ordinary cavalry carbine, but it is much heavier, the stock being of solid steel. Over the muzzle is fixed a steel cap, to one end of which a very strong and light line is fastened. The line lies coiled in a thin dish, with a core in the centre like a cake tin.

When the gun is discharged the cap flies over the burning building carrying the line with it, which is picked up by the fireman on the roof, who pulls up a stronger rope. This is made fast to the chimney or some other safe fastening. Then he puts on a broad webbed belt, to which is fastened an immense steel hook or snap, takes two half hitches of the rope around this hook and lowers himself over the roof. By grasping the rope with his right hand and the hook with his left, he can lower himself at any speed desired. The exercise itself looks dangerous, but it is preferable to burning to death in a conflagration.



HE brass coin used by the Chinese as money, are de-scended from the bronze ax

cented from the bronze ax which was one of the implements first used by Chinese merchants for barter. In early days, before coin was invented, barter was usually carried on between buyers and sellers with metal implements as they still are in Central Africa at the present day. At first the Chinese used real hatchets in bartering, but as trade increased an implement was needed for the man who only wanted to buy half a hatchet's worth of goods. Special hatchets were therefore made for bartering purposes only, as they were too small for practical use. Further subdivision of metal pieces, and the adoption of a more convenient shape were then only a question of a short time.

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The New York Fine Arts Federation is hoping to be able to erect a \$1,500,000 building in that city.

The new French submarine boat, Espadon, can remain for four hours at a depth of fifty feet with-out her crew becoming distressed for air.

Ten minutes of labor by one man is all that is now required to produce a bushel of wheat. In 1830 it required three hours and three minutes.

Last year Missouri produced more manufactured tobacco than any other State in the Union, over 78,000,000 pounds passing through its factories.

Five important pictures by Hans Makart have been bought by the Austrian Government for the museum at Vienna. One of the works is the famous "Five Senses."

Berlin pays a salary to a professional bird catcher, who keeps scientific and educational institutions supplied with birds, birds' nests and eggs, and he is the only man in the empire permitted to do so.

Plans for developing the study of Spanish at Yale have been made recently. A course in that language has been arranged to be given under the direction of William Henry Bishop, novelist and author. It will soon begin.

The United States Navy now consists of thirteen battleships, six armored cruisers, three semi-armored cruisers, six protected cruisers, four monitors, twenty-three torpedo-boat destroyers, and seven submarine boats—seventy-eight in all. and seven submarine boats—seventy-eight in an These vessels are either built or in process of con

An ingenious apparatus for estimating dust in the air has just been devised. It is capable of indicating in milligrams the amount of dust per cubic metre found in the air in any particular place. In a school room it is said to be 10 per cent. In a woolen mill 20, and in a flour mill from 22 to 28 per cent.

On February 1, 1902, an international system of magnetic observations will be established. There will be several stations in the United States, from which periodical circulars will be issued, giving the variations of the needle at certain dates. The main purpose is to ascertain the law of magnetic variation and minimize errors in navigation and land surveying.

The skull of Mozart, the eminent composer, which, since the death of Professor Hyrtl, who kept it in his home, and was transferred to one place and another, has now found its final home in the museum at Salzburg. The place of Mozart's grave is forgotten, and even for the authenticity of this skull there is only the evidence of a grave digger, an engraver and the late Professor Hyrtl.

Early in the nineteenth century Jacob Perkins of Massachusetts struck the keynote of a series of great advances in bank note printing when he substituted steel for copper plates, and devised a method of making transfers of the original engraving to soft steel, which, by being afterwards hardened, could be printed from. Through his exertions not only in this country but on the continent of Europe bank notes many years ago attained great superiority in artistic and mechanical execution.

N. S. Amstutz, of Cleveland, the inventor of a process for sending pictures over wires to distant points, has recently brought out an improved process for the making of half-tone pictures for newspaper use. Its chief value is the rapidity with which a picture of this character can be made, although it has another merit, and that is that the whites are pure and solid and not broken up by dots, as is generally the case. This makes the picture crisp and sparkling because of the sharp contrasts secured in the print.

Herbert Hoyle, an Englishman, who is the inventor of a process for making artificial silk from China grass, has been brought to this country by some capitalists with the object of exploiting his invention, and a mill will soon be in operation at Fall River or Boston. One of the advantages of Mr. Hoyle's process is that the artificial silk can be spun on ordinary cotton and woolen machines. There are a few factories in Europe for the utilization of China grass, but this is the first venture of this kind in the United States.

Dr. Albert F. Woods, the physiologist of the United States Bureau of Plant Industry, has made a scientific study of the causes which produce the brilliant coloring in autumn leaves. The immediate cause, it seems, is the oxidation of the color compounds or color generators in the cells, which is produced by the attack of a chemical ferment. The most gorgeous autumn leaves are produced by a fall whose days gradually cool from summer heat to winter snow. But if the frost should come early the true autumnal splendors need not be expected.

A patent has recently been filed in the Patent Office for a device which applies power to an automobile motor only when the driver's seat is occupied. The instant the operator rises from his seat or is thrown therefrom, the cushion is raised by means of a spring, and this carries with it a plunger which shuts off the power, and the vehicle comes to a standstill. This invention will prevent runaway accidents from automobiles. When the application for this patent was filed in the Patent Office it was found that there were twenty-six other applications covering like ideas.

An ambulance in a lump post is the latest idea in

An ambulance in a lamp-post is the latest idea in street contrivances. Paris has just been endowed with some specimens of what is called a "phase de secours" or first aid lighthouse. It consists of an ornamented bronze pillar about fifteen feet high, with a round, overhanging top resembling that of a lighthouse, and containing a clock face barometer and three transparent pictorial advertisements, revolved by clockwork and lighted by gas from within. In the base of the pillar is a letter box, and in the shaft is a folding stretcher, with printed directions for affording first aid to the injured. In case of a street accident the stretcher can be immediately obtained by breaking a small glass window just above the letter box, taking out the key and unlocking the receptacle.

Lord Kelvin, says an English paper, once paid a

taking out the key and unlocking the receptacle.

Lord Kelvin, says an English paper, once paid a visit to some well-known electrical works. At one of them they were escorted over the workshops by the senior foreman, a man of much intelligence and an enthusiastic electrician. Entirely unaware of his visitor's identity, he minutely explained the details of the plant and machinery, and lectured him in his role of layman quite professionally. Lord Kelvin's friend was on the point of interrupting several times, but an amused signal from the great master of electricity kept him silent. When the tour of inspection was complete, Lord Kelvin quietly turned to the foreman and asked: "What, then, is electricity?" This was a poser for the man, who, somewhat shamefaced, confessed that he could not say. "Well, well," said Lord Kelvin gently, "that is the only thing about electricity which you and I don't know."

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to make money.

It is just as easy to make money for yourself as it is to coin money for some grasping employer, who pays you a small salary each week. If you are making less than \$30 weekly it will pay you to read this announcement, for it will not appear again in this paper.

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your ambition.

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you absolutely free how to conduct it. Gentlemen and ladies make \$20 to \$35 weekly at home or traveling, taking orders, using, selling and appointing agents for PROFESSOR GRAY'S Latest improved, Guaranteed Plating Machines and Outfits. NO FAKE OR TOYS, but Machines and Outfits. NO FAKE OR TOYS, but genuine, practical, complete, scientific outfits for doing the finest of plating on WATCHES, JEWELRY, KNIVES, FORKS, SPOONS, CASTORS, TABLEWARE OF ALL KINDS, BICYCLES. SEWING MACHINES, SWORDS, REVOLVERS, HARNESS AND BUGGY TRIMMINGS, metal specialties; in fact all kinds of metal goods. HEAVY THICK PLATE. GUARANTEED TO WEAR FOR YEARS. No experience necessary. perience necessary.

perience necessary.

There is really a wonderful demand for replating. You can do business at nearly every house, store, office or factory. Almost every family has from \$2 to \$10 worth of tableware to be plated, besides watches, jewelry, bicycles, etc. Every boarding house, hotel, restaurant, college or public institution has from \$5 to \$75 worth of work to be plated. Every jewelry, repair or bicycle shop, every dentist, doctor and surgeon, every man, woman and child you meet has either a watch, some jewelry, bicycles, instruments, or some articles needing plating.

Besides the above there are hundreds of

Besides the above there are hundreds of atentees and manufacturers of metal goods, bicycles, sewing machines and typewriter repair shops who want their goods plated, or to whom you can sell a plating outfit, furnishing

them supplies for doing their own plating.
Retail Stores which handle hardware, harness, tableware and plated or metal goods all
need a plating and polishing outfit for refinishing goods that become worn, soiled, rusty or tarnished.

Every Undertaker requires a plating outfit for repairing and finishing coffin and hearse trimmings which are soiled, tarnished or worn.

Manufacturers are making and selling tons of new tableware, jewelry, bicycles and various kinds of metal goods every month which has only a very thin plate, which, in a few weeks, wears off, making the goods unsightly, unfit

wears off, making the goods unsightly, unit for future use unless plated.

Manufacturers of new goods do no replating on old goods whatever, but try to force the public to throw away the old and buy new at high prices, but this only makes the plating business better.

The more new thinly plated goods sold the greater will be the demand for plating. Plate some articles for your friends and neighbors by Professor Gray's Process, and it quickly proves to them its genuineness and merit and that your plating is much thicker, will wear better and longer than a large percentage of the new goods. Your trade is then established, and within a short time you will have all the the new goods. Your trade is then established, and within a short time you will have all the goods you can plate.

Plate a few articles for your friends, call a few weeks, a few months, or five years later, and you will find the plate satisfactory, and they will give you every article they have needing to be plated.



Factory and Warehouse of Gray & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio. Capital \$100,000. Employ 200 to 300 people daily.

When you deliver the goods plated to customers they will be well pleased, in fact, delighted with the work, will pay for it promptly, and you will be given on an average twice as much work to be plated as they gave you the first time you called.

# YOU CAN DO PLATING SO CHEAP

that every person can afford to have their

No tidy housekeeper will allow worn and rusty tableware to go before a guest when it can be restored and made equal to new.

No person will wear jewelry or a watch, or

ride a bicycle, or use a typewriter, sewing machine, or any machine made of metal from which the plate is worn off when they see samples of your work and hear your prices. People in this day and generation are too sensible and economical to throw away their ald goods and buy new when they can have their old goods and buy new when they can have their old goods replated for so small a cost, making them, in many cases, better than when new.

The best part of the plating business is that it increases fast and is permanent.

Put out your sign, secure your outfit, do a little work and quickly you will be favored with orders. If you do not wish to do the plating yourself you can hire boys for \$3 to \$4 a week. week to do the work the same as we do, and solicitors to gather up goods to be plated on commission.

It is not hard work, but is pleasant, and especially so when your business is netting you \$20 to \$35 a week for 5 or 6 hours' work a day.

### TREMENDOUS PROFITS.

The profits realized from plating are tremendous

mendous.

To plate a set of teaspoons requires only about 3c. worth of metal and chemicals; a set of knives, forks or tablespoons about 5c. worth. The balance of the price received for the work is for the agent's time and profit.

Agents usually charge from 25c. to 50c. per set for plating teaspoons, from 50c. to 75c. for tablespoons and forks, and from 60c. to \$1.00 for knives.

for knives.

tablespoons and forks, and from 60c. to \$1.00 for knives.

We allow you to set your own price for plating. Get as much as you can. You will have no competition. You know what it costs to plate the goods, and all you get over cost is profit. Some agents charge much more than the above prices, while others do the work for half and still make money.

Let us start you in business for yourself at once, don't delay a single day. Be your own boss. Be a money maker. We do all kinds of plating ourselves, have had years of experience, and are headquarters for plating supplies. We manufacture our own dynamos and outfits, all sizes, and send them out complete, with all tools, lathes, wheels and materials; everything ready for use.

We teach you everything, furnish all receipts, formulas and trade secrets free, so that failure should be impossible, and any one who follows our directions and teachings can do fine plating with a little practice, and become a money maker.

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Prof. Gray's Famous Discovery. THE NEW DIPPING PROCESS is the latest,

THE NEW DIPPING PROCESS is the latest, quickest, easiest method known. Tableware plated by simply dipping in melted metal, taken out instantly, with the finest, most brilliant, beautiful plate deposited. All ready to deliver to customers. MAKES THICK PLATE EVERY TIME. GUARANTEED TO WEAR 5 to 10 YEARS. A BOY PLATES 100 to 300 pleces tableware daily, from \$10 to \$30 worth of work, profits almost 1000 per cent. Goods come out of plate finely finished. No polishing, grinding or work necessary, neither before or after plating.

You will not need to canvas. Agents write they have all the goods they can plate. People bring it for miles around. You can hire boys cheap to do your plating, the same as we do,

cheap to do your plating, the same as we do, and solicitors to gather work for a small per cent. Put a small advertisement or two in your local paper and you will have all the plating you can do. The plating business is honest and legitimate. Plating on our machines gives good

satisfaction. Wears for years; customers are delighted and recommend you and your work.

We are an old established firm, have been in business for years, know exactly what is required, furnish complete outfits and material, the same as we ourselves use, and customers always have the benefit of our experitomers always have the benefit of our experience. We are responsible and guarantee everything. Reader, here is a chance of a lifetime to go in business for yourself. We start you. Now is the time to make money.

# FREE-WRITE US TO-DAY

for our new plan and proposition; also valuable information how the plating is done. Sit down and write now, so we can start you without delay. If you wish to see a sample of plating by our Outfits, send 2c. postage. Send your address anyway.

#### 61 Miami Building, GRAY & .CO., Plating Works, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

The above firm is thoroughly reliable and do just as they agree. The outfits are just as represented, and do fine plating, and after investigation we consider this one of the best paying businesses we have yet heard of.—Editor Home.



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Entered at the Post Office at Augusta, Maine,

Published Monthly at Augusta, Maine

Hoston Office, Hancock Building. New York Office, Temple Court. Chicago Office, Marquette Building.

Guaranteed Circulation ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND COPIES, Each and Every Issue, Or Exceeding 15 Millions A Year.

· "Wishing you a Happy New Year!" Just stop a minute and forget the familiar, stereo-

typed form of the words. Play that you hear them for the first time and that they mean what they say. Nothing more strongly illustrates the different points of view of this century and the last

than the Queen's Christmas gift to her South African soldiers. Victoria the queen of the early part of the nineteenth century sent a cake of chocolate. Queen Alexandra sends pipes of briarwood with the royal coat of arms in silver on the bowls. Tommy Atkins may not know that "while a woman is only a woman, a good cigar is a smoke," but he will believe that when the woman is a queen, a good pipe is a royal gift.

The French Academy awards an annual prize of one thousand francs called the Prize for Virtue. This has recently been given to a poor seamstress, who from the age of thirteen has supported a paralytic father, a sick motner and ten brothers and sisters. One can hardly imagine the surprise this must have been to one who patiently bore what seemed to others a burden with no thought but to perform her duty well. Virtue may be its own reward but the world is slow to accept that theory while an act like this of the Academy awakens immediate interest and attention.

We are sometimes alarmed with pessimistic calculations as to how long the earth will furnish sustenance for its rapidly increasing population. These alarming statisticians go on to prove that with the decreased death rate resulting from modern sanitary measures and the absence of great wars resulting from advanced ideas of civilization, Nature is deprived of her natural remedies for a surplus population. In the face of this the recent action of the French the face of this the recent action of the French Senate seems surprising. An extra parliamentary commission has been appointed to seek means of increasing the birth rate and diminishing the mortality in France. It is said that at the beginning of the century France had 25,030,003 inhabitants, England 12,000,000 and Germany 15,003,003. New England has 41,000,000, Germany 56,000,000 and France but 38,000,000. This seems to indicate national decay. Zola has written one of his strongest novels on this topic and with the idea of furthering the same result that the French senate desire—an increased population in France.

The county clerk who awoke to find himself famous because he offered a gift of a cook stove to the first couple he married, must have learned a lesson from books and observation. He evidently had his own theories as to the best way to make home happy. He would probably answer the query, "Is marriage a failure?" by referring to the cook stove. He may have read the answers to the question, "How shall I keep my husband?" "Feed the brute," or the other well worn epigram, "The way to a man's heart is through his stomach." His gift awoke the press paragraphers to their best stunts in the way of jeering comment. This seems strange in view of the fact that the scientists of the day are more and more given to exploiting the theory that what a man is, is determined by what he eats. Surely the cook stove has a close and intimate relation to what one eats. The wife who wishes to mould her husband's future has but to feed him properly to make the man what she will. What better aid could be asked than that of a good cook stove? There was literature, science and common sense to back up that magistrate's belief that a cook stove was a fit and proper wedding gift. The county clerk who awoke to find himself that a cook stove was a fit and proper wedding

The American Historical Association held its annual meeting in Washington during the last days of December. The association is composed of some of the most scholarly men and women in the United States. It has already accomplished much in the way of scholarly research in the field of American history although its work is not confined to American history alone. It is almost within the last decade that

American history has been given a prominent place in the curriculum of colleges and secondary schools. The association has been a helpful factor in giving dignity to the study of our own history and institutions. A wealth of historical material has been made valuable through use. There has never been a time when historical and genealogical research was so general as at the present. The American Historical Association has committees whose work covers every field of history work. The reports of the association are the most valuable compendiums of recent work in the field of history. The public is gradually developing an interest in the work planned and carried on by the association and this is a most helpful road to an intelligent patriotism.

The subject of child labor in the South is arousing general attention through an appeal that some of the leading citizens of Alabama have made to the press and people of New England. Many of the mills employing child labor are owned and controlled by Northern capitalists and it is claimed that their influence led to the repeal of legislation restricting child labor. The rapid development of the cotton industry and other manufacturing interests of the South has produced the same industrial conditions that have menaced every manufacturing nation. Restrictive laws have gradually followed sudden industrial development and in every case these laws have had the support of the most advanced thinkers of the nations. If South Carolina could place beside her magnificent cotton exhibit in the Charleston exposition a moving picture of her army of twelve thousand weary little toilers under fourteen years of age, the demand for legislation would be overwhelming from North and South alike. Figures, facts and humanity must and will remedy these conditions which are as great a blot on our civilization as slavery ever was. blot on our civilization as slavery ever was.

January, the first and the beginning of a new year, marks an exhibition of small books by the bookstores and stationers. These tiny blank books that will slip in the vest pocket are dignified by the name of "diary." The modern diary has about space enough to record important engagements and is really little more than a calendar of the "strenuous life." How different from the ponderous diaries of more than a calendar of the "strenuous life." How different from the ponderous diaries of earlier times. Few people of today keep diaries. We live in the "Now" and the patient diarist must always look back a little even though it is but the space of a day. Future centuries will look in vain for such vivid photographs of daily life as we can find in the incomparable diaries of Pepys and Evelyn. They furnish history of the most graphic power. The Polish novelist, Sienkiewicz, gives a clear explanation of the value of a diary when he says, "A man who leaves memoirs whether well or badly written, providing they be sincere, renders a service to future psychologists and writers, giving them not only a faithful picture of the times but likewise human documents that can be relied upon."

### Author of "Up in Maine."



FEW years ago Major Holman F. Day was the editor of an obscure country newspaper in Maine. Today his writings, both poetry and prose, are being read by millions of peo-ple. No author of

by millions of people. No author of ple. No author of recent years has so quickly sprung into public notice and general favor as has the talented and versatile author of "Up in Maine." This unique volume is a collection of poems, every one a gem, and each typical of the life and manners of Maine folks. The stubborn strength of the Pilgrims is nowhere better exemplified than on the Maine coast, or in the Maine woods, on the Maine coast, or in the Maine woods, on the Maine coast, or in the Maine workshop. From the characters there to be found the author has drawn his inspiration for the poetry which he has written. His subjects are generally rough diamonds, yet they possess, under his skillful dressing, the inherent qualities from which heroes are made.

Comfort is pleased to announce that, beginheroes are made.

heroes are made.

COMFORT is pleased to announce that, beginning with this issue, Major Holman F. Day will be a regular contributor to these columns. Each month he will furnish a poem and a story, typifying the quaint and curious characters to be found in Maine. Our readers may thus be able to judge for themselves of the merit of the sort of work which in so short a time has placed him in the foreground of American writers.

writers.

Major Day lives in a charming home in Auburn, Maine, and his literary workshop is a hive of industry day in and day out. He writes rapidly and his vocabulary of expressive and peculiar words is large and wonderful.

His military title comes from the fact that he is the military secretary on the personal star of Governor Hill of Major Day of American National Power of Governor Hill of Major Day of American National Power of Governor Hill of Major Day of American National Page 1 in which he said he was willing to take the judgment of Admiral Dewey in the matter.

"I think Dewey of Governor Hill of Major Day of Control Page 2 in which he said he was willing to take the judgment of Admiral Dewey in the matter.

is the military secretary on the personal staff of Governor Hill of Maine.

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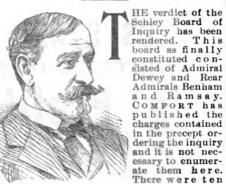
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### The Schley Verdict.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



in the precept or-dering the inquiry and it is not nec-essary to enumer-ate them here. There were ten charges in all.

ADMIRAL SCHLEY. Charges in all.
The opinion of
the board was not unanimous upon all the
counts in the precept. Rear Admirals Benham
and Ramsay agreed that nine of the ten
charges were true, while Admiral Dewey was
diametrically opposed to them.
The majority report censures Admiral Schley,
while Admiral Dewey sustains him in most
particulars. The majority report finds, in
brief, that Admiral Schley should have proceeded with the utmost dispatch to Cienfuegos
and maintained a close blockade; that he
should have endeavored to obtain information
of the Spanish squadron there; that he should should have endeavored to obtain information of the Spanish squadron there; that he should have proceeded to Santiago with dispatch; that he should not have made the retrograde movement; that he should have coeyed the department's orders; that he should have endeavored to capture the Spanish vessels in Santiago; that he did not do his utmost to destroy the Colon; that he caused the squadron to lose distance in the loop of the Brooklyn; that he thereby caused the Texas to back; that he did injustice to Hodgson; that his conduct in the campaign was characterized by vacillation, dilatoriness and lack of enterprise; that his official reports on the coal supply were misleading and inaccurate; that his conduct in the battle was self-possessed, and that he encouraged in his own person his subordinate officers and men.

Admiral Dewey says that the passage to

officers and men.

Admiral Dewey says that the passage to Cienfuegos was effective; that he allowed the Adula to enter Cienfuegos to get information; that his passage to Santiago was with as much dispatch as possible, keeping the squadron together; that the blockade of Santiago was effective; and, finally, that he was the senior officer off Santiago, in absolute command, and entitled to the credit for the glorious victory which resulted in the destruction of the Spanish ships.

ish ships.

The members unite in recommending that on account of the time which has elapsed since the Santiago campaign, no further proceedings

the Santiago campaign, no further proceedings be taken.

Admiral Schley's counsel asked the privilege of filing exceptions to the verdict, but Secretary Long finally disposed of the case, so far as the navy department is concerned, by acting upon the findings and conclusions of the court of inquiry. He approves the findings of fact and the opinion of the full court; he approves the majority opinion where there is a difference in the court; he holds that the court could not have entered into a consideration of the question of command at the battle of Santiago; and, finally, he accepts the recommendation that no further proceedings shall be held.

Secretary Long has declined the application of Admiral Sampson's counsel to enter upon an inquiry into the question of command and has also notified Admiral Schley's counsel of that fact as a reason for declining to hear them on

fact as a reason for declining to hear them on that point. So far as the navy department is concerned the case is closed.

As sequels to the findings of the court of inquiry are the reprimand of General Nelson A. Miles of the army and the dismissal of Historian E. S. Maclay from his position in the position in the Brooklyn navy General Miles

gave out an inter-view to a Cincin-

ADMIRAL DEWEY.

"I think Dewey ADMIRAL DEWEY.
has summed up the matter in a clear and concise manner," said General Miles, "and I believe

continue two years thereafter at the old continue two years thereafter at the old price, unless you otherwise order. You get a six months' trial subscription for ten cents, and continue two years longer for 25c. a year if you like. If you do not like, you can stop it at any time. We feel that this offer will be fully appreciated by our many readers and if you are already a paid up subscriber it would be well for you all to accept the same at once and have your subscription extended at the low price now offered.

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Name. County Town

BARZILLA'S NEW YEAR'S REFORM.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

Barzilla B. Brown had got out of our town in a rath-

Barzilla B. Brown had got out of our town in a rether sensational way:

A special committee called round to his house and hinted he'd better not stay.

Barzilla was having a souvenir craze—he used to collect after dark,

Our cellars and hen-roosts and gardens and bins he made his particular mark.

We had liked him, you know, and we humored his whims for a pretty consid'able while,

Till he kind o' got out of the amateur class and went it professional style.

So long as he'd gathered the stuff for himself we didn't get 'specially mad,

But sellin' our hens to the markets in town was scrubbin' us rayther too bad.

So the neighbors called 'round and they made him a suit from the feathers they found in his yard.

And they gave him a ride he would have enj'yed if the rail hadn't jounced quite so hard.

So Barzilla B. Brown

Went out of our town,

Entertainin' a feelin' like runnin' us down;

But he skipped all a-whew!

When the crowd had got through

Had feathers enough, so he probably flew.

Then several years passed smoothly on And we never knew where Brown had gone.

At the store now and then some chawin' old here

And we never knew where Brown had gone.

At the store now and then some chawin' old ten would projick on Barzilla's fate.

It seemed the idea he would likely get rich if he didn't get hung for his trait.

There were rumors 'round town that he'd shifted his name and had stolen a railroad or so,

—We didn't dispute it, we folks that knew Brown! He'd do it, just give him the show.

So the years skitted on till a New Year's was near, then we had a sensation in town:

For a letter arrived for our first selectman and 'twas signed by Barzilla B. Brown.

Said he, "I've forgiven the caper you played and the way you compelled me to leave,

And I'll square up accounts if you'll gather the folks at the meeting house next New Year's Eve."

So the people came early and crowded the pews and after a comf'table wait

Barzilla marched in lookin' slick as a pin and stepped to the pulpit desk, straight.

Said he, "My dear friends,
 I will now make amends,
 As a decent man ought to when kind fortune sends Good luck in his way.

So I've come here to pay,

For I'm bound to stand square with you all New Year's Day.

And I'm glad to, see you here tonight
 For I want your help in starting right."

Then he took out a check-book and there at the desk of the minister set himself down.

And I'm glad to, see you here tonight
For I want your help in starting right."

Then he took out a check-book and there at the desk of the minister sat himself down.

Aud we all filed around and we passed our receipts for the checks of Barzilla B. Brown;
Then down to the vestry the meetin' adjourned where the women had got up a spread,
We ate and made speeches till near New Year's dawn, and then we went happy to bed.

But before we adjourned the discussion had turned to a statue for Barzilla B.

For the meanest agreed 'twasn't often we found a critter so honest as he.

We were out with the band when he left the next day and his send-off was planned on a scale.

That we hoped would square up for that earlier "bee" when he rode out of town on a rail.

We turned in our checks to our first selectman but he came back from town drefful blank;
He said that they never heard tell of old Brown and he hadn't a cent in the bank.

Then we figgered the thing as a mighty mean joke that was played by Barzilla B. Brown

Because of his dressin' of feathers and tar and his ride on a rail out of town.

But a little while later we found it no joke. There were pushed up against us one day

A lot of Holmes' notes other parties had bought—and you know what the law is—you pay!

And 'twas better to settle than fight the thing out; we had to own up we were beat,

—A church full of idiots signin' Holmes' notes with the notion we signed a receipt.

When we figured it down

We found that old Brown

Hooked two thousand dollars right out of our town.

As you've probably heard,

It is often averred

That a lot of fine feathers don't make a fine bird.

And the suit that we gave to Barzilla B.

Didn't help him a tunket so far as we see.

his conclusions will be endorsed by the patri-otic people of the United States. I have no sympathy with the efforts that have been made to destroy the honor of an officer under such circumstances. circumstances.'

circumstances."
Secretary of War Root took cognizance of the above expression of opinion on the part of General Miles, under instruction from the President, and asked him to explain his reasons for doing so. In his answer General Miles stated that he believed he had the same right as any other citizen to express an opinion upon a matter of such public interest. Secretary Root replied that the General's conduct was in violation of the regulations and the rules of official propriety and that he was justly liable to censure. to censure.

to censure.

On December 20th Secretary Long notified Rear Admiral A. S. Barker, commandant of the navy yard in Brooklyn, that he was directed by the President to ask that Edgar S. Maclay, special laborer, store-keeper's office, send in Lis resignation. At first Mr. Maclay stated that he should decline to do so, inasmuch as he was a civil service employee and could not be removed except for cause. Subsequently, however, Mr. Maclay was removed.

Secretary Long notified Admiral Dewey that

Secretary Long notified Admiral Dewey that the Schley Court of Inquiry is dismissed and the Admiral has so announced.

Officially, the whole case is ended. Nevertheless the case may be under discussion for some time to come.



TUCK A GIRDLE ROUND THE EARTH
IN FORTY MINUTES."



PARKER'S
HAIR BALSAM
mess and beautifies the ha
notes a luxuriant growth.
Restore Gri

# CUBAN CAKE WALK.

CHARACTERISTIQUE CUBAN DANCE.

BY JAMES T. BRYMN. DANCE. 



WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



OME inquiries having come, at various times, for instructions refor instructions regarding the Cotillon, and suggestions for new figures, we will describe and illustrate a few of the latest figures in New York society, ich is ever on the outwhich is ever on the outlook for new and novel ideas for this most popular form of dancing. Twenty years ago we used to call it the German. It is exactly the same thing under a

new name.
Although it is the fashion to give very expensive and beautiful favors, one need not always be extravagant, for the most beau-tiful and desirable favors may be made at home at a

may be made at home at a comparatively small expense. For example, large straw shade hats trimmed with garlands of flowers or large ribbon bows are one of the prettiest kind of favors.

Then there are sashes of chiffon, ruffled with the same; satin sewing or theatre bags of pale colors; big paper butterflies with gilded wings; ribbons covered with bells to be hung about one's shoulders or waist; or aigrettes made of roses or tulle for the hair.

one's shoulders or waist; or aigrettes made of roses or tulle for the hair.

All these things are beautiful and pleasing, and yet of trifling cost in comparison with the gold and silver trinkets that cost many dollars each which are given so lavishly by the millionaire entertainers of New York.

One of the new figures is called the snowball. For this, large white paper balls are prepared, filled with tiny atoms of white paper, like confetti. These are thrown by the ladies and caught by the most fortunate of the men, who dance with the fair throwers. There is genuine pelting in this figure, and showers of the fine white paper confetti cover everything and everybody.

everybody.

The balloon figure consists of distributing

The balloon figure consists of distributing colored balloons among the ladies, which their would-be partners have either to capture or destroy before claiming the honor of dancing with the owner of the balloon.

In another figure each lady dancing is provided with a broom, a lantern and an umbrella. Four men are led up to each lady so equipped. One of these she selects as her partner, giving the umbrella to another, who is expected to hold it over her and her partner while the next receives the lantern, with which he is expected to waltz ahead and light the couples on their way, the last man getting the broom, his duty being to sweep a way for the couple and their lantern bearer.

Then there is the screen figure in its variations. The one for this winter is that of the women standing behind the various folds and showing their fans above the screen, the men choosing from the fans. So that it behooves the men to observe what manner of fan his favorite carries.

Then there is the Christmas-tree handker-

Then there is the Christmas-tree handker-chief figure: a small blue spruce in a jardiniere is brought in hung with the handkerchiefs of the women who are to dance in the set, the men then choose the handkerchiefs according to their wisdom and desires and then identify

to their wisdom and desires and then identify the partners, or rather the partners identify the handkerchiefs.

The butterfly figure is very pretty. The women waltz round, holding Japanese butterflies of brilliant paper by strings. These float gracefully in the air and the men, armed with nets, give chase and strive to capture the butterflies, the girl being the reward for his efforts.

As flower figures are always in such favor for As flower figures are always in such favor for cotillons, it seems delightful to know of one that has a little variety to it. This particular flower figure is called "The war of the roses." Equal quantities of red and white roses are



LANTERN, BROOM AND UMBRELLA

placed upon a table at one end of the ballroom Eight couples dance. At a signal from the Eight couples dance. At a signal from the leader all go to the table, each woman taking a red rose and each man a white one.

The women dancers gather in the center of the room, join their right hands and hold them

high together, forming thus a bouquet of red roses. The men march in a circle twice around the ladies, meet their partners and turn the ladies to the outside. Then the men join hands forming a bouquet of white roses, the ladies march twice around in a circle outside the group, meet their partners, bow and dance. The whole thing is extremely pretty and graceful.

As we have a continuous stream of inquiries As we have a continuous stream of inquiries regarding diet, exercise and developers,—we conclude the majority of our readers are more interested in their health and personal appearance than in fancy work,—which is commendable,—for what is more attractive than a healthy, blooming woman, who looks as though she enjoyed life to the utmost? surely, a room or house full of beautiful embroideries would not be so attractive, particularly if the worker herself were pale and sickly, showing worker herself were pale and sickly, showing



ROSE FIGURE.

that she had sacrificed her health and youthful that she had sacrificed her health and youthful bloom to her love for making beautiful things. Keep your health. If you have time and desire for making beautiful things, make them secondary to health, every time. We give a few general rules, and later will devote all our space to suggestions, as desired by our correspondents. respondents.

Absolute freedom from care and anxiety.

At least ten hours' sleep out of every twenty-

four.

In addition to this, naps during the day if possible. This sleep must always be natural.



BUTTERFLY FIGURE.

The diet should be liberal and should consist largely of food containing starch and sugar, oysters, ice creams, desserts without pastry; plenty of outdoor life and a moderate amount of exercise.

Sleep in a well-ventilated room. Where the patient is plump in

Where the patient is plump in one part of the body and fails in another a gymnastic course is advised. The patient is advised to go to a first-class gymnasium and take the exercise prescribed by the attendant physician. Where the development is meagre in the upper cart of the body symmany is a excellent exercise. part of the body swimming is an excellent ercise.

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#### Presidents on Postage Heads of Stamps.

F President McKinley's portrait is put on

F President McKinley's portrait is put on one of the postage stamps of this country, as despatches from Washington have said is likely to be done in case the Postoffice department brings out a new issue, his portrait will be the ninth of a President to be used in that way.

As the regular series of stamps, excluding the Columbian, Trans-Mississippi and Pan-American Exposition issues, has now been in circulation with only slight changes in watermarks and the like since 1890, a change of some sort is expected soon by philatelists.

Ever since Uncle Sam's postoffice began making stamps in 1847 or thereabouts, the face of Washington has appeared on one of the stamps in every regular issue and with a single exception on a stamp of low value and general use. Benjamin Franklin's face has always adorned postage stamps of low value and has thus become familiar to people who send or receive letters ever since 1847.

Presidents other than Washington whose faces have appeared on the stamps are Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln, Garfield, Grant, Madison and Taylor.

Of the stamps of higher values the 8 cent stamp now bears Sherman's picture, the 10 cent Webster's, the 15 cent Clay's, the 30 cent Jefferson's, the 50 cent Jefferson's, the dollar stamp Perry's, the \$2 Madison's and the \$5 Marshall's.



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Enclosed please find money for subscriptions. Send me three lots of Premium Remnants. Was well pleased with other package.

LOUELLA YEAKEY, KEYSTONE, Wis., November 15, 1801.

Please send me the lot of Silk and Plush, also stamped satin used for cruzy patchwork. Enclosed you will find 25c. to pay for a subscription to "COMFORT". I have ordered one of the Remnant Lots before and like them very much. Your truly,

MRS. J. H. LEE, R. F. D., ABERDEEN, S. D., November 11, 1801.

I send you two more subscribers to the "COMFORT" for another lot of Silk Pieces, Sond as soon as you can, the others were so nice.

MRS. DORA L. NULL, POCA, W. VA., November 13, 1901.

SPECIAL: plete assortment of Remnants, Plush. Stamped Satin, 5 skeins Silk, Book, etc., will be sent postpaid.

Address COMFORT, Silk Room 6, Augusta, Maine.

### Opening of Fifty-Seventh Congress.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HE Congress of the United States began its United States began its fif ty-seventh session in the capitol at Washington on the first Monday of December. Hon. William P. Frye, junior senator from Maine, the President pro tem., called the Senate to order. It is a singular fact that

the Senate to order. It is a singular fact that on account of the deaths of Vice President Hobart and President Ho

tinguished member of the House, representing the second congressional district of Maine.

The House of Representatives was organized by the re-election of Congressman David B. Henderson of Iowa as speaker. Two years ago he was chosen speaker and served during the fifty-sixth Congress with great distinction. He has represented his state in the National House since 1882, and has long been an influential member of that body. Like President pro tem. Frye, he is a Republican. The Democrats of the House nominated James D. Richardson of Tennessee for speaker and he polled his full party vote.

On the first day of the session an immense number of bills were introduced. Senators



HON. WILLIAM P. FRYE. PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

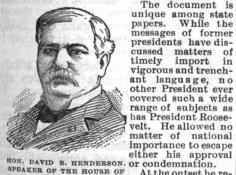
and Representatives vied with each other in their endeavors to first present measures of national importance. One senator presented eighteen bills and many others filed ten and a national importance. One senator presented eighteen bills and many others filed ten and a dozen each. In the House there were more than three thousand bills introduced. These bills have a very wide range. They cover everything, almost, from the report of the national bankruptcy law to the building of a memorial monument to William Henry Harrison, who was President of the United States for one month from March 4, 1841, until April 4 of the same year, when he died. Two of the most important bills presented were those creating a department of commerce, labor and manufacture, amd amending the constitution so as to define assaults on the President, Vice President, members of the Cabinet and justices of the Supreme Court, and giving Congress power to fix penalties.

Congressman Littlefield of Maine introduced a bill to amend and make more effective the act to protect trade against monopolies, requiring interstate corporations to file reports with the Secretary of the Treasury. Congressman Shackelford of Pennsylvania presented a bill to place printing paper and wood pulp on the free list, and Congressman Shafroth of Colorado advocated a constitutional amendment for woman suffrage. Other members introduced bills on different subjects during the day.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S FIRST MESSAGE.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S FIRST MESSAGE.

The first message of President Roosevelt was read to both branches of Congress on the second day of the session. The untimely death of President McKinley at the hand of an anarchist assassin has been mentioned in these columns, and the elevation of Vice President Roosevelt to the exalted position of President of the United States has also been referred to. His message, therefore, the first he has penned, has received the careful consideration of the editor of COMFORT. It should be read by all thoughtful citizens. thoughtful citizens. The document is



SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

At the outset he re-ferred to the fact that Congress assembles this year under the shadow of a great calamity. He pays a magnificent tribute to the character of his predecessor and urges the passage of some law that will be able to deal with those who kill or attempt to kill the President, or any man who by the constitu-

tion or by law is in line of succession to the presidency. "Anarchy is a crime against the whole human race," says President Roosevelt, "and all mankind should band against the anarchist. His crime is far blacker than piracy and all civilized powers should declare against it." against it."

The business prosperity of the country is abundant, according to the President, not because of the existence of any human law but because business confidence has been restored. Prosperity can never be created by law alone, although it is easy enough to destroy it by mischievous laws.

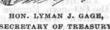
Concentration of wealth in tremendous and highly complex industrial development has

highly complex industrial development has been rapid and has brought us face to face with serious social problems. Publicity is necessary to prevent great combinations from encroaching too far upon the rights of the people. If constitutional amendment is required to give Congress power over the trusts it should be enacted.

enacted.

The creation of a department of commerce

The creation of a department of commerce and industries is advocated; protection and reciprocity is briefly referred to, the President taking the position that the latter is the hand-maiden of the former, and that reciprocity should not prevail to the detriment of our house industries: to the detriment of our home industries; measures looking to remedial action of Congress regarding the American mer-chant marine are strongly urged; for-est preservation is commended and im-



commended and improved irrigation is forcefully advised.

Hawaii, Porto Rico, and the Philippines, our insular possessions, come in for a goodly share of attention at the hands of the President. He believes that these territories should be developed on the traditional American lines, and that the men of the islands should own the farms they till. In Cuba such progress has been made toward putting the independent government of the island upon a firm footing that before the present session of Congress closes, this will be an accomplished fact.

No subject has been discussed to a greater extent for many years than the building of a canal across the isthmus connecting North and South America. This project has engaged the attention of leading statesmen in this and other countries and all agree that the canal should be built. President Roosevelt believes the enterprise should be begun, although he does not indicate whether he is in favor of any particular route. He invokes the Monroe doctrine in his discussion of the canal question and splendidly supports the idea with all the power of his strong and vigorous mind.

He strongly urges the continued upbuilding of the navy and advocates the maintenance of the present standing army at the highest point of efficiency. He supports the principle of civil service reform in every department of governmental service and says that a standard of excellence cannot be maintained until better laws on the subject are enacted. He also advocates the permanent establishment of the census bureau.

census bureau.

census bureau.

The terms of the Chinese settlement are outlined by the President. "We advocate the 'open door' with all that it implies," said he. "Only by bringing the people of China into peaceful and friendly community of trade with all the peoples of the earth can the work now auspiciously begun be carried to fruition."

The remarkable growth of the postal service is shown in the fact that its revenues have doubled and its ex-



penditures have near-ly doubled in the past twelve years. The annual deficit has been steadily reduced from \$11,411,779 in 1897 to \$3,923,727 in 1901. The success of the rural free delivery wherever established has been marked There are now 6009 tion and there are applications for as many more awaiting action. It is expected that by the first of July the

HON. CHARLES EMORY SMITH, number in operation POSTMASTER GENERAL. will reach 8600. Then the mail will daily be carried to 5,700,000 of our

the mail will daily be carried to 5,700,000 of our people who have heretofore been dependent upon distant offices.

Under the head of currency and revenue the report of the secretary of the treasury is commended to Congress for approval, while attention is called to the need of strict economy in while avanditures.

in public expenditures.

Several other matters of national interest are treated in forceful and emphatic language by the able and distinguished chief executive of the nation.

POSTMASTER GENERAL SMITH RESIGNS.

Postmaster General Charles Emory Smith of Postmaster General Charles Emory Smith of Philadelphia has resigned his place in the Cabinet. This action on the part of General Smith has long been contemplated. He has been a member of the Cabinet since 1897 and he has only remained in office because of his strong friendship for the late President McKinley, who insisted that he continue in his official family. General Smith is the editor and part owner of the Philadelphia Press, one of the leading papers of the country. President leading papers of the country. President Roosevelt has appointed Henry C. Payne of Wisconsin his successor.

RESIGNATION OF SECRETARY GAGE. Following the resignation of Postmaster General Smith came that of Hon. Lyman J. Gage, Secretary of the Treasury. His successor has not yet been selected, but it is understood that the President offered the place to Hon. Murray W. Crane, the present Governor of Massachustry. The offer has been declined by Governor. setts. The offer has been declined by Governor

### The Presidential Succession.

Prior to 1886 the right of succession to the presi-dency was not fully defined by Congress. From the foundation of the Republic to the present time five Presidents have died in office and the Vice Presidents then serving have succeeded them. In order that the succession to the Vice President



Vice President
who assumes the Hon. Theodore Roosevelt, office of President might be confined to the members of the party dominant in the country, Congress passed a law in January, 1886, providing that in case of the removal, death, resignation or inability of both the President and Vice President, the duties of the president and Vice President, the duties of the president and fice shall devolve upon the Secretary of State. After him in succession comes the Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of War, Attorney General, Postmaster General, Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Interior. When the department of agriculture was created in 1889 the succession law was amended so as to include succession law was amended so as to include the Secretary of Agriculture. These officers must be eligible under the constitution.

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# THE PHOTO BUTTON FAD. Popular Whim in Which



Everybody Can Indulge.

HAVE you got your face on a button? This was the most common question heard on every hand at the beaches and pleasure resorts last summer, and now, thanks to an enterprising Boston concern,—the same fad is spreading all over the country and into every village where the government carries the mails. There is this to be said, however, that the pretty photo miniatures which are being sent out by mail are great improvements on the cheap little tintypes that were sold so extensively during the summer. They are genuine photographs, and all you have to do is to send them any picture you want reproduced, and in two or three days they send you the pretty photo miniature the size of the pictures printed in this story, with rimless brooch mounting, and return your original picture uninjured. The concern doing the best work in this line is the Crown Manufacturing Co., Dept. T., Box 1197, Boston, Mass. If you would like to have one of these novelties the best way to get it is to write and ask them for a "sample" enclosing ten cents in your letter and sending any picture you want copied. Although their regular price is 25 cents you can get one in this way for 10 cents, less than half price, and they will send your original picture back safely. These miniatures are very fashionable to wear on the lapel of your coat and are also the correct ornament for ladies to wear at the throat. The brooch pis back makes them easy to put on, and they cannot be lost friend will always appreciate. If you send to the Crows Manufacturing Co., Box 1197, Boston, Mass., for one you will surely be delighted with it.

No rocks, no stumps, easy to cultivate; the richest soil that will grow every kind of grain and fruit. Wheat grown on land worth \$50 an aere, yielding 20 bushels, now selling for 60c. a bushel. Corn yielding 30 bushels, 50c. Send for a free sample of The Corn Belt, an illus-trated paper which tells all about it. Address

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# A NOTTY WINK.

and turn him down without any hard feeling. The eye is strongly made of metal, the front is painted in natural life-like colors and the wink is produced by pulling an invisible string from behind and there is a long strong pin to fasten through your clothing. The whole thing is strong and durable and the most talked about novelty today. Every one is wild for one, every young man in the big cities has one and all the girls too. "Just because she made dem Goo Goo eyes" is why you should have one, so send 12c. today for a special sample, 6 for 50c.; 1 doz., \$1.00. Agents make big money. Address

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FOR 50C EXTRA or \$4.85 in all, we will furnish the same gun with latest improved automatic shell elector which making it possible to reload and frein quick succession. JOHN M. SMYTH CO. son Street, CHICAGO, ILL.



CONDUCTED BY AUNT SARAH.

A quantity of requests have come to us from constant readers, asking for various kinds of recipes. As far as possible we will follow the desires of our readers, though in some cases the recipes can-not be found, being confined, probably, to certain sections of the country where certain things are used, and which are not obtainable generally, the country over.

One reader wants to know how best to prepare and serve wild duck.

and serve wild duck.

Dress, clean and truss the duck. Place on a rack in dripping pan, sprinkle with salt and pepper and cover breast with thin slices of fat salt pork. Cook twenty minutes, basting twice during baking. Place in body of duck one-fourth cup of cranberries, which should be removed before serving. Serve with cherry sauce, which is made by soaking one-half cup marachino cherries in one pint claret three hours. Drain and thicken wine with one table-spoon arrowroot diluted with enough cold water to pour easily. Add the cherries and serve hot. serve hot

Another request is for fancy sweet cakes in odd designs, to serve at a luncheon. We have several new and good recipes for sweets, one of

which is

CHOCOLATE DOMINOES.

Mix one-half cup pecan or walnut meats finely chopped, one-half cup finely chopped figs, one-fourth cup almond paste, grated rind of one-half orange and orange juice to moisten. Dredge board with confectioners' sugar, and knead mixture until well blended; add more sugar as needed. Add one square melted chocolate. Roll to one-fourth inch thickness, cut in shape of dominoes, cover with melted chocolate and decorate with pieces of almonds.

QUEEN'S FANCIES.

Mix one-fourth pound almond paste, two and one-half ounces confectioners' sugar and whites of one and one-half eggs. When well blended add one ounce melted chocolate. Let stand a few minutes, shape in rings, cover with finely-chopped pistachio nut meat and bake in a very

slow oven. Work together one-pound almond paste and three-eighths pound powdered sugar. Add gradually the whites of three eggs, and work until mixture is perfectly smooth, then add one and one-half squares Baker's chocolate which has been previously melted, and one-half teaspoon vanilla. Shape on a tin sheet covered with unbuttered paper and bake fifteen to twenty minutes in a slow oven. If desired, sprinkle with shredded almonds before baking.

BON-BONS. CHOCOLATE MACAROONS.

BON-BONS. Make centres of fondant flavored to taste and mixed with nut meats, figs, dates, candied cherries or pineapple and cocoanut. Let stand to dry; then dip in melted fondant flavored to taste and colored if desired.

FONDANT.

Heat slowly to the boiling point two and one-half pounds sugar, one and one-half cups hot water and one-fourth teaspoon cream of tartar.

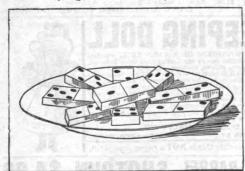
Boil without stirring until, when tried in cold water, a soft ball may be formed. As sugar adheres to sides of kettle wash it off with the hand, first dipped in cold water. Turn onto a marble slab, let stand a few minutes to cool, then work with a wooden spatula until white and creamy. Put into a bowl, cover with oiled paper and let stand twenty-four hours.

SWEET SANDWICHES. Finely chop preserved Canton ginger; add an equal quantity of finely-chopped nut meats and one-half the quantity of finely-chopped candied orange peel. Add enough thick syrup to hold the mixture together, and a few drops of vinegar. Spread between small sweet crack-

ers. Next comes a request for a recipe for

BROWN BETTY.

Put a layer of sliced tart apples in a buttered pudding-dish. Sprinkle with sugar and ground cinnamon, or grated lemon rind, and cover with



CHOCOLATE DOMINOES.

soft bread crumbs mixed with melted butter soft bread crumbs mixed with melted butter. Alternate the layers of seasoned apples and buttered crumbs until the dish is filled, having the last layer of crumbs. Bake about an hour. Serve with cream. If the apples are dry, add half a cup of cold water when the dish is first set into the oven. From one to three pints of apples may be used to one pint of crumbs. Molasses may be used in the place of sugar. Half a cup of sweetening may be used to a pint of apples. Raisins, citron and nuts, all cut fine, may be added to the apples.

For a new drink, to be served at luncheons or

For a new drink, to be served at luncheons or afternoon receptions, try

MEXICAN CHOCOLATE.

Scald one quart milk with a four-inch piece

stick cinnamon and three tablespoons ground coffee. Strain through double cheese cloth, re-heat and add two ounces vanilla chocolate heated over hot water and diluted with one-half cup boiling water; then allow to cool three minutes. Flavor with brandy and rum, about one teaspoon of each. Beat with Dover egg beater and serve with whipped cream sweetened, and flavored with brandy.

If brandy and rum are an objection as flavor-

If brandy and rum are an objection as flavor-ing, vanilla may be substituted.

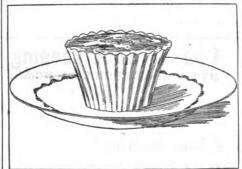
On our own account we are going to give a recipe for oysters a la ravigote, which are de-

Cook ten oysters in their own liquor, drain, remove tough muscles, and cook liquor until reduced one-half. Melt one and one-half tablespoons butter, add two tablespoons flour, one-half cup cream, one egg-yolk, and the oyster liquor strained through cheese cloth. Add two tablespoons ravigote butter, and salt and pepper to taste. Serve in terrapin or ramequin dishes.

Pound and force through a sieve one sardine, one-third cup cooked spinach, one tablespoon parsley, one-half pickle chopped, two teaspoons capers, one-fourth cup water cress and one-half cup butter. Add one teaspoon anchovy essence and the penner and teargoon vincers to taste. and salt, pepper and tarragon vinegar to taste.

ond sait, pepper and tarragon vinegar to taste. Oysters are sold by count in Philadelphia and south, but north of Philadelphia they are sold by the quart. It is difficult to tell how many oysters are in a pint or quart of oysters, as they vary so in size. The only way to do is when buying them, to ask the dealer to count ten or twenty oysters and then measure them, and then you will know just how to buy them. An item from Answers on costly kitchens will interest our readers: interest our readers:

Apsley House kitchen is said to have cost £7000 to build, and this not counting the



OYSTERS A LA RAVIGOTE.

silver-plated stewpans worth £20 each, or the

copper and other ware valued at £4000. In Windsor Castle kitchen the king has copper and silver utensils worth something like £9000, while on fittings alone George II. expended the sum of £10,000 in order to satisfy his cook.

But the cream of kitchens is annual but the But the cream of kitchens is owned by the

his cook.

But the cream of kitchens is owned by the Czar of Russia, who, soon after his accession to the throne, spent £80,000 in remodeling and refurnishing his kitchen at the winter palace, St. Petersburg. All the cooking utensils are of solid silver, while the spice-boxes are of solid gold. His chief cook draws a salary of £8000 per annum, and he has six subordinates in receipt of salaries ranging between £1000 and £1500—to say nothing of hundreds of supernumeraries. Altogether the czar's kitchen expenses amount to £120,000 yearly.

The Shah of Persia's kitchen is the most valuable in the world, if it is not the most expensive. The Shah could, if he wished, realize more than £1,000,000 on the sale of the contents of his kitchen. His food is cooked in gold-lined pots, and he eats his dinner off solid gold plates, encrusted with precious stones of priceless value. His jeweled knives and forks are said to be worth thousands of pounds, while his marvelous state soup tureen is worth half a dozen large fortunes.

# The Finest Bridge in the World.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HE finest bridge in the

HE finest bridge in the world is about to connect Europe with Asia. A great German Syndicate, supported by French, English and Belgian capital, has secured a concession to build a railway to the ancient city of Bagdad in Mesopotamia, through the valleys of the Euphrates and Tigris. From Bagdad the line is to be extended down to the Gulf of Persia. In connection with this railway it has been projected to bridge the strait which connects the Black Sea and Sea of Marmora, and separates Europe from Asia; or in other words the Bosphorus.

The length of the Bosphorus is 18 miles and

# A HOUSEHOLD REMEDY.

The wonderful sale of Swanson's "5-DROPS" and the cures effected by this medicine proves beyond a doubt that it is a remedy that should be in every home. We advise our reader give it a trial. See their offer in this issue.



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its greatest breadth one and one-half miles, and its narrowest point seventeen hundred feet. Here it is where the finest bridge in the world is to be erected. It will be a suspension bridge, after the American system, but in form and architecture it is to be entirely oriental. The European end of the bridge will be erected at Rumeli Hissar, whilst the Asiatic terminus will be at Anadoli Hissar. It is a historic spot where the magnificent structure atic terminus will be at Anadoli Hissar. It is a historic spot where the magnificent structure will appear, for in the year 513 B. C. the Persian King Darius crossed here with an army of seven hundred thousand men to the Bosphorus on a flying bridge. Three monumental Sara-cen Towers, crowned with glittering faience domes and minarets, will arise from the bottom of the sea, to support the richly decorated and profusely gilt bridge, which, during the night,



will be lighted by thousands of electric lamps. The roadway will be supported by steel chains and it will be so high that the largest steamers and vessels can pass below it.

It is further intended to protect both approaches by a system of outerworks, and also to arm the bridge piers by means of turnable armor batteries which—themselves inaccessible to the fire of the larger guns of war vessels will be able, at great distance, to sink or disable any foreign fleet which may try to force a passage past the structure.

Most important of all this bridge will afford direct railway communication between Europe, Asia Minor, Persia, India, China and Africa. Direct trains will run some day from Calcutta to Hamburg in twelve days, from Tonking to Paris in fifteen days, and if the "Cape to Cairo" railway is ever built the Bosphorus Bridge will afford direct trains to run between Cape Town, South Africa, to St. Petersburg in sixteen days. The Bridge will be named after the ruler of the Ottoman Empire and be known as the "Sultan - Abdul - Hamid - Bosphorus Bridge." Its cost will be in the neighborhood of \$15,000-000. Truly, at this, the opening of the 20th century it would seem as if we had just begun to live.

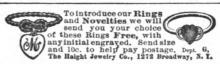


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# Sick Made Well Weak Made Strong.

Maryelous Elixir of Life Discovered by Famous Doctor-Scientist That Cures Every Known Ailment.

Wonderful Cures are Effected That Seem Like Miracles Performed--The Secret of Long Life of Olden Times Revived.

### The Remedy Is Free to All Who Send Name and Address.

After years of patient study, and delving into the dusty record of the past, as well as following modern experiments in the realms of medical science, Dr. James W. Kidd, 213 Baltes Block, Fort Wayne, Ind., makes the startling announcement that he has



DR. JAMES WILLIAM KIDD.

surely discovered the elixir of life, That he is able with the aid of a mysterious compound, known only to himself, produced as a result of the years he has spent in searching for this precious life giving boon, to cure any and every disease that is known to the human body. There is no doubt of the doctor's earnestness in making his claim and the remarkable cures that he is daily effecting seems to bear him out very strongly. His theory which he advances is one of reason and based on sound experience in a medical practice of many years. It costs nothing to try his remarkable "Elixir of Life," as he calls it, for he sends it free, to anyone who is a sufferer, in sufficient quantities to convince of its ability to cure, so there is absolutely no risk to run. Some of the cures cited are very remarkable, and but for reliable witnesses would hardly be credited. The lame have thrown away crutches and walked about after two or three trials of the remedy. The sick, given up by home doctors, have been restored to their families and friends in perfect health. Rheumatism, neuralgia, stomach, heart, liver, kidney, blood and skin diseases and bladder troubles disappear as by magic. Headaches, backaches, nervousness, fevers, consumption, coughs, colds, asthma, catarrh, bronchitis and all affections of the throat, lungs or any vital organs are easily overcome in a space of time that is simply marvelous.

Partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia. dropsy, gout, scrofula and piles are quickly and permanently removed. It purifies the entire system, blood and tissues, restores normal nerve power, circulation and a state of perfect health is produced at once. To the doctor all systems are alike and equally affected by this great "Elixir of Life." Send for the remedy to-day. It is free to every sufferer. State what you want to be cured of and the sure remedy for it will be sent you free by return mail.

### Modern Smuggling.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7).

however, opened in the seizure room of the Custom House whither they were taken immediately on their arrival on the strength of Custom House whither they were taken immediately on their arrival on the strength of the information that had been given to the elderly gentleman, who was a Custom House detective, by the soft-hearted dressmaker. Some of the dresses were redeemed by their owners on payment of the legitimate duties and a fine, but others were never called for and were ultimately sold at auction. The other passengers who had given their confidence to the stranger were compelled to pay full duties on every article whose possession they had acknowledged. He "saw them through the Custom House all right," but his interpretation of those words was quite different from theirs. Some time ago there were among the passengers of a steamer a modest appearing woman with her son of sixteen. The woman had two trunks and the youth one, not a large equipment for returning travellers. They declared that they had no dutiable goods and the inspection revealed nothing; the inspector passed the trunks and as he was turning away he heard the mother say in a low voice to the son, "Hurry up, Charlie, and get a carriage as quick as you can."

Thereupon the officer said he would take another look at the trunks.

Thereupon the officer said he would take another look at the trunks. He did so and as he turned the first trunk over the woman turned pale and well she might for each trunk had a false bottom three inches in depth and in these

false bottoms there were several hundred dollars worth of laces from Brussels. It was the anxiety to get away from the dock that had betrayed the smuggler.

An organized system was recently discovered by which considerable quantities of clothing were received in New York without paying duties. Agents of English tailors were established here and took orders for suits of clothing to be made in London and delivered to the customer here for less than he would be obliged to pay if he patronized an American tailor. The customers asked no questions; many of them supposed that their garments were properly imported and paid the required duties, but others were not so guilleless and boasted that they were getting their clothes through the Custom House by a roundabout way. The detectives worked quietly until they had all the information they were able to get without revealing what they were after. Then one day they stopped a wagon just as it was leaving the dock of a prominent steamship line, and examined its contents. It was found to contain a box and a large bundle, and the contain a box and a large bundle, and the contain a box and a large bundle, and the contain a box and a large bundle were suits of new clothing just from the hands of London tailors. One of the officers mounted to the driver's side and told him to drive to where he was going before they stopped him.

The fellow sullenly obeyed, at least apparently. He drove to a certain street and number and halted in front of a grocery store.

"This isn't the place" said the officer. "Drive to number—on Greenwich Street."

The driver saw he was caught and that the officers knew more than he supposed. He took the wagon to its proper destination and there another box of clothing was found; it had been landed an hour or two before and the consignment box of clothing was found; it had been landed an hour or two before and the consignment of opium were sent to Windsor, directly opposite Detrolt; then they were smugglers, "a large quantity of oplum was sent by express ove

spread in the newspapers. The parties concerned in the smuggling cabled to their friends on the other side of the Atlantic a brief account of the affair and of course this at once put a stop to the shipments. But unfortunately for them there was a steamer of the same line then on the ocean and there was no way of communicating with her. In due time she arrived at New York and as one of the arrested men had made a full confession the revenue officers how waretly where to lay their rade. men had made a full confession the revenue officers knew exactly where to lay their rude hands as soon as the vessel reached quarantine. The parties on whom they laid them were sent to jail like their predecessors and a goodly quantity of goods was added to the pile in the seizure room.

# DISCOVERED BY A WOMAN

I have discovered a positive cure for all female dis-eases and the piles. It never falls to cure the piles from any cause or in either sex, or any of the diseases peculiar to women, such as leucorrhœa, displacements, ulceration, granulation, etc. I will gladly mail a free box of the remedy to every sufferer. Address MRS. C. B. MILLER, Box 106, Kokomo, Ind.

PHOTOS BUTTON 12 or 3 man Photo 28. Prob
Isomorphia December 2 of 2 man Photo 28. Prob
Isomorphia December 2 of 2 man Photo 2 or 3 man Photo 2

**GOLD WATCH & CHAIN FREE** Aplendid SOLID GOLD LAID WATCH with American movement fully warranted to keep good time for 5 years and with proper care will last 20 years, equal in appearance to one costing \$50. It is given FREE to anyone for selling 20 pieces of jewelry at 10c. each. Send us your address and we will forward jewery postpaid, when sold send us the \$2.00 and we will postively send watch and chain by return mail.

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TAPE-WORM EXPELLED WITH BEAD, GUARANTEED,
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BEFT. D.D., HE STATE ST., CHICAGO, MARRY Any Man willing to MARRY a PLAIN Lady, worth \$17,000 Marry who will Give Her Husband 50.30,00 Cosh on Wedding Day, and dig Address to MISS. OF, 644 CLIMAX Office, CHIDAGO.

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LADIES TO DO PLAIN NEEDLEWORK for us at home. We furnish materials and pay \$7 to \$10 per week. Send stamped envelope to STANDARD CO., Indiana Ave., Chicago, Ill. GET MARRIED 10,000 Ladies are anxious to marry Send stamp for hig sealed list giving full description and P.O. addresses. Satisfaction guaranteed. Star Agency, Se. 415 Austin, III

ASTHMA Instant relief & positive cure. Sample mailed free to any sufferer. "Physician" Box 36, Augusta, Maine.

HANDSUME Free Barry on the smoothest face or Hair on base or so your TURKHER HAIR GROWER or money reft thems weak hair, curse dandruff, thickens the eyphynological statement for the statement A HANDSOME MUSTAOHE
ne beard grown on the smoothest face or Hair on bald heads in

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PRINTS YOUR NAME. POCKET STAMP 15¢ MARKS ANYTHING STAMPS OF ALL KINDS, RUBBER TYPE ETC.
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Girls can get this beautiful
Life Size Doll absolutely Free for
selling only four boxes of our
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and we will send you the tablets
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send you this Life Size Doll which
is 2½ feet high and can wear
haby's clothes. Dollie has an In
destructible Head, Golden Hair,
Roey Cheeks, Brown Eyes, Kid Colored Body, a Gold Plated Beauty
Pin, Red Stockings, Black Shoes,
and will stand alone. This doll is an
exact reproduction of the finest hand
painted French Doll, and will live
in a child's memory long after childhood days have passed. Address,
NATIONAL SEDICINE CO., NATIONAL MEDICINE CO., Doll Dept. 6 A. New Haven.Com

\$3.98 buys our BREECH LOADING, ANTOMATIC SHELL EJECTING SHOTQUN. The Long Range Winser, one of the strongest shooting and best made legange shotguns made, equal to guns that others sail at \$70.00 to \$10.00.

\$14.95 buys our HAMMERLESS DOUBLE BARREL BAR COLTON, equal to guins others sell at \$28.00 to \$20.00. WRITE FOR FREE GUN CATALOGUE, Address, SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, III.



The Fob Chain and Watch Charmer as in everywhere. We have an elegant timer for a watch and a beautiful design for a nice long such that and a beautiful design for a nice long such plant of the plant with brilliant charm and in over 6 linches and will please out to the new word by bottom on the plant of ldress Imfort Picture Dept.8, Augusta, Hab

# \$100.00 A MONTH. YOU CAN WIN.

Can You Solve, This Picture Puzzle and Win A Prize? A CONTEST OPEN TO ALL



This is surely an interesting contest, especially as every one has a chance to win a prize, and we are glad to tell our readers about it as we know the concern that gives the prizes is entirely reliable and will do just as they say. We print their puzzle only so as to give our readers an equal chance with others to win the fine cash prizes offers offers offers what they are. If you can and send your answer to THE COLUMBIAN of Boston, you may win some of the \$100 Prizes offered by complying the money is worth trying for. In order to show you how the puzzle is to be solved we will tell you see is the picture of a cow soling which they will write you. If you can assily guess "COWSLIP." Now see if you can easily guess "COWSLIP." Now see if you can easily guess "COWSLIP."

pusses is to be solved we will tell you about the first picture, which will be also as the content of the conte

THE COLUMBIAN, Dept. 101, 394 Atlantic Ave., Boston LADIES TO DO SEWING AT HOME;

paid; send stamped addressed envelope for sample and particulars. R. W. HUTTON & Co., Dept. 4, Phila., Pa.

Forty Million Dollars for Education.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



WO magnificent contributions in aid of education have just been made by Mrs. Leland Stanford and Andrew Carnegie, two of America's most representations. America's most generous philanthropists. The aggregated value of these gifts is \$40,000,000.

Mrs. Jane L. Stanford is the widow of the late Senator Leland Stanford of Cali-

widow of the late Senator Leland Stanford of California, who, before his death, a few years ago, richly endowed the Leland Stanford Jr. University, which he named in honor of his only son and heir. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Stanford has contemplated leaving a large portion of her great wealth to the institution, and, on the 9th of December, she transferred by deed bonds. stock and real estate, valued at \$30,000,000, the largest single gift ever bestowed on any institution of learning. Of this amount, \$18,000,000 consisted of gilt edged bonds and stock, paying a large revenue. The real estate deeded to the university comprises much of the property originally given by Senator Stanford, but the deeds of which were found to be illegal.

The real property deeded includes no less than 900,000 acres in about twelve counties in California, and comprises the great Vina ranch of 52,000 acres. A third deed conveys to the university Mrs. Stanford's home on the summit of Nob Hill, one of the most finely decorated houses in San Francisco, which, with the large lot, is worth \$400,000. This will eventually be converted into an art gallery and museum. Despite this big donation, Mrs. Stanford has retained property worth several millions, so that she will be able to provide for other charities in which she is interested.

This splendid gift places the University in the

ties in which she is interested.

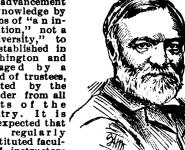
This splendid gift places the University in the highest financial rank among the great universities of the world, and will enable it to carry out many projected plans. Leland Stanford Jr. University stands today as one of the great edutive to the great edutive University stands today as one of the great educational institutions west of the Missouri river. With the University of California, it ranks in efficiency and scope with Michigan, Chicago, Pennsylvania and Cornell universities, and possibly exceeds any of them in financial backing. Since the University first opened its doors, October 1, 1891, it has received about 4000 matriculated students from all parts of the world and has conferred degrees upon 1200. Instruction is free to all.

tion is free to all.

tion is free to all.

Mr. Carnegie's gift is different in character from that of Mrs. Stanford, inasmuch as it contemplates benefiting all the higher institutions of learning in this country. The sum of \$10,000,000 and perhaps more will be given by Mr. Carnegie to carry out the project he has in mind. He will not endow a university, nor will he erect a number of monumental buildings, provided with laboratories and other adjuncts of such institutions. He will merely provide a fund of \$10,000,000 to enable advanced students and scientific men to pursue their investigations at various educational centres either in America or in Europe. investigations at various educeither in America or in Europe.

His plan is for the advancement of knowledge by means of "a n in-stitution," not a "university," to be established in Washington and manage d by a board of trustees, selected by the selected by the founder from all parts of the country. It is not expected that



not expected that any regularly constituted faculty of instructors will be provided, for the nature of the work to be carried on is to be of the most advanced kind. It is probable that the Washington Memorial Institution will suspend its operations, for it is said that Mr. Carnegie's plan not only embraces all the proposed activities of this institution but goes far beyond them.

These notable donations to the cause of a higher education place the donors in a most enviable position among the great givers of America, and their names will go down to posterity to be praised and glorified for all future time.

FREE Catalogue Millinery, Cloaks, Shoes, Furs, Ladies Gar-nents, etc. Chicago Mail Order Millinery Co., Dept. M, Chicago. DEAF NESS AND HEAD NOISES Cured by Electricity. No Drugs. 6 months' trial FREET W. J. TINDALL, B. 10, Cohoes, N. Y.

# **Sudden Death**

If you have heart disease you are in grave danger. You may die any minute-anywhere. Heart troubles, dangerous as they are, can be instantly recognized by all.

dangerous as they are, can be instantly recognized by all.
No doctor can tell better than you if your heart is out of
order. If you have any of the following symptoms,
don't waste any time. Get my Heart Tablets at once.
Fluttering, palpitation, or skipping beats (always
due to weak or diseased heart); shortness of breath from
going upstairs, walking, etc.; tenderness, numbness or
pain in left side, arm or under shoulder blade; fainting
smalls disriness hungary or weak smalls, exote before the

spells, dizziness, hungry or weak spells; spots before the eyes; sudden starting in sleep, dreaming, nightmare;

# deart Disease

choking sensation in throat; oppressed feeling in chest; cold hands and feet; painful to lie on left side; dropsy; swelling of the feet or ankles (one of the surest signs); neuralgia around the heart; sudden deaths rarely result from other causes.

They will restore you to health and strength as they have hundreds of other men and women.

FREE To prove how absolutely I believe in them, to prove that they will do exactly what I say, I will send a box free to any name and address sent me. One trial will do more to convince you than any amount of talk, It will cost you nothing, and may save your life. Send for a trial box and enclose stamp for postage.

DR. F. G. KINSMAN, Box 962 AUGUSTA, MAINE.





BY EVERETT G. WHEELMAN.

T is early to predict what will be the best feature of 1902 bicycles, but it is a good time to consider the subject of bicycling attire. Like the proper adjustment of wheels, the failure to adopt proper clothing for cycling often makes riding a hardship. The men are very nearly as capricious as the women in selecting attire for outings. Some of the cycling costumes of both classes are as alarming as they are startling. Women attired in heavy boots, longish, cumbersome skirts and ungainly-looking head-gear are very frequently seen riding bicycles. For real comfort, wheelwomen want only the most essential and the lightest garments. The low-cut boot is the most desirable. It gives freedom of action and allows for coolness. Skirts should not be of heavy material, and they should not reach below the ankle. The most desirable hat for cycling is the straw sailor or the ordinary sized felt golf hat.

Men in order to wear suitable attire may be instructed to foreswear the ungainly, warm and homely-looking sweaters, which they seem partial to even in midsummer. The heavy bicycle hose should be avoided; in fact, the easy-fitting bloomer costume common with golf-players makes the most desirable bicycle outfit. In the warm weather riders express surprise that bicycling is so heating. They seem to overlook entirely the fact that in midsummer they cling to costumes that would be comfortable in mid-winter. It is in the early allows for coolness. Skirts should not be of heavy material, and they should not reach below the ankle. The most desirable hat for cycling is the straw sailor or the ordinary sized felt goif hat.

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With women particularies of strain should be avoided.

Total dspecimens of young womanhood and girlhood everywhere attest the beneft of a methodical and judicious use of the wheel. By the such of the cycling at heat for cycling as she keeps within the limits of her endurance. Century runs of all excessively long rides do no good and frequently harm the healthiest of both men and women, while hill climbing that severely taxes the heart action, should be avoided.

In the matter of sundries, as any number of thoroughly comfortable saddles are on the market and are supplied as options with the wheels. The lamps, bells, handle-bars, pedals, etc., offered will satisfy the most fastidious.

The bicycle is strongly indorsed as a healthful form of exercise; but some riders by overind general to the more content to race judiciously subject themselves to no injurious effects from subject themselves to no injurious effects from

With women particularly, for riding, suitable apparel plays a very important part. When riding in cool weather woolen garments next to the skin are necessary to prevent a cold that might develop into something more serious. In warm weather cotton underwear may be worn, though wool in the shape of a light jersey is preferred from a hygienic standpoint. Elaborate effects in bicycling skirts are not permissiskirts are not permissi-ble; in fact, Fashion demands that these affairs must be characterized by tailor-like severity, and their attractiveness must depend solely on their perfect cut, fit and finish.

and finish.

Skirts made of cloth
and textiles of a like
nature a re invariably
lined either with percaline or soft silk, but if
one of the double-faced
woolene is employed.

one of the double-faced woolens is employed, lining is unnecessary, as these fabrics are sufficiently heavy.

A neat skirt of double-faced cloth in any serviceable color reaching almost to the ankle, with a rather deep facing ornamented with rows of stitching and adjusted smoothly at the top, and the back laid in an under or over box-plait, and the back laid in an under or over box-plait, and either a jaunty Eton or fly-front jacket of the same or of a contrasting color, forms an approved cycling cost ume. A flannel or wash shirtwaist is preferably chosen, with linen collar, string or four-in-hand tie and leather belt as accessories. ccessories.
The hat may be a soft

felt Alpine, straw sailor or Tam-o-Shanter cap, as preferred, while other

as preferred, while other essentials are golf stockings, low shoes with extension soles and low heels and strong gloves. The bicycle should always be kept well cleaned, the bearings properly set—a little loose rather than tight—the chain properly adjusted and in perfect running order. In the case of chain wheels an occasional bath of the chain in lubricating oil after it has been washed in kerosene oil to remove the dirt and grit is a necessity. Before the chain is put back on the wheel rub it as dry as possible, as the oil is needed in the bearings only; then before using the wheels spin the rear wheel round so that the oil will work into the bearings of the chain. Wipe the chain dry and put on a coating of graphite.

graphite.
The chainless bicycle requires little especial

In riding a bicycle the handlebars should be sufficiently low to support, when desired, the the body from the shoulders through the extended arms. A slight inclination of the body forward is preferable to a perfectly upright posture, but extremes in either direction are to be avoided. The perineum can be spared if some of the weight of the body is carried on the pedals. If soreness or fatigue results from either a long or short ride, the affected parts will be greatly relieved by rubbing with alcohol 95 per cent. pure.

A certain amount of exercise is absolutely necessary to a perfect physical condition, and

necessary to a perfect physical condition, and in order to gain only good results any overtaxing of the strength should be avoided. Splendid specimens of young womanhood and girlhood everywhere attest the benefit of a methodical and judicious use of the wheel. By

A SENSIBLE COSTUME.

cycling; but the riders who seek to ride long distances within record figures make a bene-ficial exercise a labor, and fail to secure any of the many benefits which riding in moderation

Again, both men and women have a tendency in riding to assume positions upon the wheel which are unhealthful. Improperly adjusted saddles, handle-bars and pedals will pitch riders into uncomfortable positions, and it frequently happens that the ordinary rider will complain of fatigue and exhaustion often after a very short ride.

It often occurs that these controls were the control of the occurs that these controls are the controls and the control of the occurs that these controls are the controls and the control of the occurs that these controls are the controls and the control of the occurs that these controls are the controls and the control of the contro

It often occurs that these complaints give rise to the idea that these companies give rise to the idea that certain persons are not fitted for cycling or that the exercise is too severe. But it is pretty well established that such complaints arise from improperly adjust-ed wheels, which are both uncomfortable and unhealthful.

The chainless bicycle requires little especial care to keep the running parts in perfect condition, so admirably devised are the lubricating arrangements for the gears and inner bearings.

Keep the tires well inflated and be sure that all nuts and bolts are set up tight. Nickel parts of the wheel should be cleaned and dried after a ride in the rain.

A factor essential to perfectly healthy results from bicycling is the bath after the ride; this the law of health and cleanliness demands. The danger of colds, chills and tired, headachey feeling many women experience after exercise is too severe. But it is pretty well established that severe. But it is pretty well established that dewels, which are both uncomfortable and unhealthful.

All riders, and more particularly new ones, should solicit the advice of experienced wheelmen in the adjustment of their wheels.

Remember: That in proportion to its weight, the bicycle carries a far heavier load and is subjected to severer strains than any other vehicle. Consequently, finer materials and more perfect workmanship must be employed in its consistency. Naturally the importance of proper is the constant of the exercise is too severe. But it is pretty well established that is pretty well established that the exercise is too severe. But it is pretty well established that the exercise is too severe. But it is pretty well established that the complaints arise from improperly adjustant of the pretty and wheels, which are both uncomfortable and unhealthful.

All riders, and more particularly new ones, should solicit the advice of experienced wheels wheels, which are both uncomfortable and unhealthful.

All riders, and more perfect wells and unhealthful.

Consequently, finer materials and more perfect workmanship must be employed in its constant.

care and considerate usage is increased.

That the bicycle takes one to nooks and corners never before thought of. It causes a man to know his immediate neighborhood better than he deemed possible, and it often brings the rider in pleasant contact with people with whom otherwise he might never know.

That it is an excellent thing to have a step on a bicycle and to use it in mounting. The pedal mount is graceful and pleasing to look at, but it is hard on the machine, especially as regards the spokes and tires.

the spokes and tires.

the spokes and tires.

That faith may move mountains, but too much of it will lose bicycles, whose owners leave them unguarded. Like the horse, the bicycle helps the criminal to get away from his pursuers.

That an accident which will completely disable a chain-driven bicycle, so far as the transmission of power is concerned, will not affect the bevel gear machine to such an extent that it cannot be ridden.

That in the matter of independence redesting the state of the second seco

It cannot be ridden.

That in the matter of independence, pedestrianism alone approaches cycling, but tramping is slow and wearisome, and entirely lacking in that exhilarating quality which is one of the chief characteristics of wheeling.

Don't lend. Don't borrow. Keep your wheel like your toothbrush for your own personal use. When a number of persons use the same machine, you will find the greater the number the poorer the care it gets.

chine, you will find the greater the number the poorer the care it gets.

Don't ride down town on a street car when you can use your wheel. You will save both time and money, and, besides, you will at least be sure of a seat.

"Every wheelman should remember That a winter's ride is bracing, If he boldly pushes through it With a little extra casing."

#### A BOTTLE OF MEDICINE FREE.

Any of our readers can secure a trial bottle of Swanson's "5-DROPS" free of charge by cutting out the coupon which appears in their advertisement in this issue and sending it with their name and address to Swanson Rheumatic Cure Co., Chicago. We advise you to send for a bottle at once before they withdrew their offer bottle at once before they withdraw their offer.



piness. It also treats fully on Personal Magnetism Magnetism and kindre subjects, and how to Curry Yourself of any pain, ach you of or disease. Remember this book is absolutely free. Single of the control of the cont

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by a new discovery, odorless and a lady can give in tea, coffee or food silently and surely that while the or daughter looks on, the drunka against his will and without his kn tion. Sand name and adden



EIGHT DOLLARS and buys this SEROCO, FIVE-DRAWE HEAD OAK CABINET SEWING MA a thoroughly reliable, high arm, 2

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, III.



CAGE—TRY TO FIND HIM Boys twelv

GAGE—TRY TO FIND HIM twelve years of age who will cut out this picture and mark plainly with pencil or pen the missing bird (if they can find it) MAY SHARE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY IN FIVE MONTHLY PREMIUMS for doing a little work for us. This is a contest where both brains and energy count. We are determined to make the name of our charming monthly magazine a household word, and other most liberal offers are made to introduce one of the most entertaining. New York magazines into every home of the United States and Canada. WE DO NOT WANT ONE CENT OF YOUR MONEY. There is only one condition, which should take less than one hour of your time, which we will write you as soon as your answer is received. After you hezve found the missing parrot, send it to us at once. It may take an entire still the sadvertisement. Try to solve this puzzle. Do not delay. Send your answer in immediately, We positively guarantee that this Missing Parrot can be found. Of course, like all problems, it will require some thought, patience and time. But the reward is well worth striving for, especially when we do not ask you to send us any money with your answer. The golden prizes of life are being gained by brains and energy nowadays. Lazy people and the drones and idlers are always complaining of bad luck. Now here is a GOLDEN CHANCE for anyone who will strive hard, and the pleasing part of it is that it does not cost you one cent outside of the letter you send us. Our magazine will please you. It delights us to please our readers. We are continually giving away large sums of money in different contests, as we find it is the very best kind of advertising. Try and Win. If you find the parrot and send the slip with it marked thereon to us at once, to be how will apply the properties of the shall give the \$1,000.00 and you will hear from us by return mail. We hope you will try for it, as we shall give the \$4,000.00 and you anyou, Do not delay. Write at once.

# RAPID-FIRE



A New Style All Steel Combination Rifle for Birds or Came

using shot that can be obtained anywhere at a trifling expense, also shoot darts making it desirable for outdoor target practice or parlor amusement or it can be used in any part of the house with perfect safety, making a practical and entertaining form of evening amusement for the boys and girls as well as older folks. There is no smoke, odor or dust from this gun, it is endorsed by army officers as the best mechanical rifle ever produced and the possession of one of our accurate shooting air rifles makes a boy manly and affords him an excellent means of successfully competing with his chums for marksman's honors as well as teaching him the use of a rifla. Remember this is a combination gun, so your boy should have one be he old or young. If he is sick in the house he can shoot darts and keep out of mischief or go into the woods for game and get robust and healthy besides.

SPECIAL. Send at once for sample copies of our big monthly and subscription blanks and canvass among the neighbors. For a club of four yearly subscribers at the popular price of 25c. each, \$1.00 in all, we will send one of these King Pneumatic Rifles as a present, all charges paid, guaranteeing absolute satisfaction.

Remember the above is a real gun, nearly three feet long. It looks like a gun and shoots like a gun.

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To introduce our famous little Giant Oxies Pills, giving all the chance to derive the wonderful benefits from these new life-giving wonders, we send two boxes absolutely free, all charges paid. You sell the Pills for 25c. per box, send us the money within 20 days, 50c. in all, and we give you as a premium this wonderful Gold Lined Silver Dish free. These dishes are warranted quadruple plated silver; they are fluted top and beautiful and useful ornaments; they are suitable for dining table use, or used as side dish for bon bons they are elegant and will last for years. Send your name and address at once so your friends can derive the great benefits coming from the use of Oxien Pills and you

once so your friends can derive the great benefits coming from the use of Oxien Pills and you get the profits as the dish can be sold in a minute for 75c. These Pills are noted for their quick action on Liver, Stomach, Heart, Bowels, and special organs of either sex. All fills vanish as if by magic if you use these Pills. Send quick so as to be sure of a dish before they all go, and get full particulars of our great money-making agency proposition, where you get hundred of dollars from a one dollar investment. Address,

THE GIANT OXIE PILL DEPT. M, Augusta, Maine.



Contributors must without exception be regular subscrib-ers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post-office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest, will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them, and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach six hundred and fifty words. Contributors must write on one side of the paper only.

\$10 CASH PRIZES \$10.

The following cash prises will be paid monthly:

1st. For the best original letter
2nd. "second best original letter
3rd. "third"
4th. "fourth" ""
5th. "fifth ""

5th. " "fifth " " 1.00

Competitors for these monthly cash prizes must comply with all the above rules, and in addition must bring at least two new Cousins into the Comport circle: that is, they must send two new subscribers with each letter, together with 50 cents for the yearly subscriptions.

These cash prizes will be announced monthly in this department.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Prize Offer.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

CASH PRIZE WINNERS. Alice Pierson.

Newton M. Layne, Mary W. Early. Maud B. Rodgers.

EAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS: Just now we hear on every side the words
-"A happy new year to you!" "I wish you

a happy new year!" What do these words mean? What is the thought of our friends in expressing the wish? Do they desire for us wealth, or pleasure, or freedom from care and toil? or do they wish for us contentment with our lot and a habit of seeing the bright side of life? a firm resolve to make the very best of what we have and to remember always that

"Life, my dear, is what we make it,
And the world is as we take it."
The latter is the kind of a "happy new year" that
Aunt Minerva wishes for each one of you, and her
earnest hope is that every one of her nieces and
nephews will find it day by day as the year goes on.
Our first letter this month is a bit of last summer's pleasant experiences.

Our first letter this month is a bit of last summer's pleasant experiences.

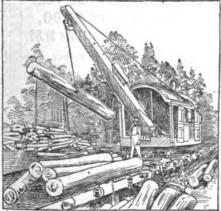
"An interesting trip was taken last summer to one of the logging camps in the Adirondacks. The camp was situated a few miles from Tupper Lake in one of the prettiest and wildest regions of the mountains. To reach it from the hotel where we were staying a trip of seven miles down the winding Requette River had to be taken, in one of the siender, easily-tipping guide boats, in which one has to be so careful to 'step on the ribs,' for fear of breaking through the thin, quarter inch flooring. The river was bordered on both sides by lovely woods, now a stretch of primeval forest with huge maples and beeches, and now a great burned-over area covered with half-grown white birches and quaking aspens, with great bare, pine trunks towering far above them, pathetic remnants of the old forest. A big blue heron rose now and then from the bank and lazily flapped his way across the stream. It was so still that we expected at any mo ment to see a deer come down to the water's edge and look at us with his gentle eyes, and indeed, in the soft mud along the shore, were many fres hly made tracks.

"Finally, a turn in the river brought us to the boat house, where we landed, and after a few minutes' walk reached the little settlement of lumbermen's huts. It was a picturesque sight, the log cabins in straight rows, with brightly-colored garments on the lines about them, and in one dark doorway a noid, long-bearded lumberman, looking, in the heavy shadow, not unlike a Rembrandt portrait.

"Passing the houses, we came at once to the logging railroad and soon saw a train of flat cars and

trait.

"Passing the houses, we came at once to the logging railroad and soon saw a train of flat cars and
the log-loader. On both sides were huge piles of
logs laid in rows, one on top of another, on the
'skidways.' These latter are not 'ways,' as the
name suggests, but four logs placed in the form of
a square, with ends crossing at the corners. The
logs here were cut many miles further back in the
woods in the winter and dragged here by horses, to



ett:

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LOG LOADER.

await transportation on the logging railroad to Tupper Lake, where they were to be made into barrel staves. But the most interesting part of the scene was the log-loader. It held our attention with cort of fascination, it seemed so human. A gigan arm equipped with a pair of mammoth pincers. Eretched out of the window of a little red engine house on one of the cars. With much puffing and blowing a circled outward and downward, and seizing in its iron grasp a twelve foot log, slowly lifted it and bore it to the car, where it dropped it, apparently at just the place intended. Three men stood on the car, one to unfasten the iron talons from the log after it was settled, the other two to take and record the measurements. Still another stood below among the logs to guide the great pincers. When one car was filled, the arm swung idly while the engineer put on steam and ran the house itself, which was on a small

track, to the next car. Then the arm began its work again and continued steadily until the next car was full.

"The day was rendered even more interesting by dinner at a camp a few miles further up the river. We went into the big bare dining-room after the lumbermen had left, and, sitting on long board benches at a table covered with oilcloth, ate with much relish their hearty fare of salt meat, baked beans, pie and coffee, served by a French Canadian cook. When dinner was over, we were taken upstairs to see the men's sleeping apartments, occupied in the winter by from sixty to a hundred men. One large room comprising the whole upper floor, was used for this purpose, and contained long parallel rows of bunks crowded closely together. It was difficult to imagine a hundred men there at one time.

"When we started back the sun was low in the compared to this sightly city, found the glorious and gorgeous sunsets one of the features of the place, but at the approach of twilight of this particular day the heavens con-

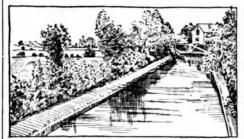
It was difficult to imagine a number of the cone time.

"When we started back the sun was low in the west and we watched the changing colors in the sky and on the shores as we rowed up the river, and noted the gradual re-appearance of familiar outlines; Seward, with its spreading, irregular form which changed with each bend in the river; Marcy, far-off, and blue in the distance; and finally Stony Brook and forest-covered Moose."

ALICE PIERSON, New York.

I have always wanted to see a real Indian village but the next best thing to seeing is to read the fol-lowing vivid pen picture of such a village and people.

"Away up in the foot hills of the San Jacinto mountains there is a little Indian settlement where a rude people still cling to their ancient customs and primitive methods. At the base of twin peaks of perfect similarity in form and size is



a little village. One narrow street, and on either side a row of adobe houses. The walls are thick, the roofs of cat-tails and rushes, and the floors of hard packed earth. There are many quaint and picturesque scenes. They cut their grain by hand, beat it with flails or trample it out with ponies, and grind it in stone mortars.

"The Indian women are always at work, the men gamble or lie in the shade and smoke. On a barren hillside above the village stands a little white-washed adobe church, and every Sunday morning a brilliantly attired procession winds slowly up the hill in the hazy sunshine. At the door they dip their fingers in the holy water, kneel and cross themselves. When they are seated the priest lights the candles and kneeling before the altarraises his voice in a singing chant while the compared to the responds with gutteral intonations almost weird in effect. They pray, the priest talks awhile in their barbarous dialect, they are dismissed and go, wetting their fingers in the holy waters, back to their huts—to gamble the rest of the day and all the night among themselves and with the cowboys of the Rancho Diablo.

"Hot springs,now but little known but doubtless destined to become famous, are a source of revenue to these Indians. The springs are three in number and are separately characterized by sulphur, magnesia and iron. The water is clear as crysteal in the rocky basins, and from numerous crevices in the bottoms bubbles of gas are continually escaping, while the air fairly reeks with the natural fumes.

"The temperature of the water is about 144 degrees. It is conveyed in flumes of hollow logs to rude bath houses near by for the few white people who make it a yearly resort, renting cottages and taking the baths for many different maladies.

"From a near by peak a wonderful view may be had. On the north are the tangled ranges of the San Jacinto mountains, on the east the Colorado desert seems spread out at your feet, a vast stretch of barren sand with the mountains that mark its eastern borders f

We have had several letters of late on the oil fields of the central states, but this one contains much that is interesting, so I may safely offer it for

we have had several tetters of the of the official of the central states, but this one contains much that is interesting, so I may safely offer it for your reading.

"Will not the cousins and Aunt Minerva come and visit an old cousin far away down in the oil fields of Washington county, Ohio. Along this sluggish little Muskingum river the fields, though narrow, are very fertile and the hills rise above the little stream more than a thousand feet. Some of them, indeed, are almost mountains and are very beautifully formed. One of them, which I can see as I write, is very high, slightly separated from any other, and is of a perfect cone shape. So beautiful is this grassy cone that I often wonder if it was the work of nature or of that pre-historic race, the mound builders. It is known among us as Mount Olive. Far away across the valley is another hill which is very much higher than the rest, and from its top may be seen miles and miles of the great oil field. On the top of this hill is an oil well which has produced more than a hundred thousand barrels of oil and is still a small producer.

"When one sees from the top of this hill the many tall derricks which dot the hills and valleys, one can realize what a great industry the development of the oil product is and what a benefit it has been to the United States. This field is now on the decline, but there is a vast amount of undeveloped territory here yet and many rich strikes may still be made by the risky speculator. The work is very expensive, and it requires a fortune to develop a deep-sand field. If one is so unfortunate as to drill a few dry holes, discouragement and often a lack of money causes an abandonment of what is really good territory; but some later comer, possessing more means or proving more fortunate in his drills, may make a fortune on this same territory which yielded nothing to the first worker.

"One who has never visited an oil field cannot imagine what a grand thing the natural gas is. I often wonder as I light my gas fire to prepare a meal

The following letter comes from one of our most valued cousins and contributors, and treats of a very strange occurrence. I wonder if there are oth-ers of the cousins who witnessed this display of



VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA, IN 1863.

tained no touch of color. Suddenly with the setting of the sun, a light breeze sprung up which carried the clouds far southward and a flood of light illumined the summit of the mountain, and the great flag now stood revealed in wondrous color. All the brilliancy usually aflame at this hour in the west seemed to have forsaken the sky and enveloped the flag which, as though touched by fire, burned and glowed in the warm light. Evidently some remarkable act of nature was being carried out and all the inhabitants of the city, awed and mystified, stood beholding it far into the evening. As suddenly as it had come the remarkable color died away, leaving the mountain summit wrapped in its usual sombre stillness, but the city at its base was astir almost all night.

"Strong believers in omens stood firm in their belief that this glorification of the country's flag augered well for the future of the country, and it was not long after this, when the Union was at last secure, that the flag was again illumined and the old cannon at its feet fired in honor of the occasion." MAUD B. RODGERS, San Francisco, Cala.

Here is an interesting letter on historic old

Here is an interesting letter on historic old Yorktown and her monument. I wish Mrs. Early had told us a little more of the old place, of the house in which Washington had his headquarters and where the articles of capitulation were signed. It is still standing, and in constant use as a dwel-ling, but the room

rendered famous by Washington's use is open to visitors. The old church, set in the midst of the graveyard, and the quaint little old houses, many of them dating back to Washington's time, are well worth a visit. Indeed.the whole place looks as if time had stood still there since the Revolution, and one could almost imagine one's self back in colonial times, so little has the place changed in appearance.

so little has the place changed in appearance.

"Yorktown, Virgivia, though a small place and almost untouched by the current of modern progress, as still a very interesting spot, for here occurred the culminating scene of the great drama of the American Revolution, namely, the surrender of Cornwallis, on October 19th, 1781. A part from historical associations, it also has a charm of its own from its location, being situated on one of the most on one of the most on the peninsula in Eastern Virginia formed by the York and James rivers, and is about twelve miles from Williamsburg, the old colonial capital of the state. All this section of Virginia formed by the York and James rivers, and is about twelve miles from Williamsburg, the old colonial capital of the state. All this section of Virginia formed by the York and James rivers, and is about twelve miles from Williamsburg, the old colonial capital of the state. All this section of Virginia is rich in historical associations, in addition to its natural beauties. A little more than twenty years ago a lofty monument was erected at Yorktown in commemoration of Cornwallis' surrender, and it was unvelled and inaugurated with appropriate ceremonies on the 19th of October, 1881, just a century from the day when Cornwallis, seeing himself penned in both by land and water, was compelled to capitulate. By orders from Sir Henry Clinton he had marched to Yorktown and taken up his quarters there—Lafayette who was close at hand speedily informed Washington of this move, and the latter, seeing the great advantages he might reap from it, marched as rapidly as possible from the Hudson to the Virginia peninsula with his combined French and American troops. He joined Lafayette about the last of September and laid siege to Yorktown by land, whilst by water it was besieged by a French fleet under Count De Grasse, a fleet consisting of twenty-five ships, containing three thousand troops. Surrounded thus both on land and water, there was no resource but for Cornwallis to surrender.

"

MARY W. EARLY, Lynchdurg, va.

There, my lap is empty. I think we have a very interesting budget of letters for the first one of the new year, and I hope that my nieces and nephews will make it one of their New Year resolutions to be kept that each one will do his or her part towards keeping Aunt Minerva's lap full of letters all the year. You cannot send too many, for all will be welcome.

AUNT MINERVA.

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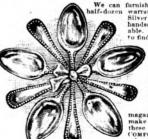


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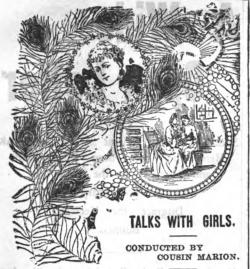
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THE HEARTHSTONE 52 Duane St., New York



A Happy New Year to you all and a glad "How d' y' do?" to 1902. I suppose we shouldn't be glad to welcome the flight of time, but why not? It will go just as fast whether we are glad about it or sorry, so then let us be glad, for it will make it pleasanter in passing. I hope you will all have a year of good works and good rewards; and now let us take up our talk.

The first cousin to be answered in the new year is Sweet Rose of Butte, Montana, and she wants to know whether she should marry the young man her father has chosen for her, or the one she really loves. As she is but fifteen my advice is to marry neither for at least five years.

Josie, Plymouth, Cal.—I believe an engaged cou-ple may kiss each other at meeting and at parting even though "he comes six times a week." (2) Dark hair with gray or hazel eyes is brunette. "Chataine" I believe it is in French.

Polly Wog, Elliott, Ills.—You may correct a person before others if it is all well understood, otherwise it is better not. Eye glasses may be taken off and cleaned in the presence of company. Don't appear at the front door with your sleeves rolled up and your work apron on, unless you know who is there.

Pine Ridge Flower, Upton, Wyo.—Lemon juice is about the best and simplest remedy for freckles. (2) Engaged girls usually go to dances with their fiance when they live in the same neighborhood.

L. C. M. J., Washougal, Wash.—When you say you will not speak to the young man, keep your word. That will teach him you have strength of character. (2) As to the other simply ignore him.

character. (2) As to the other simply ignore him.

Bell and Jean, Peacham, Vt.—The middle aged man may sit by girls of sixteen. Girls of seventeen should not be waving their hands from windows at their "gentlemen friends". It is not wrong, but it is rather too familiar. Those things are largely governed by circumstances, however.

Ignorama, Hampton, Ia.—There is no form of congratulating people on their marriage or at other times. Use your own sense of what to say. (2) Your mother's cousin is your cousin, once removed. (3) Don't be too cautious. Marry the young man. (4) An engagement lasts. (5) Don't give up school teaching for stenography. (6) Twenty-two is better than twenty, and twenty-five is better than twenty-two, as a marrying age.

Effie and Ellinor, Big Run, Pa.—Invite the caller

as a marrying age.

Effice and Ellinor, Big Run, Pa.—Invite the caller in if it is not too late. (2) Part with your dear friend as you would with your brother, except the kiss. (3) Friends of long standing call each other by their first names. (4) Keep your hands out of the overcoat pockets. (5) You may write to more than one man if you are very good friends. (6) There is no cure for jealousy. (7) If no time is set for the caller to come, you might wait half an hour; five minutes is enough otherwise. (8) The one most at fault should be first to apologize. If the fault is equal the man should be first, as an act of gallantry, not as a matter of right.

J. J. C., Jefferson City, Mo.—Ask one of your local

J. J. C., Jefferson City, Mo.—Ask one of your local physicians for the address of the City Physician, St. Louis, and write a personal letter to him for the information you want, inclosing postage for reply. Charlotte, Galena, Ills.—Very sorry, my dear, but your letter came too late to be answered for Christmas.

mas.
Susan, Altoona, Pa.—I believe driving after dark is permissible in the country. It is not in the city. (2) Yes. (3) Send him home at ten-thirty. (4) Presents and pictures may be exchanged between boys and girls to a limited extent.

X. Y. Z., New York.—Ask your druggist about celandine.

Lillian, Denver, Col.—Make your response to the toast to suit your own self; there is no rule. (2) The lady usually suggests going home when out with an escort. (3) Usually the lady waits for the man to ask her to go to an entertainment, unless she has tickets or invitations.

Miss I. R. A., Glenwood, N. Y. — You cannot make your eyes large and beautiful or your lips gracefully curving, unless nature does it for you. Dermatologists can improve them somewhat. I think the other equally difficult by artificial means.

Sunflower, Hagerstown, Md.—A gentleman would not do what you say this man has done, and you should cut him off the list of your friends.

Cousin Emory, McKinney, Texas. No, if the girl does not love the young man, his asking her to marry him will not make her love him, and will only humiliate him.

Lillian and Anna, Williamsville, Ills.—There was nothing to say to the young man except good night. (2) Ask them to call again.

Glen, Akron, Ohio.—Wait till you are twenty and he is twenty-five, then you may go with him.

Poppy, Edenvale, Cal.—I suppose it would be quite proper to congratulate the groom by letter though you do not know the bride. (2) Wedding presents should be acknowledged by notes to donors. (3) Letters of congratulation need not be answered. (4) No. (5) Eighteen is rather young for "keeping company" with young men, though many women are wives before they are eighteen.

Mayflower, Blanche, Ala.—The man waits for the

Mayflower, Blanche, Ala.—The man waits for the lady to extend her hand to shake. (2) Better not marry the young man who promises to stop drinking if you will marry him. Why doesn't he stop

Richards, Mobile, Ala.—Forget the young man. He does not love you.

H. G. S. Runge, Texas. Waituntil you are older, before letting these things bother you.

N. W., Rockport, Ind. I cannot give subjects for graduating essays. Surely your years in school have taught you what best to choose to write about.

Pansy, Hiattsville, Ia.—Keep on reading and holding to your common sense views of life. You will come out all right after a while.

J. O. E., Beulah, Ohio.—Have a talk with the young men and if they confirm your suspicions, drop them. (2) No one has a right to say you shall not go to church. That is a matter between yourself and your conscience.

Jennie, Elmwood, Ind.—Refreshments would be in order for a caller from a distance. (2) Let the in order for a caller from a distance. (2) Let the young man put on his own overcoat. (3) It is the custom in less formal society to accompany a caller to the front door, but it need not be done.

Blue Eyes, Conway Springs, Kans .- You did



REE CHINA DINNER SET

wrong to tell the young man all sorts of things as you did, even if you did think you were to marry him. Now you must suffer for it.

him. Now you must suffer for it.

Propounder, Austin, Texas.—An eighteen year old girl should wear her skirt full length. (2) No. (3) The rejection of a manuscript is no sign that the writer is lacking in ability. The next editor may think it first class. (4) In my opinion, and I speak for myself alone, your verses are lacking in strength, and are not metrical throughout.

There, my dears, all your questions are answered, and I am leaving you now for a month, with the very best wishes, and the hope that I have done some good by my advice, as I know you have done me good by asking it of me. May the first month of the new year be joyous to you all. By by.

COUSIN MARION.

#### EVERY LADY READ THIS.

I will send free a positive cure for all female diseases, irregularities, etc. A simple home treatment, a common sense remedy that never fails. FREE with valuable advice. Mrs. L. D. HUDNUT, South Bend, Ind.

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You can examine them and if found satisfactory all you are to do is to send us the names of a club of six yearly subscribers to "Comfort" at 25c.

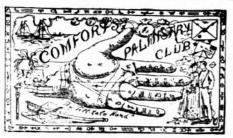
each, giving the list and money, \$1.50 in all, to the Express Agent to send to us and the whole lot of Club Giffs are then yours.

As we give you the privilege of a full examination of the contents of the Free Club Assortment a brief description of the goods appears below.

The "COM FORT" lever movement Lanton plano Watch is a guaranteed good timer; it is damp, dast and for proof, has short wind and long run, is fully nickeled and will wear without the subscription of the goods appears below.

The "COM FORT" lever movement Lanton plano Watch is a quaranteed good timer; it is damp, dast and for proof, has short wind and long run, is fully nickeled and will wear without and will be appreciated. The Latin the long of timer; it is damp, dast and for proof, has short wind and long run, is fully nickeled and will wear without the wind and will be appreciated. The Latin file since the following the proof, has been trained to the proof the subscription of the goods appears below.

The "COM FORT" lever movement Lanton plano Watch is a quaranteed good timer; it is damp, dast and for proof, has short wind allong run, is fully nickeled and will wear without the proof of the good and wear the proof of the



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#### CONDITIONS.

CONDITIONS.

To have one's hands read in this department, by Digitus, one of the finest living paimists, it is necessary to observe the following conditions:

Impressions of both hands must be sent, fully postpaid and having the name, address and nom de plume of the sender enclosed in the package also.

The package must in every instance be accompanied by the names and addresses of eight new subscribers at twenty-five cents each, the whole amount, \$2.00 being remitted, with the package, addressed to Comport Palmistry Club. Augusta, Maine.

No notice will be taken of impressions and requests for readings unless the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank

tor rendings unle-s the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank paper over a candle or similar flame, until they are heavily coated with the smoke. Then lay these pieces down, smoke side uppermost on a pad of cotton. Now place the two hands, palms downward, one on each sheet of paper, pressing firmly and steadily down, but taking care not to more the hand. Keep them so for one minute and lift carefully, so as not to disturb the impression. Have ready some fixetly, which can be hought at a drug store or an art store or made with gum arabic and water in an alomizer. Spray this over the impressions before they are moved and allow them to dry. Then they are ready to send.

Smoked paper impressions are the best. But if it is desired to send a plusiver cast, take plaster of Paris and dissolve in water to the consistency of thick cream. Pour this into a large shallow dish and when it is hardening place the hand, not to break the plaster. Casts are exceedingly difficult to send without breaking and should be very carefully packed in a box with the name of the sender written on it. Putty is sometimes successfully used in place of plaster. A good photograph if sufficiently well taken to bring out all the lines, can also be read, although in all cases the smoked paper is the best, if properly treated with fixatif.

### Bear in Mind that all the above conditions must be observed.

Also, that letters not complying with them will go into the waste-basket. Readings cannot appear for several months after impressions are sent.

EVERAL inquiries have come with regard to the "Croix Mystique." This is a sign so entirely by itself that I devote a separate discussion to it. It is found traced with more or less distinction in the quadrangle beneath the finger of Saturn.

It always gives to a subject mysticism, super-stition and occultism, or, with a very good hand, religion. If it is very large it betrays exaggerated superstition, bigotry and hallu-

nation.

If it is clearly traced in both hands, it betravs folly arising from the excessive influence crays folly arising from the excessive influence of the principal mount; thus, with Jupiter developed, over-ambition; with Saturn, misanthropy; with Apollo, extreme vanity or miserliness; and with Venus, erotomanie.

If the "Croix Mystique" is joined to the line of Saturn, it foretells good fortune arising from religion.

of Saturn, it foretells good fortune arising from religion.

If it is displaced so as to lie, as it were, between the Mounts of Mars and of the Moon, it indicates a changeability of disposition which will lead to good fortune.

"M. Truthful" has a line crossing the fate line or line of Saturn, which would be read by some as a "Croix Mystique," although I should not so interpret it myself. This is a hand, however, that is liable to bring good fortune as it has several lucky signs besides. The life line after the age of twenty, is singularly free from opposition of any kind. Previous to that age I should judge that this person was hampered in many ways and not allowed to have his own way in many things, but after that he is free to lead his own life and to go his own way. His right hand is much better than his left. The latter indicates a selfish person who would sacrifice almost anything to gain his own ends. At the same time his right hand would indicate that he has overcome these tendencies of his nature and he is an upright and moral man upon whom the community at large may safely depend. He will live to be eighty or more, and his life will be uncommonly smooth and free from troubles after the age of twenty-five. His depend. He will live to be eighty or more, and his life will be uncommonly smooth and free from troubles after the age of twenty-five. His health will be good, although I should say there is some underlying weakness of the constitution not apparent to the casual observer. He will be a good business man and will make a good deal of money after the age of thirty-five. In matters of the heart he will be straightforward and honorable, and the woman who unites her fortunes to his will be well cared for and kindly treated and appreciated. At unites her fortunes to his will be well cared for and kindly treated and appreciated. At the age of twenty he has had or will have some peculiar experience over which he has worried a good deal, but it will not affect his future life for on the whole he will have a very successful and prosperous, although uneventful, career.

Somebody has asked what the principal signs of a murderous hand are. First, you will find the color to be

color to be very red or even livid. If the former, the mur-der will be done in a momentary fit of anger; if the latter it is liable to be more deeply planned and carefully brooded over and the whole nature of this subject is evil. This, how-ever, should not be taken as an indication infal-lible, because of-



lible, because often a highly colored hand is the sign of good health; only this must be otherwise well marked. The first phalanx of the finger of Mercury will be heavily lined, and at the base of the line of life will (probably) be found a sister line. The line of head will be deeply traced and thick, having probably a circle upon it, and being generally joined to the line of heart and separate from the line of life. The nails short, the line of life thick at the commencement, and spotted with red, and the line of head twisted across the hand. All these signs collected in a land are an infallible indication of a murderous instinct.

Take another example: In this hand we find the line of head twisted and very red, a grille is placed upon the Mount of Mercury, and the whole hand is dry and thin, having the joints developed on the fingers. From the third phalanx of the little finger sundry small lines go on to the mount, which latter is also scarred with a deep strong ray. This is the hand of a thief, and the impulse of theft will be found to be almost, (if not quite) insurmountable.

hand of a thief, and the impulse of theft will be found to be almost, (if not quite) insurmountable.

Falsehood,—i. e. a general tendency to deceit—is always very clearly marked in the hand and is marked by a number of different signs, any one of which by itself is a sufficient indication of a strong tendency in that direction. These are: a high Mount of the Moon, upon which the line of head is forked, and on which are found small red points; the thumb is short and on the inner surfaces of the phalanxes of the fingers there appears a kind of hollowing or sinking in of the flesh. The line of head is generally separated from that of life by a space which is filled with a number of confused lines.

Another very characteristic hand is the voluptuous or pleasure-loving hand. The fingers are smooth and pointed, having the third or lower phalanges swollen; the whole hand is plump and white, the palm strong, and the thumb short, giving it sensitiveness. The Mount of Venus is high. Such subjects are impressionable, and liable to fall into grave errors; they are sensual, vain, and egotists, always actuated by motives of pleasure. Women who have these hands are always dangerous, for they are subtle and unscrupulous in their pursuit of enjoyment, and often exercise a most fatal influence upon men into whose lives they come.

An artist will have, of course, the typical

most fatal influence upon men into whose lives they come.

An artist will have, of course, the typical artist hand, but there are differences which denote the different taste of the artist, as for instance, the flower painter will have the Mount of Venus high with long fingers, and a large thumb; (color, detail, and perseverance); the painter of still life will have rather squared fingers and the Mount of Mercury; (exactitude and science); the painter of battle pieces will have the Mount of Mars developed, indicating the natural taste would of Mars developed, indicating the natural taste of the subject. Painters with squared fingers always paint what

always paint what they can actually see rather than what they merely imagine.

In a doctor's hand we shall find the Mount of Mercury rayed with the line of Apollo clearly traced. The doctor whose hands bear the Mount of the Moon well developed will always be inclined to discoveries and eclecticism, and the doctor with hard hands and very much spatulated fingers will have a patural percentage.

ARTISTIC HAND.

ly traced. The doctor whose hands bear the Mount of the Moon well developed will always be inclined to discoveries and eclecticism, and the doctor with hard hands and very much spatulated fingers will have a natural penchant for veterinary surgery.

The astronomer has the Mount of the Moon, of Mercury, and of Saturn well developed, with long knotty fingers to add calculation to his imagination and science.

The horticulturist has a hand in which we find the Mounts of Venus and the Moon high, with spatulate fingers to give him energy, and long fingers to give him detail.

Square fingers with a good line of Apollo and a good line of Jupiter, denote an architect.

Sculpture betrays itself by a scarcity of lines, the Mounts of Venus, of Mars, and of the Moon high in the hand, which has a strong tendency to thickness and hardness.

Literary men have always the Mounts of Jupiter and of the Moon developed; the latter particularly, if the taste lies in the line of poetry. Literature gives, as a rule, soft spatulate or square hands, with the joints (especially that of matter, the second), slightly developed. Literary critics have always short nails and high Mounts of Mercury.

Among musicians subjects whose fingers are spatulate, and whose Mounts of Saturn are high, whose nails are short and whose joints are developed, with the Mount of the Moon prominent, long thumbs, the Line of Apollo, and (as a rule) the Girdle of Venus. Melody generally gives smooth fingers with mixed tips, the prevailing Mount being Venus.

The actor has fingers which are either spatuaturns up slightly towards the Mount of Mercury, and as a rule, a line runs from the Mount of Mars to that of Apollo.

of Mars to that of Apollo.

Orange Lily cures Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacement, Painful Periods. For a free trial address, Mrs. H. C. Fretter, Detroit, Mich.

Digitue

The Moqui Indians have a sure cure for rattle-snake bites.

THREE DOLLARS a day sure. Without a doubt a great opportunity. For particulars see last page of this paper.



Made or saved. Print your own cards, &c., with a \$5 Press. Larger size for circu-lars, books, newspapers, \$18. Type setting easy, printed rules. Send stamp for sam-ples, catalogue of presses, type, paper, &c., to factory. The Press Co., Meridea, Con.



The Preservation of Timber.

OHN Branch of North Carolina was secretary of the navy department in 1829. In his official report for that year he recommended a method of treatment of timber used in the American navy for the purpose of preservation which the lapse of time has demonstrated to be of immense value.

mense value.

Live oak, he said, should be immersed for twelve months in water, then taken up and placed under cover to protect it against sun, rain and high winds. Its immersion rendered it less liable to split. White oak, he said, should be soaked about eighteen months in fresh or two years in salt water; then taken up fresh, or two years in salt water; then taken up and sawed into such sizes as may be required, and then placed under cover for about two or three years. Yellow pine should be docked about twelve months; then taken up, sawed and covered for about two years. Mast timber should be immersed and covered in mud till wanted for use.

wanted for use.

An excellent illustration of well preserved oak timber is found in the United States Government bonded warehouse adjoining the old Lazaretto grounds, at Essington, Penn. The warehouse was built over a hundred years ago, and the oak joists, which are about two feet thick, are as sound and strong to-day as they were when first put in place. The old building has been used for various purposes, and a few years ago it served as a refuge for about fifty Indian sailors from Calcutta, who were in quarantine there, while about a dozen of their number were being treated at the Lazaretto hospital for beri-beri, a rare disease in this country.

HE most of the wooden toys that are sold come from Germany, where men, women, and children are employed in their manufacture, for in almost every cottage, in the valley of the Tyrol, called Gudnerthal, may be found a workshop for their use, and with the use of from twenty to thirty tools they fashion the numerous toys that gladden the hearts of the little folks all over the civil. the hearts of the little folks all over the civil-

## CUREFITS

When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office.

Prof. W.H.PEEKE, F.D., 4 Cedar St., N.Y.

### FISTULA AND POLL EVIL<sup>5</sup>

Fleming's Fistula and Poll Evil Cur is a new, scientific & certain remedy NO COST IF IT FAILS. FLEMING BROS., Chemists, Union Stock Yards, Chicago.



### Real Steam Engine FREE. EVERY BOY AN ENGINEER.



Be an engineer, learn to run an engine, how to use fuel, oil up and blow the whistle, just like the man. You never saw a steam engine in your life that you didn't like the looks of. Now here we give you a chance to have one all your own that you put on a table and get up steam and blow the whistle and watch the wheels go round fast or slow just as you wish,

in 15 to

30 Days

A Genuine
Yankee Engine
has the following
parts and can be
taken down and
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you wish: Cylinder with Spring,
Balance Wheel,
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Drive Wheel,
Safety Valve,
Whistle Complete, Boiler
with Heater,
stands 8 inches
high, highly finished in enamel
and nickel, a
jim-dandy engine and guaranteed way up,
With this en-

# A Wide-Open Letter

Specially to that Great Army of Weak Men Who have been Hoodwinked and Defrauded by the Worse than Infamous Mountebanks Who Disgrace the Medicine Business.

Mr. Geo. S. Beck, Proprietor of "Wonder-Workers," the Greatest and Best Remedy for all Kinds of Sexual Weakness that the World Has Ever Known, Throws Another Bomb into the Camp of the Sharks Who Prey Upon the Fears of Weak Men, and Offers Their Victims the Benefit of His Great Remedy at Cost.

My Dear Brothers:—More than 250,000 permanent cures during the past three years prove that my "Wonder-Workers" are a Godsend to weak men everywhere. There is not a case of Lost Manhood, Night or Day Losses, Varicocele, Sexual Weakness or Nervous Troubles of any kind anywhere on earth (no matter whether caused by overwork, self-abuse or worry; and no matter whether the man be old or young) that "Wonder-Workers" will fail to cure quicker and at less expense than any other remedy made anywhere in the world if simply used (at home, at your work) one tablet at a dose three times a day. They cured me in less than one month's time, at the age of forty-four years, when I like you, lacked that vitality without which a person is a man only in name, and after I had been nearly ruined by the frauds and fakirs who disgrace the medicine business. I ask you to bear in mind that I am the only man in the world in the business who has solemnly sworn that the medicine he sells cured himself and that the names of all who buy it will be held sacred forever. MY DEAR BROTHERS:-More than 250,000 of all who buy it will be held sacred forever.



I am the same Geo. S. Beck, living at 420 South Market Street, Springfield, Ohio, who is hated by every Electric Belt impostor. Free Sample schemer, C. O. D. fraud, Free Prescription fakir, and Doctor by Mail humbug in America because of the manner in which I have exposed their infamous schemes. Their only object in making "Free" offers is to get the names of men who are sexually weak so that they may harass them with their impudent letters and lying, filthy circulars; and I, here and now, again challenge any and all of these frauds and poison distributers to thoroughly sift and test my charges of low villainy and palpable fraud in any court of law or justice they may select. If you have had any dealings with them you know that all my charges against them are true as Gospel.

I beg to assure you on my honor as a man that no matter whether you are married or single, old, young or middle aged; or no matter whether your weakness or nervousness is caused by over-work, secret vice or the excessive use of strong drink or tobacco, the use of my "Wonder-Worker" will search every nerve center of your body, renew every tissue, develop every organ, strengthen every muscle, invigorate every function, and bring to you a perfect and permanent restoration of strength and manly vigor. The reason why "Wonder-Workers" do this is because they are a Pure Nerve Food and Tonic, and because they are a Pure Nerve Food and Tonic, and because they are a Pure Nerve Food and Tonic,

restoration of strength and manly vigor. The reason why "Wonder-Workers" do this is because they are a Pure Nerve Food and Tonic, and because they do not contain any phosphorus, or Spanish fly, or any other of the poisons that make the vile nostrums sent out by the frauds and quacks so dangerous to human life. It is perfectly safe to use them at any time or under any circumstances, and their use will not fail to restore natural strength and vigor without any trace of excitement or stimulation in old or young.

Because of the wonderful merit of my "Wonder-Workers," and the fact that I treat every man as fairly in every respect as though he was my own natural brother, I have built up the largest mail-order medicine business in the world in less than three years. I defy any man to whom I sent "Wonder-Workers" to say that I have treated him unfairly in any manner, shape or form. If you order "Wonder-Workers" mention this paper, the publisher of which is hereby authorized to publish me as a fraud and scoundrel if I fail to do exactly as I agree with any of its readers.

The price of "Wonder-Workers" is only One

world in less than three years. I defy any man sine and guaranteed way up. With this engine you can run all kinds of toy machines you can buy or make for yours elf with spools, etc. Great fun to make for yours elf with spools, etc. Great fun to make for yours self with spools, etc. Great fun to make for yours self with spools, etc. Great fun to make for yours self with spools, etc. Great fun to make for yours self with spools, etc. Great fun to make for yours self with spools, etc. Great fun to make for yours self with spools, etc. Great fun to make for yours self with spools, etc. Great fun to make for yours self with spools, etc. Great fun to make for yours self with spools, etc. Great fun to make for yours self with spools, etc. Great fun to make for your sing string for belt-ing. We want in your expense. It will cost 25 cents to ilit them from express office. If you send \$1.15 if them from express office. If you send \$1.15 if them from express office. If you send \$1.15 if them from express office. If you send \$1.15 if them from express office. If you send \$1.15 if them from express office. If you send \$1.15 if them from express office. If you send \$1.15 if them from express office. If you send \$1.15 if them from express office. If you send \$1.15 if them from express office. If you have any doubt about me write to any Commercial Agency, Mr. A. R. Cobaugh, Cashier of the First National Bank of this city, (the bank of which Hon. Asa S. Bush-nell, Ex-Gov. of Ohio, is President,) or to any of your friends in Springfield.

GEO. S. BECK, 420 S. Market St. Springfield, Ohio.



CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.



HE heavenly speculum at the New Moon, which occurs at about 13 minutes past 8 o'clock in the morning of the 8th of February, 1902, shows the 15th degree of Pisces rising and the 21st degree of Sagittarius culminating. The Lunation falls in the 18th house are also found the planets Venus, Mercury, and Mars nearly conjoined: Herschel is on the South Meridian. Saturn is in the 11th house about 8 degrees ahead of Jupiter and Neptune is below the earth in the 4th house of the figure.

The astrological promises of the figure are in the main good. Jupiter, the great benefic, being ruler of the Ascendant and Midheaven, and hence ruler of the scheme, stands in the 11th house unaffected and Herschel on the Meridian casts favorable rays to the conjoined luminaries. There seems to be but little if anything to detract from the favorable indications for the nation's welfare and progress. Herschel so near the meridian is indicative of some unusual trials to the chief executive of the country, foreshadowing a degree of unpopularity or disfavor by reason of his personal eccentricities or originality and independence of his methods. Saturn in the 11th shows a rebellious and troublesome element in Congress opposing the efforts of the administration for the public good. Jupiter the ruler of the figure being also present in the house indicates that the administration will prevail and effect legislation that will greatly promote the welfare of the nation and our people. Mars in the 12th house, in the congress of planets, gives caution to the authorities to avoid the outbreak of an eruptive disease of serious character in some one of the great prisons of the country; there will be some insubordination among prisoners, attended with violence or some bad fire in such places unless great care is had by those in-charge.

#### CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY, 1902.

FEBRUARY 1—Saturday. Use the early forenoon hours for buying or selling real estate or for having dealings with those engaged in the laborious occupations; but at the noon time keep the temper; avoid persons in authority; have no surgical operation performed,
especially to the region of the groin or the throat, as
high states of inflammation will be likely to ensue or the
heart and circulation will be adversely affected; look out
for sprains and hurts; give thy best attention to business in the afternoon, especially such as affects money
transactions, when also make purchases for both use and
profit.

2-Sunday. Indifferent and passive; a good day for complete rest.

complete rest.

3.—Monday. A fair day for the musical and artistic pursuits and all polite avocations, provided that no business pertaining to copyrights, patents or trademarks be done during the passing hours.

4.—Tuesday. Be up with the sun and employ every moment of the day; literary labors are performed with more facility than usual, especially such as pertain to the elegant in life; commercial transactions with mechanics and manufacturers should be urged; deal in cattle, metals, cutlery, chemicals, glassware and electrical machinery and apparatus, also all classes of musical and dramatic merchandise; social entertainments will be unusually agreeable during this day and execution will be remarkable in all artistic and decorative work.

work.

5-Wednesday. Do not use this day for compounding mixtures of drugs, dyes, or perfumes; defer all transactions with mechanics, druggists and manufacturers of articles that please and gratify mankind.

6-Thursday. Avoid this time for doing business relating to buildings, architecture and agriculture; sign no leases, mortgages or deeds, and avoid aged persons; as the noon time is passing make beginnings in all transactions pertaining to banks and money matters generally; make collections and adjust accounts; also make purchases for trade in regularly established business.

7-Friday. Crowd all business connected with ma-

7—Friday. Crowd all business connected with machinery, hardware, or where fire and chemicals are much used and required; make experiments in chemistry and have dealings with sculptors, engravers, gunsmiths, dentists, gas-fitters, tanners, etc.

tists, gas-fitters, tanners, etc.

8 — Naturday. A superior day, in which all affairs of life may be urged with good success; the time is peculiarly propitious for making commencements in all mechanical work of an artistic or decorative nature, especially if connected with public affairs or for government authorities; seek favor from public officials and have dealings with railways and other great corporate bodies; the time is excellent for executive work of all kinds and the artistic pursuits are favored in an eminent degree.

9—Sunday. Influences are adverse to best advancement of religious interests and church matters, though conducive to eloquent pulpit utterances and mental efforts; the day generally will be excitable and likely to provoke disputes and controversies, and it suggests patience and self-control.

10-Monday. Sign no money obligation on this day nor have any dealings with pawnbrokers or money-lenders of any class; shun transactions with public men and all representatives of corporate bodies; make bargains in the evening pertaining to houses or lands or their improvements.

11-Tucaday. Crowd all thine affairs to the utmost on this day; buy goods to sell again; deal with banks and other monied institutions; urge collections; seek money accommodations and press matters connected with charitable works and ecclesiastical affairs.

12—Wednesday. Defer matters of much importance in the artistic and literary pursuits; do not sign writings or make engagements or contracts pertaining to any manufacturing enterprise or the publication of polite literature.

13.—Thursday. Use the forenoon for all business relating to the fine arts and all musical and dramatical matters; look out for the pennies in the afternoon when little financial gain can be expected and when no purchases should be made either for use or trade; the latter part of the day is to be preferred for unusual mental efforts and for urging extensive correspondence, and solution of knotty mathematical problems.

lution of knotty mathematical problems.

14—Friday. The mind will be acute and imagination active at this time. Urge all general business; adjust accounts and crowd all literary and scientific pursuits; commercial matters are especially favored and contracts concerning the publication of surgical, mechanical and chemical works may be now successfully entered into; give preference to the afternoon for dealing with lumbermen, agriculturists, builders and real estate traders.

15—Saturday. Defer matters of much importance in the artistic and literary pursuits; do not sign writings or make engagements or contracts; this is a poor time to replenish the stock of artistic, fancy, or decorative goods or to make engagements in dramatic matters; seek favor or advantage from persons of means in the evening.

or advantage from persons of means in the evening.

16. Sunday, Beware of a too-ready tongue in the morning hours when disputes and mental hurts are likely. Pulpit utterances are likely to be voluble and aggressive rather than pacific or conciliatory; conditions are conducive to combustion and fires and explosions are likely during the night preceding this day.

17—Monday. Begin this day early and waste no moments in idleness; the time is specially favorable for the merchant and tradesman and for all engaged in the artistic or literary avocations; trade in wearing apparel and articles of decoration or adornment; urge correspondence, deal with mathematicians and scientists,

publishers, printers, brokers, teachers, commercial travellers, tailors, milliners, musicians and theatrical

18—Tuesday. Do not relax thine efforts of yester-day, but urge general business to the utmost, giving preference to the forenoon for thine engagements with manufacturers, chemists and machinists, when also ex-periment in chemistry and urge avocations conducted by the use of fire and sharp tools; seek no favor at the hands of thine employer in the latter half of the day.

nands of thine employer in the latter half of the day.

19—Wednesday. An evil day, likely to be noted for fires, excitement and sudden accidents; the criminal classes are excited to special activity and human passions will need to be well controlled for avoidance of very evil consequences; be sure not to make any engagement with builders or contractors for excavations; keep out of dangerous places underground, and do not make any bargains for houses or lands or any class of mining properties.

20—Thursday. Do not be led into extravagant ex-penditures nor make any investment of thy means for speculative purposes and see that losses do not come to thee through thine own carelessness.

21—Friday. The early morning is the best part of the day; do not purchase any articles of an artistic or decorative nature, or any wearing apparel in the forenoon or noon hours; avoid transacting business with publishers, lawyers, churchmen and all engaged in educational ventures, in the afternoon and evening.

22—Saturday. Give no cause for offense to thine employer nor seek any promotion on this day; beware of vicious animals and be very careful in handling fire-arms and chemicals; bad fires are likely, involving large money losses in the next twenty-four hours; keep out of all kinds of disputes and controversies.

23 Sunday. Thy pastor's discourse is likely to contain many peculiar sentiments and many radical and original ideas and the oddities and curiosities of life engage the thoughts; the aged are pleasantly disposed in the evening.

the evening.

24—Monday. Press thy most important engagements in trade during the middle hours of the day; when also deal with the banker and persons of wealth and prominence; solicit money accommodations and buy goods for trade except the artistic and decorative in character; the musical and social entertainments of the evening will not prove satisfactory.

25—Tuesday. Favorable for courtship, marriage, pleasure-seeking, house-furnishing and for all matters connected with the fine arts; also for the beginning of undertakings connected with books and publications; make written applications to public officers and superintendents in corporate bodies for favor or advantages.

26—Wednesday. Disappointment is likely to at-

26—Wednesday. Disappointment is likely to attend thy footsteps during the forenoon of this day, when thou shouldst not seek any advantage from dealings with builders, contractors, real estate men or any persons engaged in the dirty or laborious avocations.

27—Thursday. Pecuniary losses are among the effects induced by the prevailing conditions of this day; so be thou careful that thy purchases are prompted by necessity rather than for profit or self-gratification; beware of signing thy name to any written obligation to pay money; ask favors of thine employer in the afternoon.

noon.

28—Friday. Baffling circumstances attend the prosecution of regular business relating to fancy and ornamental goods, musical merchandise and also the pursuit of the fine arts; beware of making any matrimonial engagement at this time nor expect much enjoyment from the pursuit of pleasure or amusements.

#### SELF HOME TREATMENT FOR LADIES.

I will send free, with full instructions, some of this simple preparation for the cure of Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacement and all Female troubles, to all ladies sending address. I have nothing to sell. Tell other sufferers of it—that is all I ask. MRS. SUMMERS, Box 420, Notre Dame, Ind.

MONG the Mohammedans drunkenness is practically unknown. All intoxicating drinks are forbidden in the Koran, and for thirteen hundred years one hundred and eighty million Moslems have obeyed

#### Fleming Bros. Live Stock Remedies.

Readers of Comport who are interested in live stock and have animals afflicted with Lump Jaw, Spavins, Fistula and Poll Evil, should write Fleming Bros., Chemists, Union Stock Yards, Chicago, who prepare remedies for the cure of these diseases. Their advertisements appear in this issue.

HE wandering Arab lives almost entirely upon brown bread, because it contains in itself the nourishing properties of several kinds of food; as it contains albumen, phosphate of lime, gluten and fibrine, it makes bone, muscle, blood and tissue.

Can you use three dollars a day? Of course you can. Every person can. See back page of this paper.

There are more than 500 separate muscles in the

#### THE LIGHTEST METAL

in the world is Aluminum. You have no idea how well it is adapted to every-day use unless you have one of our Frosted Silver Finish Aluminum Pencils, vest pocket size, patent lead protecting delivery when not in use, can be concealed and prevent lead from breaking. A business man's pencil, a ladies' pencil, or for school children there is no equal. To get our big catalogue of novelties into new hands we will send one for only 5c.

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If you suffer from Epileptic Fits, Falling Sickness and all you are asked to do is to send for my FREE RETIEDIES and try them. They have cured thousands where everything else falled. Sent absolutely free with complete directions, express prepaid. Please give AdE and full address.

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Full 5 Days Treatment
ABSOLUTELY FREE By Sealed Mail.

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#### NO C. O. D. OR DEPOSIT SCHEME.

For years the cry has gone up from hundreds and thousands of men, young and old, for a remedy that would rid them of the terrible result of early follies or excesses, or of the overwork and worry that spatiality.

The medical profession of this country seemed powerless to cope with the appalling and disastrous diseases and annoying weaknesses of men resulting from violation of Nature's laws.

POWER OF "CALTHOS" PROVED.

The first day you take the treatment you will be benefited. The second day you will feel an improvement. The third day you will show a gain both

#### PROF. LABORDE'S WONDERFUL DISCOVERY.

PROF. LABORDE'S WONDERFUL DISCOVERY.

It remained for the eminent French authority,
Prof. Jules Laborde, to conduct scientific inquiry
into the cause and cure of Lost Vitality, Sexual
Weakness, Spermatorrhea, Epilepsy, Impotency,
Small Parts, and the world today acknowledges the
supremacy of the wonderful remedy "CALTHOS."
The Von Mohl Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio,
recognizing the commercial value of Prof. Laborde's
discovery, secured the sole American rights for
"CALTHOS." and through its agency thousands
of men who suffered from sexual diseases and enfeebling nervous maladies have been restored to
health and the virile powers of perfect manhood.

of men who suffered from sexual diseases and enfeebling nervous maladies have been restored to health and the virile powers of perfect manhood.

THE YON MOHL CO'S. REMARKABLE OFFER.
We are now authorized, by The Yon Mohl Company, to announce that every min who sends simply his name and address will be supplied absolutely free by scaled mail, with five-days full treatment of "CALTHOS." This is no C. O. D. or Deposit Scheme, and there is positively no condition attached to the offer. You need not give humiliating details regarding your trouble. You need not send one cent of money—not even a postage stamp. All

The Von Mohl Company for the free treatment will be supplied absolutely free by scaled mail, with five-days full treatment of "CALTHOS." This is no C. O. D. or Deposit Scheme, and there is positively no condition attached to the offer. You need not give humiliating details regarding your trouble. You need not send one cent of money—not even a postage stamp. All

The Von Mohl Company has thousands of testimonials, and your correspondence is sacredly confidential. Many who take only the live-days free treatment with that they are entirely curred.

For the sake of your family and friends, as well asserted to the offer. You need not send one cent of money—not even a postage stamp. All

POWER OF "CALTHOS" PROVED.

The first day you take the treatment you will be benefited. The second day you will feel an improvement. The third day you will note an increase of strength. The fourth day will show a gain both mentally and physically. The fifth day you will feel like a new man. If you suffer from any form of Nervous Decline and Sexual Weakness, Spermatorrhea, Varicocele, Impotency, Small Parts, Night Sweats, Palpitation of the Heart, Nervousness, Consumous of Memory, you can positively be cured by "CALTHOS," but if the disease has progressed to the stage marked by the symptoms of Epilepsy, Consumption or Insanity, we cannot promise complete recovery.

PROMPT ACTION IMPORTANT

#### PROMPT ACTION IMPORTANT.

### **WHY WERE YOU BORN?**

ASTROLOGY tells you the why & wherefor of all matters pertaining to you and your well-being.
To show you the powers of ASTROLOGY I will send you a

ASTROLOGICAL HOROSCOPE FREE.

Send me your date of birth and 2c, return postage. My Read-lags have made thousands of people happy and prosperous for life and you will not regret it if you write to me. I give you my personal attention and treat all letters as confidential. Write at once. PROF. H. EDISON, T., ASTROLOGER, Binghamton, N. Y. — I AM KNOWN AS THE MOST EXPERT ASTROLOGER IN THE U. S.—



GET MARRIED 8000 LADIES are anxious to marry. Many very beautiful and wealthy. Big sealed list with full descriptions and P.O. addresses mailed Free. Reliable. Unlea Cor. Clab, 608 Austin Sta. Chicago

## PILES Absolutely cured. Never to return. A Boon to Sufferers. Acts like Magic. Trial box MAILED FREE. Address, Dr.E.M.Botot,Box 978,Augusta,Me.

## Drunkard

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## A Complete Outfit of 44 Tools FREE.

EVER SEEN: NEEDED IN EVERY HOUSE

EVER SEEN: NEEDED IN EVERY HOUSE

IN THE WORLD.; iii

Hundreds of dollars are wasted every year in paying for repairs which could be done by you just as well as by the person you hire. "Yes," you will say, "I could do this work if I only had the tools." which could be done by you just as well as by the person you hire. "Yes," you will say, "I could do this work if I only had the tools." which you could but it is the pay him for his time which you could you ratching him do the work which you could you watching him do the work which you could you read to you could you watching him do the work which you could you for last it is the you have not was ever seen, and we will seel the entire outfit for less than half the money for which you could by it is no last for childen as the young of the property of the work of the work of the your directions to ready for mean's work; I i roon last for women's work; I i roon last for childen last for women's work; I i roon last for women's work; I i shochammer; I shockenife; I peon stand for lasts; I shochammer; I shockenife; I peon stand for lasts; I shochammer; I shockenife; I peon stand for lasts; I shochammer; I shockenife; I shockenife;

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# A Profitable Business

FOR MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE

#### WILLING WORK. TO \$3.00 A DAY SURE.

DEAR READER:

If you are out of work, or are not satisfied with your present business and would like to make more money, it will be to your interest to read this notice. We do not offer you a chance to make a fortune without work, but we do offer you an opportunity to make money much faster than you can make it at any other kind of work. The country is flooded with circulars offering chances to make money at the rate of from twenty to fifty dollars a day; such offers are not business-like, and all agents who amount to anything are disgusted with such circulars, and most of them are thrown aside without being read. If you are looking for an opportunity to make twenty to fifty dollars a day, you might as well throw this notice aside also; but if you would like to engage in a good paying business, you will do well to read this notice through carefully. Then you can use your own judgment as to whether our offer is a reasonable one or not.

We guarantee that anyone who is willing to work can make from \$3 to \$5 a day at this business. We admit that \$3 to \$5 a day is not much of an inducement when compared to the statements made by some firms, who offer all the way from \$20 to \$50 a day for selling various articles. We do not make you such glowing promises, but what we do offer you has the advantage of being true. We might offer agents a sure chance of making from \$20 to \$50 a day, but the chances are that anyone who would believe such unreasonable nonsense would not know -enough to earn his board at any kind of business. That is not the kind of agents we are in quest of; we want reliable agents with common sense, who are willing to work for good pay, and not those who are looking for an opportunity to make a fortune without work. We believe the only way to get such agents and keep them, is to furnish them with a good thing to sell, a real genuine bargain, and then to tell them the exact truth about genuine bargain, and then to tell them the exact truth about the business. We have a large number of agents at work, and we know for a certainty what working agents can make. We know that \$3 a day is the very lowest; most of our agents are averaging \$4 and \$5 a day, and often some of them make a good deal more than that. We have several agents who are clearing from \$7 to \$10 a day. But these are great workers operating in the best territory, and, of course, everyone cannot do as well, but it is easy for anyone to make, at the very least, \$3 a day above all expenses 1; any territory. We haven't a single working agent who is clearing, on an average, less than \$3 a day. Now, be sure that you understand us: We don't say that lazy, shiftless agents will make \$3 a day, for they can't do it at this or any other business, but what we do say is that agents who are willing to work, not too hard, but the same as they would expect to work at any other business, can easily clear \$3 a day above all expenses, in any territory, and if they have good territory to work in they can make anywhere from \$5 to \$7, and even \$10 a day. If you want a good chance to work and get good pay for it, you will find it to your interest to read this notice through carefully.

The articles which we have for you to sell are a line of forks, spoons, etc., made of a new metal called "Brazil Silver." We will describe this new line of goods the best we can, then you can judge for yourself whether we are offering you a good chance to make money or not. the business. We have a large number of agents at work, and

#### BRAZIL SILVER.

#### Warranted for Twenty-five Years.

Brazil Silver is believed to be the very best metal in existence for the manufacture of forks and spoons; it has all the lustre and brilliancy of burnished coin silver, and is much harder and more durable, in fact, it is impossible to wear it out. It is absolutely indestructible. The goods made of this metal are the same all the way through, there being no plating to wear off they will remain as good as new for any length of time. For all practical purposes in the manufacture of table ware this Brazil Silver is superior to coin silver. It is as lustrous and as pure as coin silver, and being much harder it will wear even longer than silver; in fact it is absolutely impossible to wear it out. It will wear forever. As there is no plating to wear off, the metal being the same all the way through, it stands to reason that you can't wear it out. Our confidence in the metal is so great that we guarantee it to wear twenty-five years. We give a guarantee signed by the company warranting the goods to wear and to give perfect satisfaction for twenty-five years. We are an old, strong and thoroughly established firm with ample capital to carry on our business and make our guaranty as good as the Bank of England. In selling these goods an agent can recommend them with the greatest of confidence, for they are just as represented, absolutely indestructible. And, furthermore, our guarantee warranting the goods to give satisfaction for twenty-five years, clears the agent from all responsibility in the matter; for if any article fails to give perfect satisfaction, no matter how long it has been in use, we hold ourselves ready no matter how long it has been in use, we hold ourselves ready to refund the money paid for the article. These goods are the same metal all the way through; they will never wear out. They always wear white and bright. We give a guarantee signed by the company, warranting every piece of Brazil Silver to wear twenty-five years. You can sell these goods to your best friends with perfect confidence, for every sale is as much a benefit to your customer as to yourself.

Working with goods that are warranted to wear and give satisfaction for so long a time as twenty-five years, and by a Company, too, whose capital is sufficiently large to make their guarantee good for almost any amount, is an advantage which no other firm is prepared to offer. If you want to make money fast now is the time to do it. If you think that fivedollar bills are good things to have, now is the time to get them. Never in the history of the agency business have agents had as good a chance to make money rapidly, and it is reasonably sure that they will never have another chance like it.

It is easy to make from \$3 to \$5 a day at this business.

#### All Marked with Initial Letters, Without any Extra Cost.

Among all classes there has always been a strong desire to have their table ware marked with their initial letter, but on account of the heavy expense of having it marked only a very few have been able to afford it. Heretofore the cost of artistically marking table ware has been even greater than the cost of the goods; now, by our new methods, we are able to offer these elegant Brazil Silver goods, all marked with any initial letter desired in the very highest style of the art, without any extra cost for marking. These Brazil Silver goods, even if unmarked, would be the greatest bargain ever offered the public in table ware, but with the additional and highly desirable feature of being all marked with beautiful and artistic initial letters, these goods are not only great bargains in table ware, but are the greatest bargains of any kind that have ever been offered to the public through agents or in any other way.

The people are always ready enough to buy what they want when it is presented to them in the form of a genuine bargain. Well, here is absolutely the greatest bargain every offered, and the agent who works with it will find that what he has is earnestly desired at nearly every house he visits; it is easy to get orders when you can offer great bargains, that the people really want and can afford.

It is easy to make from \$3 to \$5 a day at this business.

#### Table and Dessert Knives.

Our knives are made of the finest tempered cutlery steel and are triple plate, in other words every dozen knives is plated with 12 dwt. of pure silver and hand burnished. Our knives are of the highest grade, fully equal to Rogers' or any knives made. These knives will not wear as long as Brazil Silver goods, but they will wear as long as any knives made. We guarantee them to wear ten years in constant use. If not in constant use they will wear proportionately longer. We give a guarantee, signed by the Company, warranting the knives to wear and to give perfect satisfaction to the purchaser for ten years. As knives are usually used in families they will wear much longer, anywhere from fifteen to twenty years. They are fully equal to Rogers' knives and only cost about two-thirds as much. It may seem strange to some that we can sell so staple an article as silver plated knives at such reduced prices, but we are doing it. It is our way of giving the public good, solid value for their money. We are saving our customers about one-third of the price at which the same grade of knives are sold at the stores and jewelers. Any one who will take the trouble to compare our knives and prices with triple plate 12 dwt. knives sold at the stores and jewelers, will be convinced of the truth of our statements. We are making a profit, of course, but our unequal facilities and immense trade make it possible for us to undersell all competitors, and our customers are getting the benefit of the lowest prices known in the silverware trade. We are not only selling at greatly reduced prices, but we also guarantee every article to be exactly as represented and to give perfect satisfaction to the purchaser, or money refunded.

The First Thing to Do. 12 dwt. of pure silver and hand burnished. Our knives are of the

#### The First Thing to Do.

If you decide to accept the agency, the first thing to do is to send to us for the agent's case of samples, which is the most complete and perfect case of samples that has ever been prepared for the convenience of agents. Our complete and perfect case of samples is not to be compared with anything that has ever been sent to agents before. It contains the very best and most salable articles in the world. There is nothing in the mar-ket that agents can sell as fast and sell as easily and make as much money out of, as they can the goods contained in this as much money out of, as they can the goods contained in this splendid case of samples, and everything is arranged and explained so that any agent can't fail to understand just how to go to work to make a great success of the business. As soon as you receive the case of samples you are ready for business. And if you are willing to work you are just as sure to make from \$3\$ to \$5\$ a day as the sun is to rise. Take the case of samples and canvass your territory according to the directions sent with the samples, until you have taken orders for the amount of goods you are prepared to send for. Then order the goods from us and fill your orders, and so continue.

#### The Magnificent Case of Samples Which We Furnish to Agents.

The case of samples which we furnish to agents contains the following articles: One Sample Table Knife, retail price, \$2.10 per set of six One Sample Dessert Knife, retail price, \$1.95 per set of six 32 1-2 cents each One Sample Table Fork, retail price, \$1.95 per set 32 1-2 cents each One Sample Table Spoon, retail price, \$1.95 per set 32 1-2 cents each One Sample Dessert Fork, retail price, \$1.80 per set of six cents each

Pickle Cruets, Butter Dishes, Tea Sets, Napkin Rings, etc., etc., etc., etc.
Reckoning the above samples at our lowest retail prices they amount to \$2.831-3. We furnish them to agents nicely put up in an elegant sample case or roll, for only \$1.00, which is \$1.83 1-3 less than they amount to at our reguler retail prices. This is less than one-half of the retail value of the samples, and much less than they cost us. The sample case or roll, which the samples are put up in costs us nearly as much as we require you to send for the samples, case and all.

#### Wholesale Prices.

Wholesale or agents' prices and all necessary information for carrying on the business will be furnished with the Outfit. Reeverything plain to you about wholesale prices, methods, etc., when we send you the Outfit.

#### VERY IMPORTANT.

The business we are offering is straightforward and honest in everyway, shape and manner. Our goods are in every respect, just as we represent them to be. The Outfit we furnish our agents is exactly as we represent it, and is always sent the same day the order is received, just as agreed. We have tried to state these facts so they could and would be believed and still we are constantly receiving letters from parties who would like to engage in the business and would do so if they felt sure we were telling the truth and would do as we agree. Many of these doubters have been cheated and are not altogether to blame for doubting; the most of them say they think we are honest, they say we talk honest, but as they have already been swindled they don't feel like risking even one dollar and so, although our business is in every respect just as

represented, and we always do just as we promise, we lose the services of a great many agents and they lose the benefit they might derive from the business because they are afraid we may not be telling the truth. Now, to overcome this spirit of doubt, we have decided to send Samples to all who wish us to do so, C. O. D., with privilege of examination at the express office. It costs us from twenty-five to forty cents more to send the samples this way, as we have to pay that amount for return charges on the money, but we are willing to do it and so prove to all that are interested that the Outfit and our goods are just what

we claim. If after reading this notice you think you would like to give the business a trial but wish to see the Sample Case be-fore you pay the one dollar cut out the following printed form, fill it out and send it to us and we will send the Outfit to your express office prepaid, and give the express agent instruc-tions to let you thoroughly examine the Outfit, then, if you are tions to let you thoroughly examine the Outfit, then, it you are satisfied that we have told the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and are also satisfied that you can make money selling our goods, you can pay the express agent \_ One dollar and take the Outfit. If you are not satisfied, you can refuse to take it and the agent will return it to us. No other firm has ever made such an offer. We have adopted this plan in order to convince the most skeptical and to secure the services of all the good working agents in the United States.

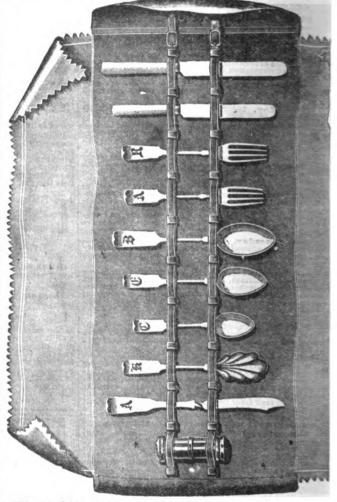
(CUT OUT THE FOLLOWING FORM.) Form to be Signed by those who wish us to send the Outfit C. O. D. with Privilege of Examination.

ROYAL MANUFACTURING CO., DETROIT, MICH.:

GENTLEMEN—Send the Outfit by Express, C. O. D., with privilege of examination. If I find the Outfit just as you say, I will pay the one dollar required and give the business a fair trial, but if I am not satisfied that the Outfit is as good as you recommend it to be, I shall refuse to receive it. Now, remember, the understanding is that I am not to take the Outfit unless I, myself, am satisfied that it is all right. It must all depend on my own judgment. If I am satisfied, I will take the Outfit; if I am not satisfied, I shall not take it and shall not pay the one dollar If you want to send the Outfit with this understanding, send it along C. O. D., with privilege of examination.

Name..... Postoffice..... County...... State.....

Express Station.....



This cut shows the Sample Case or Roll, and how the samples appear put up ready for business. The Roll is made of highly appear put up ready for business. The Roll is made of highly finished waterproof canvas, and lined with soft fiannel goods. The samples are held in place by strong straps. The whole rolls up and fastens with a leather strap which is firmly fastened to the back of the Roll. This is the most practical arrangement for carrying the samples that could be thought of. When rolled up the Case is compact and easy to carry. When open the samples show to the best possible advantage, making a good impression at first sight. This Sample Roll gives a business-like appearance; it is substantial and handsome, and invariably gives the impression that there is something valuable inside. All are anxious to see what it is you are carrying around with such carc. This is of importance as it secures attention and interest at the start. There is nothing like having your samples put up in 2 business-like shape; it gives a favorable impression from the ctart, which is half the battle. It is the same in all matters. A store that looks like business attracts customers; while, from a shanty store, you would not, as a rule, expect the best things. The fact is, in the agency business, as in every other business, you must have things fixed up just right if you expect to succeed. Our Brazil Silver Goods are the best that have ever been offered for the price, or anywhere near it. The new feature of being marked with beautiful and artistic initial letters, free of cost, is the greatest popular hit of the times; and the Sample Roll is arranged so as to show the goods off to the best possible advantage. Furthermore, we carefully teach every agent just how to take advantage of all these splendid qualities and popular features. Is it any wonder that our agents succeed better than those who are working for other firms?

We Prepay all Express Charges on Everything. We pay the charges on the Outfit and on all goods ordered. Remember, we pay all express charges. finished waterproof canvas, and lined with soft flannel

ROYAL MANUFACTURING CO., Box 6700, DETROIT, MICH.

HON. HAZEN S. PINGREE, lichigan's Famous Governor, says we are worthy of your confidence.

To Whom it May Concern: In answer to all inquiries I have received concerning the standing of the Royal Manufacturing Company of Detroit, Mich., I have invariably replied that the Company is in every worthy of the confidence of all. In regard to its financial standing and the trustworthiness of the gentlemen connected with it the reading public may rely upon them implicitly.

HAZEN S. PINGREE.



AUGUSTA, MAINE.
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Incorporated.

BOSTON





#### PRIZE STORIES.

The following conditions govern the awarding of cash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have complied with all these requirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be necessary particulars or their information or personal furous by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set form, it will be useless for anyone to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

1. Only persons who are regular paid up yearly subscribers to "Confort" and who send with every manuscript at least four yearly subscribers (logether with 25 cents to pay for each subscriber so sent) may compete for the prizes.

2. All contributions must have the number of words they contain plainly noted thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with nom de plume if desired: must be written on one side of the paper only, enclosed in the same envelope as the letter and remittance for new subscriptions, and addressed to Editor Nutshell Story Club care of Compourt, Augusta, Maine.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributors, and must not have appeared in print before. Competitors may be used upon fact, funcy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; or city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 2,000 or less than 1,000 words.

4. No manuscript will be returned under Any Greupstances and competitions should therefore Retain a copy of what they send.

5. From \$5 to \$20 will be paid for stories, and remittances will be sent by check as soon as avards have been made.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Short Story Prize Offer.

The Publishers of "Comfort" reserve the right to purchase at their established rates any stories submitted under the foregoing offer, which failed to secure a prize.

The Publishers of "Comfort" reserve the right to purchase at their established rates any stories submitted under the foregoing offer, which failed to secure a prize.

Writers who hear nothing of their manuscript may at the end of 90 days after submitting them to "Comfort" feel at liberty to offer their stories for sale elsewhere.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR FEBRUARY.

Holman F. Day, First Prize. Charles Edward Barns, Second Prize. Rodman Mills, Third Prize. Herman Gray, Fourth Prize.

#### Cupid and Cap. Gregg.

Love's Wandering Astray, Being Episode Number 1.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.



HE cook, the mate and the crew of the topmast schooner, Susan P. Gregg, Hobb's Harbor, Me., sat on the end of the scuttle butt mumbling to himself. Occasionally he emitted a growl like a sleigh runner screaking over bare ground. Then he fell to muttering ominously once more. It was evident that the cook, etc., of the Susan was

not in an amiable mood.

The scene might have inspired more pleasant reflections. It was the sunset hour in the harbor at Newport, R. I. The blunt and weatherbeaten bows of the Susan swayed up soggily to meet the gentle surge. She had been anchored well up the harbor. All about her lay the spick and span yachts. Among them the Susan looked like a charwoman promenading Broadway. The cook, hunching his knees up under him glanced discontentedly out over the seamed rail at the shapely beauties swimming near on the rose-tinted flood.

"This is a thund'rin' nice place for us, now, hain't it?" he grumbled. "Here we are, lalligaggin' round here in this place lookin' like old Marm Jenkins would 'tendin' out on a Fifth Avenoo weddin' reception. That's what ye git by shippin' with a soft old fool."

Just then a yacht's tender conveying a merry party of smartly dressed society folk slipped around the bows of the old hooker. Instinctively the cook drew together the edges of a rent in the knee of his trousers and hooked his elbow over the place to conceal the difficulty.

The young women in the party made laughing comment on the aspect of the old craft.

That's jest it," grumbled the cook; "got to set here and have fun poked at us all because an old coot's gone to work and thinks he's got in love ag'in."

Seth got down off the scuttle butt and pulling a pin from the edge of his ragged vest "mollywhopped" the knee of his trousers together.

"I may be invited to a reception on one of them yachts there," he said to himself with grim satire, "so I might's well begin to slick **u**p."

Seth was a tall young fellow just turned twenty. For several years he had sailed with the skipper of the Susan who needed only one man to assist him in managing the old craft. Cap. Skote Gregg was never in any great hurry. His father had owned the Susan Gregg before him. The schooner had been left, even shares, to Skote and his sister July Ann, a spinster who still kept the old home treasures well scrubbed up. When he was on shore Cap. Gregg lived there for he was a bachelor still.



SAME PRICE

# Enameline

Brilliant, Clean, Easily Applied, Absolutely Odorless.



LIQUID-BETTER YET! FIRE PROOF!

farming operations on the home place. But he But he was able to put in more or less time on found it fairly profitable to make occasional trips to New York, carrying potatoes and apples down and bringing back general merchandise for the Hobb's Harbor folks.

Now it so happened a year before the time at which our log opens, the Susan through stress of weather had been obliged to wait at Newport until the skipper felt that the Cape Cod seas would be less spiteful in their cuffing.

Cap. Gregg had a cousin who lived in Newport and who was meat-cutter in a market. He seized the opportunity to make a call at the cousin's house. He was cordially received and before he had related all the Hobb's Harbor news tea-time had arrived and he was invited to remain. He stayed and spent the evening and the night, to the consternation of Seth who imagined that the skipper had been garroted in some back alley.

The cousin wished to procure a fourth hand for a little game of pede after supper and so he summoned in their next neighbor. He explained to Cap. Skote before she came, that she was a widow and that her husband had left her five thousand dollars in life insurance.

"Be a good chance for you, hey, Cap?" joked the cousin, prodding the skipper in the ribs. Be a mighty good chance if you wasn't hitched to Sophy the way you are."

Cap. Skote Gregg and Sophy Maxwell had been engaged to be married for nearly thirty years. But during the first fifteen years Sophy's mother had not been willing that the wedding should take place unless Cap. Gregg would agree to come and live with them. But the skipper on his part, was not willing to desert his own home. Then Sophy's mother died and her father was stricken with paralysis and it seemed to be her duty to stay with him until the end. Cap. Gregg was what the villagers called "slow motioned", and these setbacks to his matrimonial projects didn't worry him overmuch. He called on Sophy gravely, officially and regularly, and their engagement was one of the village land-marks. It became one of the things that the people dated from. The breaking of that engagement would have been as much of a local disaster as the carrying away of the Cow Nubble lighthouse.

Well, the widow came in on that evening that has been mentioned. Her name was Belle. She was slender and blonde and wistful. She wore a ribbon around her neck with the bow behind, and whenever one came near her he got a whiff of dainty perfume.

Cap. Gregg had never been in close proximity to a woman quite so charming as Belle. The women in Hobb's Harbor didn't wear those pretty crinkly shirt-waists. 'Twas either a calico gown or dress-up, formal black.

The Captain's wide-eyed and evident admiration seemed to attract the widow.

"It must be lovely to be a sea-captain and sail over the broad breast of the blue ocean away off to far lands," the widow said.

"Wal, the Susan coasts altogether, mum," replied the captain, "but still it's scrumptious enough in fair weather. We kind of slop along and take our own time on a trip."

"I have read a lot of sea-novels," said the widow, "and I know the life on the water must be perfectly entrancing. If I were a man I'd be a sea-captain and plough the deep, yo-ho."

"I enj'y it more'n I do farmin', myself," the skipper admitted. "The only thing is, a man gits lonesome, sort of, standin' there at the wheel all day and no one to talk to." He cast a languishing glance on the widow.

"How delightful it must be for a sea-captain to have his wife along with him," sighed the widow, so absorbed in contemplation that she nigged" twice on a trump lead, to the disgust of the cousin. "She could read to him as he steered and the fresh breath of the sea would be an inspiration."

"Yas, that's so," agreed the skipper. He was carrying seventy-five bags of superphosphate on that trip and he wondered guiltily how the "fresh breath" of that would affect the widow. But then, he didn't always carry superphosphate.

The skipper insisted on walking home with the widow though the cousin's wife said with some asperity that it wasn't necessary, because Belle lived only next door. The cousin's wife evidently didn't like the nature of the soft glances that had been passing across the table during the evening.

"The cap'n acts disgraceful for an engaged man," she sniffed scornfully to her husband after the pair had departed.

"Oh, these sailors is jest a little flirty," said the cousin.

"Well, a man fifty years old hain't got no right to be flirty," snapped the wife.

On his next trip to New York Cap. Gregg remained three days at Newport going, and a week coming back. Ostensibly he was visiting The Susan was out of commission about half his cousin for whom he seemed to have de- growled Seth, grinding his teeth. "He's go-

the widow's piazza, next door.

When he went away the cousin's wife had a talk with him.

"Cap'n,"said she,"have you and Sophy broke your engagement?"

"Wal-er-haw-no," stammered the skipper. "Hain't plannin' to, are ye?" demanded the stern interrogator.

"Wal, the fact is, I hadn't thought much about it," said the skipper.

"The fact is," retorted the cousin's wife. you can't break that engagement and be decent about it, and you know it."

"Engagements have been bruk'," suggested the captain.

"Not engagements like this one of yours," asserted the woman. "Now Sophy Maxwell is one of my best old-time friends and she and I were close as sisters when I lived in Hobb's Harbor. Belle is jest as good a friend to me now. I hain't goin' to see you break no hearts, Cap'n Skote Gregg. I known what these gay sailors be to trifle with affections of poor confldin' women. We're glad to have you call on us when you come this way but if I hear of your makin' up ag'in to the Widder Beals across there I'll write home to Sophy and tell her all about it and I'll write and tell your sister, too. And I shall tell your sister jest how much time you are wasting here on every 'yage. She owns ha'f that schooner."

Cap. Gregg ran a dry tongue over his lip. Then he started to say something, but he refrained. He knew his cousin's wife's vocal ability pretty well and he didn't care to engage in joint debate with her. Besides, if he provoked her she would write a story home that would turn the village upside down. First of all his spinster sister would scalp him-and he knew her temper. And everyone would take the side of Sophy and he would be an outcast. Yet he had to confess to himself that he did love the widow. She was so different from all the women he had ever met. He hadn't dared to say a word to her on the subject of love but he had looked love all the time and he had begun to believe that at last she took a little interest in him. A thrill ran through his breast every time he thought of that possibility. Just to think of having a woman like that to take back to Hobb's Harbor!

But with his cousin's wife's steely eye on him, he went away from Newport without daring to see the widow again.

Now that was four months before the abovementioned evening when the cook, the mate and the crew of the Susan was sitting on the scuttle butt muttering his discontent. During those months the captain had made a noble try to root the memory of the widow from his heart. He had virtuously sailed past Newport on his way to New York. He had intended to keep straight back on his way to Maine. But that afternoon as the Susan swashed up the Sound the skipper's resolution suffered a slump. He then felt the need of someone to confide in. So he confided in Seth who sat near him on the rail.

"Sophy's a dretful good woman and all that, Seth," the skipper had concluded, "but when ye're in love you can't argue yourself out of it. I'm goin' to run into Newport. Now see here! I want ye to keep a still tongue in your head and I'll need you to help me. I know you've been shinin' up to the Sims girl there in the village. Now ye know I'm her guardeen. Do you love her, Seth?"

"You bet I do," replied the cook, the mate and the crew.

"Well, Seth, these fellows in love must stand together."

But Seth's face remained groomy. Like anv other inhabitant of Hobb's Harbor he looked on the breaking of the skipper's engagement to Sophy Maxwell as he would on the excision of one of the Ten Commandments from the decalogue. Further than that he had an idea that the captain was in the toils of a siren. Seth looked on all city women with suspicion. But above all, Seth realized that if the Susan put into Newport he would probably be left to kick his heels for a week-and he wanted to get back to the Sims girl. If the reader has been in love at twenty years of age he will understand what Seth's feelings were. But he didn't dare make protest to the skipper. The skipper had a temper when he was roiled.

So now at the sunset hour Seth was telling his sorrows to the sad sea waves. The skipper was down below primping up for a trip ashore.

After Seth had pinned up the tear in his trousers he tiptoed along and peered through the dingy window of the "house." "Look at the old fool!" he growled.

The skipper was standing before a cracked mirror with head thrown back and was trying to button a paper collar on to the neck band of his flannel shirt. "Look at the blamed dude!"

the time because the skipper still kept up his veloped a sudden and consuming affection. in' on shore to have a good time and be don't give a tunket about me."

All about on the yachts was the ripple gay laughter mingled with the chatter c' voices. The old rhyme was ringing through Seth's brain:-

"And they've all got a mate but me!"

He looked down on the skipper with renewed venom. The latter finding the windox obscured looked up. Seth was grimacing in his helpless rage but fortunately the window was too dirty for the skipper to distinguish that fact.

"Hey, Seth," he called, "come down here and black my shoes, will ye? I'm in a hurry." Seth obeyed with new rancor in his beart. Beside being everything on the Susan except skipper he was now turned into a bootblack.

"Hain't ye got no other pair of trousers but them, Seth?" asked the skipper looking on the torn knee with great disfavor.

"Naw," Seth answered sullenly, rubbing way at the captain's boots.

The skipper reflected a minute. "Well, it will be dark, anyway," he said. "But ye don't look much like a cupid. Still, ye needn't go

in."
"Go in where?" inquired Seth.

"Look here, bub," explained the skipper. 'as I have told ye, Belle lives next door to my cousin's folks. Now I want you to do an errunt for me. · You've got to go ashore along 6 me and spy out to see if the coast is clear-see that the' hain't none of my cousin's folks about where they can see me. If they do they'll be writin' down to Hobb's Harborana then the kittle 'll bile over. Just knock on the widow's door and if ev'rything's all right tell her I'm comin' in to make a call."

"Wal, I sha'n't do no sech thing," snapped Setb.

"Harh-h-h?" yelled the skipper.

"I hain't goin' to do no sech errunt."

"Look here! You goin' to mutiny on me? I'll iron ye."

"I shipped as cook and 'fore the mast," said Seth sullenly, "and I didn't sign to do no mar-

riage brokerin' bug'ness." "Then ye sha'n't call on the Sims girl no more," threatened the skipper.

Seth looked up at him surlily. "I'm her guardeen," continued the captain of the Susun, 'and what I say goes."

"Jest the same, I hain't goin' to do it." declared Seth with great decision.

The skipper threw down the comb with which he was trailing the long wet locks up over his bald poll. He grabbed Seth by the arm. "Say ye won't ag'in," he snarled, "and I'll dress ye down with a rope's end!"

"If ye're goin' to abuse me I'll have ter go," half-blubbered Seth.

"Here," commanded Capt. Skote, "put a couple more pins in them pants and come help me lower the yawl. It don't make no difference how sociable we git, ye still want to remember that I'm the captain of the Susan P. Gregg. Do ye think ye've got that in your head now?"

Seth jerked his head without speaking and when the skipper motioned to the companionway he stumbled up the narrow stairs a head. In silence he fumbled at the davit blocks where the yawl was suspended. Thus instantly was suppressed the only mutiny that ever occurred on board the Nusan P. Gregg.

Five minutes later Seth was rowing the

weatherbeaten yawl across the heaving bress of the harbor of Newport.

[EDITOR'S NOTE:—This is the first episode in Capt. Skote Gregg's courtship career. In the March number of Comfort will be told the story of how sch performed the duty of Love's ambassador.]
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#### Caleb's Great "Scoop."

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY CHARLES EDWARD BARNS

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ATIONAL calamities," said the City Editor, as he picked the cherry from the bottom of the vermouth glass, "seldom have a redeeming feature of humor. But something occurred at the office of the 'Daily Scythe' during the solemn hours that followed the recent Buffalo tragedy that, so far as I know, has never lapsed into print. It shows how the ludicrous will now and then creep into our

gravest hours and somewhat mitigate their asperity. I trust no apologies are necessary-"

'None, unless you grow philosophic," remarked the Horse Editor of "The Woolgatherer," with soft sarcasm.

"Well, you know, 'Old Tim'-that's what we call the Manager-in-Chief,-came into the City room a couple of months ago and glanced over a bevy of reporters who sat there waiting for assignments. 'My private secretary is dead or married or something,' he explained sourly to me, 'and I want someone to fill his place.' Caleb Bemis, a raw young recruit from somewhere up in Vermont, sprang to his feet, and volunteered with such alacrity and afterward fulfilled the position with such efficiency that when the former Secretary returned, there was 'nothing doing,' as the boys say. Caleb was a fixture.

"It seems that Caleb was the town prodigy of Fairplains in the land of wooden nutmegs and maple sugar. He had taken the high school prize, and the Vermont town Macænas-you know there always is one-sent Caleb to some obscure college where he was graduated with all the honors they could afford to give any one man without going bankrupt. When Caleb returned to his native hamlet he was quite a hero, particularly as while at college he had written several 'pieces for the paper,' and everybody predicted a big future for him when he resolved to leave his native home and strike out for himself in the perilous waters of journalism.

"'And when you get to New York, Caleb, said the editor of the 'Fairplains Weekly Budget,' 'if you will send me a weekly letter, anything from a column up, I'll send you two dol-You know we can't pay so high as those city fellows, but we'll give you a heap sight more glory.' So Caleb spent one night every week perspiring over a yellow pad, penning the news of the great metropolis to the provincial Vermont town, and if the circulation was not increased thereby, at least there was no falling off, for the two dollars came with regularity. Then the private secretaryship to the Manager-in-Chief fell like a meteor upon Caleb out of a clear sky, and he grew am-

"His letters now gathered a certain momentum with increased honors and responsibilities. The editor of the 'Budget' increased Caleb's stipend to three dollars per week, curtailing expenses somewhere else to make up for it, and never failed to stop dear old Mrs. Bemis on the street whenever he saw her, and congratulate her upon the brilliant promise of her only son, till at last the woman's head was quite turned with pride. But as 'pride goeth before a fall,' here is the story.

"You remember when the news was flashed over the wires on that dark Friday from the everybody on the continent seemed paralyzed. sorts of surprises at any and every hour of the day, sat back in his chair perfectly flabbergasted, and for the first time in his life did nothing for thirty consecutive seconds but stare into space and think, his long claws clutching the dragon's-head arms of his chair. Beside him sat his faithful secretary, muttering to himself, as did a million other good Americans at that moment, 'What! The President shot? Impossible! It is a rumor-a practical joke-a lie!' But when the confirming tidings came in from every side and the great presses began to thunder out their 'extras,' Caleb turned his thoughts homeward. 'Cæsar!' he exclaimed. 'What a beat for the 'Budget!' My home paper out on Saturday morning, and even now is 'making ready.' I'll wire the news on instantly.' So Caleb rushed to the telegraph room.

"The editor of the 'Fairplain Weekly Budget' was just in the act of blue-penciling the last opinion of 'Vox Populi' and 'Pro Bono Publico' preparatory to 'making up the forms' and going to press when the station agent, who was his own operator and messenger-boy, rushed in and laid the yellow envelope before the editor. Telegrams did not come so often

longer to give a thrill of misgiving; but when the old gentleman drew down his 'specks' from his grizzled forehead and read the damp thousand dollars a month for cable and telescrawl, he simply sat back and groaned. 'Poor Caleb!' he murmured. 'He has gone stark raving mad. 'President shot,' indeed! What inside the office and then peddled in the provdoes he think I am? And such a brilliant young mind too. Dear, dear! I do hope no one will hear of this. I can't understand it. Either Caleb Bemis has gone crazy, or else he has gotten into bad company and taken to drink. At any rate, I must see his mother. Bless her heart! what a blow this will be to her. Seizing his battered tile, the editor and proprietor a new private secretary. of the 'Budget' hurried out into the closing day and started up the hill to the Bemis cotage.

"The good mother saw the terrible look in her visitor's eyes, and the yellow sheet in his right hand gave her a sudden faintness. She met the bent figure and solemn countenance with blanched cheeks. 'What has happened to Caleb? Quick, tell me, Squire. Is he—is he

"'No, Mrs. Bemis, not dead, only raving that!'

"The poor mother took the sheet, read it, then dropped into her armchair, sobbing. 'Oh, this is awful!' she wept. 'I knew that something would happen if Caleb went to that wicked city. Oh, why did he not stay here where he would be out of temptation? And he never drank a thing in his life before-I am sure of it. Oh, Squire, please be lenient with him. I'm sure it was only a little practical joke, or something like that. I'll write him to come home immediately and apologize. Shall I pay you for the message?'

" 'It was paid, Madam,' said the Squire, as if this only confirmed the evidence of Caleb's terpitude or insanity. 'I'll be easy with him, Madam, but this must not pass unnoticed. I shall refuse hereafter to publish your son's weekly effusions, and the three dollars per week will cease. That's all, Madam. Good evening!' And the Editor, with his duty done, sauntered back toward the office with his nose in the air, while poor weeping Maria Bemis sat down and poured forth her heart in a prayer of appeal to her son to account for his crazy telegram to the editor of the 'Budget,' and to come home before he had lapsed into such iniquities as would certainly bring him to hopeless ruin. This letter she despatched with her own hand.

"The next morning the townsfolks of Fairplain read a paragraph which began:

"Our late young fellow townsman, Caleb Bemis, was always a practical joker, but it might be better for him if he left off boyish might be better for him it he left off boylsa things now that he is a man. Practical jokes are sometimes very grave affairs, and involve people in serious difficulties. It is not our intention to be unduly hard on Caleb, but the gravity of the offence, even though it be his first since he has become a sojourner of the wicked city of New York, demands that, etc., etc."

"The Squire slept a little later than usual that morning, and was aroused from a nightmare in the full glare of day by his good wife who burst upon him like a thunderbolt. 'Richard, Richard!' she cried out, ramming her fingers into his ribs, 'do you know that Caleb Bemis's telegram was true? The President was shot at Buffalo yesterday afternoon, 'by a man who concealed a revolver in a handkerchief,' just as he told it. Here is the Burlington Courier' extra. You may doubt Caleb or even me, but you never doubted the 'Courier,' in your life. There, read it! The whole town of Fairplain has turned into the streets. Come and see for yourself.'

"The old Squire had struggled up on his pillow, the very picture of a criminal reading his death-warrant. He scanned the flaming sheet before him, then flopped back moaning. 'My heavens! And here I missed the 'scoop' of my life. What shall I do, what shall I do?

"Of course when Caleb received the copy of the 'Fairplain Weekly Budget' which did not Exposition grounds at Buffalo, everything and contain his great 'beat,' but instead of which made an editorial at the 'scooper' that was all Even 'Old Tim,' used as he was to receiving all but mortal, Caleb was very angry; but his rounded by four huge barns where fancy stock mother's letter-that made him simply furious. was kept-cattle that make Holbrook-on-the-Nor did the special delivery letters which followed that day, one from the proud woman on the hilltop and the other from the Squire, in the least appease him. The Editor's missive was most abject, the more so in that the 'Budget' had lost the opportunity of fourfolding its circulation at one bound. 'I shall come out editorially retracting my idiotic statement about practical jokes, Hiram,' the Squire's letter ran, 'and I shall continue your weekly letters at five dollars per, even if I must discharge the 'devil' and ink the forms myself to do it. And one thing more, Caleb, never, never again will I hesitate when you send me any communication, by telegraph or otherwise. I will print it in full on the front page in double-leaded black face, giving you all the glory,' etc., etc.

"But upon this letter Caleb gnashed his teeth. The one grand coup of his life had fizzled out like a bomb that fails to explode.

"But the worst was to come. Somehow in the office the story leaked out within a week, and 'Old Tim' the Manager-in-Chief got on the windward side. It was his turn now to be furious. 'See here, Caleb,' he said savagely as to the 'Budget' office that they failed any he came in after his chops and mug of musty farm hands heard the splash far below. Next

up at Peter's-that always puts him in a fighting mood, - what do you think we pay seventy graph tolls from all over the world if it is to have our exclusive news stolen by trusted men inces? Your week is up today, sir. Leave the office and take a year's vacation at your own expense. When you come back perhaps you will know a good thing well enough to nurse it when you've got hold of it. That will do, sir. Good day!' And 'Old Tim' stalked out into the City room to look over the recruits for

"Poor Caleb was in despair. He packed up his trumperies in awful silence and strode down the rear stair, mentally wishing that the 'Fairplain Weekly Budget,' together with its bungling editor was in the depths of Purgator. With bowed head he passed into the street, wending slowly and sadly by a noisy telegraph office. At last he paused, for a furious desire to be avenged surged upon him. It was Friday-just one week from the 'scoop' that failed. There was a moment's hesitation, crazy-or perhaps worse-dead drunk. Read then in he plunged in the heat of resolve. "Print anything I write, eh, and 'in full on the front page in double-leaded black face,' eh? Well, let's see if he will print this!" And he sat down to the yellow pad and wrote:-

> "Emperor William and Edward VII met on the field of honor at Homburg and settled their long feud for supremacy over England. Li Hung Chang and 'Oom Paul' were seconds, Li Hung Chang and 'Oom Paul' were seconds, the weapons being automobiles driven at the rate of three miles a minute straight toward each other full head on by chaffeurs in full steel armor. His Majesty the King was killed outright and Emperor William, although badly mangled, was taken to England in Santo-Dumont's balloon and crowned King of England at Westminster Abbey. Great excitement. 89 words, Paid. RUSH!"

> "The next day the 'Fairplain Weekly Budget' came out with the terrible tidings in full! A week later in consequence, it went into the hands of the sheriff.

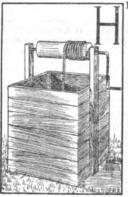
> "And where is the brilliant Caleb?" queried the Horse Editor.

> The narrator lighted a Perfecto. "Dunno." he answered gravely. "The last I heard of him. he was opening oysters in Washington market at forty cents a bushel."

#### The Tragedy of Peterson's Well.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY RODMAN MILLS.

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IS face was very pale as he rushed into the country store postoffice and faced us who sat about the sheetiron stove talking horse and politics.

"Well, Tim, what's the matter?" queried one upon looking up and seeing that apparition of distress. There was a deep silence.

For some few sec-

onds the man's lips moved without making a sound. Then at last he became articulate. "There are five men down in Peterson's well and we can't get them out. For God's sake, come and help-quick!"

Instantly the place was in confusion. Every man leaped to his feet and began scrambling over overturned chairs and trumperies. "Ropes -tackle-hurry, hurry!"

Within half a minute six men were hurrying down the village street at dead run, each carrying a coil of rope, a bunch of tackle or some sort of grappling hooks. Every man knew what it was to take his own life in his hands in emergency. The Peterson well stood in the centre of a

great space at the edge of the town, sur-Sound famous throughout the country. It was a very deep well, wide at the mouth and slightly tapering toward the bottom, after the manner of wells dug in the last century, and seemingly inexhaustible in supply. Unfortunately, however, the Peterson well had a habit of giving out about the time of the first frost, and it was the perilous task of someone to go below and give it a thorough cleaning to admit the inflow from the springs that fed it. It was said that within the century and a half of its existence more than one poor fellow had been seized and strangled in those black depths by the mysterious she-devil who was supposed to inhabit it, and the legends of the old well were so numerous and uncanny, and the place was regarded with such awe by the superstitious farm hands and others who watered the stock about its rockbound mouth, that few were found brave enough to approach it after nightfall. It was even related that when on a summer night a wayside tramp stopped at the well to quench his thirst, a frightful object rose full length out of the black depths, seized the stranger by the throat and threw him bodily down into the cavern, and that three

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problem.

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It falls it is free. I will pay your arranges and for it.

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Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

morning the tramp was fished out, quite dead, and given a pauper burial.

But one thing was now certain: there were five men at the bottom of Peterson's well, and around the open maw there was half the village of Holbrook, running hither and thither like maniacs, hundreds to give orders and none to execute them. The village Solon was there.

the oldest doctor and the youngest lawyer, the wag, the scapegoat and two ministers of the gospel. But whereas they all differed in ordinary life, they were intensely similar under this mighty stress of tragedy-alike staggered with the problem: how to get those men out of the well.

The five men were seated perfectly motionless in the mud far below, knees drawn up under their chins, heads thrown back, mouths agape and eyes wide open,

looking straight up, unheeding of all cries and exhortations. In vain were ropes dangled before their very eyes and wild shouts from above ordered them to seize this succor and so be drawn up to safety. Then someone tied a hook to one of the ropes and set about angling for the unconscious men, catching the hook in their clothing, but except to rip off pieces of their clothing, nothing was accomplished. The village Solon in the meantime let down a lighted candle, but before it had gone twenty feet of the way, it flickered and died. "Carbonic acid gas," he said with quiet solemnity, and ordered someone to run and ring the fire alarm. How a fire engine could rescue five men from the bottom of a well did not appear plain to anyone within hearing, so nobody obeyed the order, although it was plain at least to the worthy gentleman himself that before it was safe for anyone to enter the well. it must first be pumped out of a gas heavier than air-which takes time. Meanwhile men

It was in the midst of this dilemma that a young man of five and twenty-a muscular, bronze type of youth who is ever at home in emergency on land and sea—tore through the solid ranks that encircled the well, his face gleaming with a certain resolution. He quietly threw off his coat and cap, drew up his sleeves till they exposed a rugged length of arm, and

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said, "Boys, if you will put that windlass back over the mouth of the well and let me down with it, I think I can bring them up. Will you let me try?"

But here the village patriarch interposed. "It is as much as your life is worth, Danny," "It is as much as your five is worth, Danny, he said.
"Do you think I'm afraid of the green devil down there?" he shot back ironically.
"No, but that well is filled with deadly gas. One breath and you are lost."
"Then I'll not breathe. Come on, boys. Give me a hand here."

Rack over the mouth of the well the huge

Back over the mouth of the well the huge windlass was drawn, the sudden hero of the hour seized the end of the rope and wound it twice around him, then said quietly, "Remember, let me shoot clean to the bottom. There I'll seize one of the men, then haul away for dear life. Are you ready?"

There were one or two choking, replies from

There were one or two choking replies from the strong men at the windlass, then Dan Findlay swelled his lungs and exhaled five successive times, and with a final filling of fresh air, gave the signal and down he went like a shot, sixty-nine feet of rope reeling off as from a surveyor's tape. Some one leaned over the coping and grief ("He's get one) Hard fresh air, gave the signal and down he went like a shot, sixty-nine feet of rope reeling off as from a surveyor's tape. Some one leaned over the coping and cried, "He's got one! Haul away boys—quick, quick!" But the windlass was too slow, so the rope was started over the coping, seized by a hundred hands and run out through the crowd. It was a moment of horrible suspense, then a shout went up as the dishevelled head of Danny Findlay popped up over the wooden wall. There in the giant arms was seen the limp form of one of the Hungarian workmen. That shout rumbled over the hills and was not lost till it rolled far out over the bay and even half way across the Sound to Connecticut. Eager hands seized both the rescued and the rescuer, bearing the former away for the doctors to work over.

Dan stood at the edge of the coping, panting furiously, trembling a little as a man might who has been lowered into the very jaws of death and been dragged out again, but he tightened the rope about his body again as he said, "You see, boys, it wasn't so hard after all. Now for the next man down there. Are you ready?"

Again there were murmurs of admonition, but they were fewer; and many, no longer able

you ready?"
Again there were murmurs of admonition, but they were fewer; and many, no longer able to stand the strain, turned away.
The next one of the martyrs came to the surface in the grip of the bronze arms with greater speed and fewer dangerous joltings on the way, for it was a bruising business at best. Dan was a trifle paler, perhaps, but success thus far whetted him only to surer action in behalf of the others that remained below. Another corps of doctors began working over the second victim on the floor of the near-by granery, and down went Dan for the third.

As he came to the air after that terrible journey this time, it was seen that the hero was

ney this time, it was seen that the hero was somewhat weaker, although the shouts of acclaim that greeted him were enough to make any man's blood stir with delicious pride and confidence. Still no one offered to relieve him at the task, half in reluctance to take from the brave lad's honors, but more in fear of going down and never returning to the light of day again. So, with a dozen strong inflations, he seized the rope and gave the signal to let him drop. As he shot downward one of the men at the windless caught the gleam of his even of nev this time, it was seen that the hero drop. As he shot downward one of the mich at the windlass caught the gleam of his eye and

The signal from below was a long time com-The signal from below was a long time coming, and the mighty men at the wheel looked into one another's drawn faces where the cold sweat had gathered, but they said nothing—only waited. At last it came, and the combined tug drew the rope taut. Away they started with the rope over their shoulders, but not a dozen feet had they gone when every man pitched forward on his face and the rope lay along the ground.

pitched forward on his face and the rope lay along the ground.

"My God!" cried one. "Danny has slipped through the rope!" Simultaneously the empty noose shot out of the well and a hundred souls stood transfixed with horror. Rescued and rescuer lay together far below in the embrace of the she-fiend of Peterson's well.

It was in the midst of this that Judie came. Now Judie Marr was the daughter of a fisherman who had found that his hut stood upon a desirable eminence, and with his little sav-

a desirable eminence, and with his little sav-ings had built a small hotel there. It prospered and "Uncle" Dick Marr gave up the nets and clam-baskets for tavern life, which was more and "Uncle" Dick Marr gave up the nets and clam-baskets for tavern life, which was more lucrative and easy, particularly as city people from New York way, distant not more than forty miles, liked the tang of "Uncle Dick's" musty ale and the flavor of his planked bluefish. But man of the sea he was, and all of his progeny thereafter, even to Judie, his only daughter, who took to water like a young seagull. She rowed and she sailed and she swam, happiest when the spray made her red cheeks glisten in the sunlight and the green weeds tangled her hair, and Danny Findlay was the only man she had ever loved or thought she ever could love until—well, until that swimming contest in which Judie competed with seven men, all expert swimmers at the Holbrook tournament, and thereby incurred the displeasure of her adorer who regarded manly sports like these quite unwomanly, however fair femininity might succeed in the contest.

The worst of it was that Judie was barred from the contest simply because she was a woman, and yet at the very moment of the pistol shot, bobbed her brown head out of the water

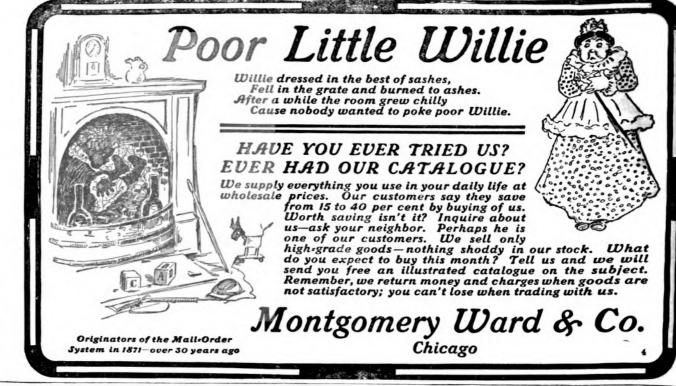
man, and yet at the very moment of the pistol shot, bobbed her brown head out of the water in the very midst of the contestants like a mermaid. It made a great sensation, for where she came from or how she got there at the very critical moment nobody ever knew. She simply arose like Venus from the Cyprian wave, struck out a little in the lead and kept the pace for two miles, clean to the turning post and back again. Everybody was delighted, even old "Uncle Dick" Marr, who chuckled proudly and chaffed the champions unmercifully when the cup presentation took place. The winner among the men had taken the silver tankard, but Judie had taken the laurels, and everybody was delighted—except Danny Findlay. He was furious and made no secret of it.

Nobody overheard the quarrel which followed man, and yet at the very moment of the pistol

Nobody overheard the quarrel which followed for the lovers had gone down on the open beach, where there were no eavesdropers other than crawfish and two deaf clamdiggers up to their knees in mud half a mile away. But the consequences were seen to be irreparable, for Dan stuck close to his cooper's bench and Dan stuck close to his cooper's bench and played tattoos on the hoops from daybreak till dark, scarcely lifting his eyes save to eat and sleep, and the grass grew over the little by-path which he took twice daily through the meadow and up the bluff to the rear of "Uncle Dick's" hostelry that gleamed white and stately over the sea. But now a tragedy had brought Dan out of his sullen seclusion, and as it gathered at the old well nearly the entire populace for miles around, it also brought Judie.

Not but that if she had thought to encounter

Not but that if she had thought to encounter the summer freshets.



Dan there that the mettlesome sprite would have kept aloof. But approaching the scene of disaster, her heart harrowed with these sights and sounds, she was well at the coping's side before she realized that it was not merely some foreign laborer in whom she had no interest who lay there in the clutch of the she-devil of Peterson's well, but the man to whom she had once sworn vows of constancy and love, and she could not forget it. Without a word, without a query in even so much as an eyeglance, Judie leaped the coping, seized the end of the noose, threw it around her, and before any one realized was already letting herself down with the slack of the rope over the windlass.

There were wild shouts, but nothing availed. With jaws set and every sinew stiffened, she slid down like a sailor swinging from a yardarm, and the people above only came to their senses when she had reached the bottom. There they saw her unbind herself, twisting the rope about Dan Findlay's form, then give the signal. Up flew the insensible body as if blown out of a cannon, and in a few seconds down came the dangling noose again.

"Save yourself, Judie! Quick, bind the rope Dan there that the mettlesome sprite would

a cannon, and in a few seconds down came the dangling noose again.

"Save yourself, Judie! Quick, bind the rope around you. One breath and you are lost!" But the girl who had swam half way across Holbrook Bay under water and bobbed up serenely in the midst of a championship race, and won it too, was not to be dictated to. Around the body of the fifth victim the rope was drawn taut, and with the signal, up it shot like the other. like the other.

like the other.

Meantime the seconds were reeling off and the fair face was purpling. It was but a few clock-ticks to the grave now, and she knew it. She seized the dangling noose in her weakening hand then looked up. Only one heard the faint query—"Danny—dead?" Then as the answer volleyed down in a chorus after a moment's explanation, "No, no, no!" the brave girl drew the loop about her and made fast with a sailor's knot, just as her knees sank girl drew the loop about her and made fast with a sailor's knot, just as her knees sank beneath her and she pitched forward, fainting, suspended in the very maw of Death. Slowly, breathlessly lest the limp lithe form slip from the grip of the hemp, the little heroine was drawn to the surface, and simultaneously a score of hands seized the bedraggled skirts and clung for life. A moment later Judie lay calmly upon the grass, blinking into familiar and anxious faces that bent about her.

Two days later, a Sabbath afternoon, Dan

and anxious faces that bent about her.

Two days later, a Sabbath afternoon, Dan and Judie were walking down the same beach that witnessed their recent quarrel, but they were in no mood for battle now. "Explain something to me," he said. "They tell me that while you were at the bottom of Peterson's well before you tied the rope around you, you asked if I were living or dead. Suppose they had told you that I was dead—what then?"

"I should have staid there" was the quiet.

"I should have staid there," was the quiet answer, not without a tremor. Then after a pause. "You have not told me why you risked your life for them who were nothing to you, even when their own people dared not. Was it beroism?" heroism?

heroism?"
"People may call it heroism, but it wasn't.
It was selfishness, wounded pride and all that
sort of thing. I wanted to do one heroic deed
and become a martyr to it—why? To make you
see what you had lost in me. Do you know,
when I went down for the last time and found
that fiftherer store deed. that fifth man stone dead, of my own free will I opened my mouth, knowing that it meant death, sucked in the deadly draft and slipped from the noose. You see what madness will seize a man in a passion of jealousy and rage. And yet, if we are to believe history, men have done great deads from intra sample received. done great deeds from just as unheroic motives—fought mighty battles and won through sheer coveting of death in wounded vanity.

We are strange creatures in this world, are we

We are strange creatures in this world, are we not, dear?"

"And since our first quarrel has ended so famously for us all, we will not risk the outcome of a second, will we, Danny!"—

But the reply was cut short by the shrill old fisherman's call down from the bluff above. "Ahoy, there—ahoy, there! Your tea is getting cold, my children!"



HE city of Guanajuato, in Mexico, is known in the native tongue as the "Hill of the Frogs," because in years past the Indians found there a large

the Indians found there a large stone in the shape of a frog, which they worshipped. A stream flows from the city through the various silver mines on the slopes below, and all the refuse of the mines is emptied into the stream. On the valley below the hogs wallow in the muddy stream and are carefully washed by their owners once a week, for the sake of the silver in the mud that adheres to them. It is estimated that since the opening of these mines in 1548, millions of dollars worth of silver have been washed away by lars worth of silver have been washed away by

Miss Trundy-"Ha'nt."

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HERMAN GRAY.

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HE only reason why Squire Todd hesitated a few days about telling Miss Trundy was because she had been in his family so long that he felt she might be grieved if she had to seek a new home.

But one morning as he waited for his butter to melt on the flapjacks the Squire thought to himself, "Well I may as well out with it 'cause

'tain't any of her business anyway, as you might say."

"Er-r hum-m-m!" he bellowed very suddenly and Miss Trundy who had just passed him his cup of coffee peered at him over her spectacles in some surprise.

"Ain't ketchin' cold be ye, Squire?" she asked.

"No, been catchin' something else," the Squire blurted out. Then if it were possible for a blush to struggle through the tough and wrinkled skin of his cheek there certainly was a blush on the Squire's face. "That sounds sort of youngish and foolish for me to talk that way," he half apologized, "but it kind of slipped out. Fact is, Mari', I'm reckoning on gettin' married. There!"

There was a rather singular expression on Miss Trundy's face but she poured a cup of coffee for herself and said quite calmly, "I heerd something about you showin' some attentions but I hain't skursely believed nothin' in it. I know that lawyers have lots of busi-

in it. I know that lawyers have lots of business to attend to for women folks and I reckoned prob'ly that the neighbors were makin' a great touse over nothin.' But of course now that you say so I sha'n't stand up any longer and contradict."

"No, we might's well own up, Mari' so long's it's a settled thing," assented the Squire cheerfully.

"She's Mis' Jetts?" half inquired, half asserted Miss Trundy.

"She's the one," he assented, slicing down through the flapjack tier.

"I've this to say of her," said Miss Trundy, "she's a real nice woman and stands well and I understand that Mister Jetts left some money. I hain't surprised at all that you should take to her. But ain't she a dite young for you, Squire—not that you're an old man—not real old. But I reckon Mis' Jetts can't be over thutty-five, eh?"

"Goir' on thutty-five," said the Squire.

"But she hain't none of those highty-flighty widders and I had a good chance to watch her while I was settlin' up the estate. She 'tends

"But she hain't none of those nigney-nigney widders and I had a good chance to watch her while I was settlin' up the estate. She 'tends to her own business and knows something. I wanted was a woman's money. She and I both think that we shall be perfectly comfort-

both think that we shall be perfectly comfortable."

"I hope so, Squire," returned Miss Trundy.

"When will ye—when is—when had I better plan to pack up?" In spite of Miss Trundy's evident resolution to treat the matter in a business way her eyes grew dim with tears.

"I know just how you feel about leaving here," said the Squire, "and I wish it was so that you could stay. Mis' Jetts was tellin' me the other day that she thought a great deal of you and all that but she said that no house can have two mistresses and she knows you have been mistress here so long that you couldn't get used to havin' some one steppin' in over you. Besides, there'll only be the two of us and we prob'ly sha'n't keep help for a while for Mis' Jetts says she likes housework."

"I know jest how she feels," Miss Trundy replied, "and any woman would be took the same way. I should myself. Course I expected to go. But you know when any one has been in a house so long as I have it's kind of pullin' to leave. Why, Squire, do you realize how many years I've been here doin' housework? I come two years after you were married, when I was sixteen!"

"I d'know what I'd done," said the Squis "If I hadn't had ye to take hold and do afte Mis' Todd died. Ye brought up the boys lis a mother." He looked at her a moment with Mis' Todd died. Ye brought up the boys ha mother." He looked at her a moment with twinkle in his eye. Then with his accustome bluntness he said, "I really did think or end of proposin' to ye, Mari'. But I couldn't freet mis' Todd for a good many years and her too ye always seemed more like a sister to many experience of the said of the said

way."
"No, of course not," replied Miss Trunct with a little note of wistfulness in her voice. "Hired help ain't nothin' but hired help, no matter how much ye make of 'em. Ye have paid me good wages and have given me a good home and I hain't goin' to cry baby the least mite."

mite."

"I shall give ye five hundred dollars the day ye leave," said the Squire. "It's more than due you over and above your wages."

"I sha'n't take no such thing," protested Miss Trundy stoutly. "I have always been well paid, I've got enough to live on comfortable and I hain't got any one dependent on my I don't need the money and I sha'n't take n."

The conclusion of this story will be found in our March issue. If you have been a regular reader of Comfort you will no doubt'estie to continue along for some time and as all expiring subscriptions will be removed accurate you to read the special subscribe now vite you to read the special subscribe now 2 year (10c 6 months in advance), renewal offer and fill out blank before advance in price. If you are a new reader this is the best time to enter your name for a regular subscription or extension for 2 years while you can get it at the low rate of only 10c for six months paid in advence. advance.

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SENT FREE to any one without deposit or advance payment of any kind, freight paid, on 30 days trial. It is unquestionably the greatest labor-saving machine ever invented for family use. Entirely new principle. It is simplicity itself. There are no wheels, paddles, rockers, cranks or complicated machinery. It revolves on bicycle ball-bearings, making it by far the easiest running washer on the market. No strength required, a child can operate it.

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only 190 now annually fall victims to Consump-tion out of the same number of inhabitants.

In 1890 the average life was 31 1-10 years. Now it is 35 2-10 years.

These facts point unmistakably to the actual retreat of the grim monster Tuberculosis, which is responsible for the largest number of deaths from various diseases.

The honor of thus effectively expressing the

The last United States Mortality Bulletin shows a marked decrease in the number of deaths from Consumption.

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His FREE SYSTEM OF TREATMENT has arrested the hand of death in the cases of thousands of consumptives and has prevented the disease in countless instances.

which is responsible for the largest number of deaths from various diseases.

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These free remedies comprise the great cura-

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DR. T. A. SLOCUM,

DEAR SIR:—Having been given up to die by our family physician, who told my folks I could not possibly survive more than a few weeks at the longest, I concluded it was of no use for me to take any more of the medicines he prescribed. I therefore availed myself of your wonderful preparations, which have entirely cured the sore spots in my left lung, that were very bad, and my throat and chest are giving me no more trouble. I shall always take pleasure in recommending your remedies to every one.

Yours very gratefully,

Miss Carrie C. Adams.

Bowdoin Centre, Maine.

MISS CARRIE C. ADAMS.

The Sense of Direction in the Lower Animals.

BY PROF. JAMES WEIR, JR. M. D.



is a well-established fact that horses, cattle, dogs, cats, and others of the higher animals, possess the sense of direction in a marked degree, and can find their way home, from distant points, over roads utterly and entirely unfamiliar to them. The homing instinct of the carrier pigeon has been utila well-established pigeon has been utilized for the transmission of messages, both in times of peace and in times of war. During the seige of Paris, the outside world got all its news from the be-

and greatly oblige.

the outside world got all its news from the beleaguered city through the agency of this novel postal service. There are many animals much lower in the scale of animal life which possess the sense of direction and are able to find their homes again, when transported into unfamiliar scenes and surroundings. These animals are able, also, to go to and from new feeding grounds, over comparatively unknown roads, with a degree of certainty that is very remarkable. This sense of direction has been noticed even in microscopic animals. I have seen certain whizopods, which had been driven away from their feeding-ground, a minute tuft of an alga, return to it again, after their enemy, a water-louse, had disappeared. This whizopod is a death-feigner. disappeared. This whizopod is a death-feigner. Whenever the water-louse comes near them they fold their little hair-like feet, feign death,

they fold their little hair-like feet, feign death, and sink. As soon as the water-louse swims out of their neighborhood, the whizopods will swim back and resume feeding.

Snails possess this special sense and have given evidences of their knowledge of direction to several observers. My grounds are surrounded by a brick wall capped with slabs of brown sand-stone. Beneath the projecting edges of these stone blocks, many snails find secure and pleasant domiciles. In the afternoon of June 18th I took from beneath these stones eleven snails, marked their shells with white paint, and then set them free on the lawn fifty feet distant from the wall. On the morning of June 19th I found that two of these marked snails had returned to their homes beneath the

t, Bibli UI!

appeared, and was traced by its track of slime

appeared, and was traced by its track of slime over a wall into an adjoining well-stocked garden. Mr. Lonsdale concluded that it had deserted its sickly mate; but after an absence of twenty-four hours it returned, and apparently communicated the result of its successful exploration, for both then started along the same track, and disappeared over the wall." The healthy snail remembered where it had left its sickly mate, and knew how to find it again, after its journey of discovery.

The limpet has the homing instinct largely developed. Lieutenant Willoughby Markhame R. N. told me, that on one occasion he had kept the same limpet under observation for several months, and that it always returned to the same hole in the rock, after its excursions in search of food. Another English scientist, Mr. J. Clarke Hawkshow, is quoted by Romannes in Animal Intelligence p. 29 as follows: "A limpet had formed a clearing on a sea-weed covered block of chalk. In the midst of this clearing was a pedestal of flint rather more than one inch in diameter, standing up above the surface of the chalk, it projected so much that a tap from my hammer broke it off. On the top of the smooth fractured surface of this flint the occupant of the clearing had taken up its abode. The shell was closely adapted to the uneven surface, which it would only fit in one position. The cleared surface was in a hollow with several small natural cavities, where the limpet could have found a pit ready made to shelter in; yet it preferred, after each excursion, to climb up to the top of the flint, the most exposed point in all its domain.

Ants have the sense of direction and, consequently, the homing instinct, wonderfully developed. Sir John Lubbock successfully proved this fact in quite a number of interesting experiments. He accustomed some ants to go to and fro over a wooden bridge to some food. When they had got accustomed to the way, he watched until an ant was on the bridge

go to and fro over a wooden bridge to some food. When they had got accustomed to the way, he watched until an ant was on the bridge and then turned the bridge around. The ant at once turned and proceeded in the direction she was going before the bridge was turned. On the 16th of July I killed a caterpillar and pinned it on a beech tree, on the opposite side of which was the entrance to the nest or colony of red ants. In about an hour's time the dead grub was discovered by an ant. She attempted to drag it away, but was prevented by the pin. She then raced into the nest, not before, however, I had gently marked her with a spot of white paint. I carefully traced her road home on the tree with a blue pencil. In a few moments she came out of the nest accompanied by six companions and went toward her quarry way, he watched until an ant was on the bridge by six companions and went toward her quarry June 19th I found that two of these marked sails had returned to their homes beneath the stone slabs. On the morning of June 20th, six more of them had safely reached their homes. I am confident that the remaining three were destroyed by black birds which are inordinately fond of snails, and quite a number of which I noticed, in the afternoon of June 19th, feeding on the lawn. They mash the snail's shell with their powerful beaks, and then tear out the soft structures, and eagerly devour them. Darwin says in his Descent of Man p. 262: "These animals (snails), appear attachment; an accurate observer, Mr. Lonstale, informs me that he placed a pair of landsnails (Heliz pomatia), one of which was weakly, into a small and ill-provided garden. After a time the strong and healthy individual dis-

sult; the ant who discovered the grub and went to the nest for assistance, returning over a new route, this time below the pencil tracing of her road when she went to the nest to convey information of her find. On July 20th I marked ten black ants with white paint and set them free one-hundred yards from their nest. This nest was beneath a brick pavement, which leads from my front door to the entrance-gate, and which is just three hundred feet long. The ants were set free at 4.30 P. M. at the first two discovered the grub and book and three feet from, her den. I then struck the table. She came out at once, and immediately began to stalk the fiy. This experiment showed conclusively that the spider, at least, could see a fly at the distance of three feet. Bees, also, possess the sense of direction in a were performed some years ago, by me, with some Italian bees taken from the apiary of Mr. Stone. Twenty bees were marked with white paint, and carried, in a closed box, three miles from their hive, (a measured distance from

trance-gate, and which is just three hundred feet long. The ants were set free at 4.30 P. M. at the front entrance to the pavement, and all but two of them had returned to the nest, at the other extremity of the pavement, by 6 P. M. The two remaining ants had not arrived at the nest by 6.30 P. M., nor could I find them anywhere on the pavement. On July 21st I marked fifteen ants and set them free in the grass sixty feet from the nest. This was at 4 P. M. At 6 P. M. the first marked ant came back to the nest; at 6.20 the second ant came back; at 6.45 two ants came back; at 6.50 two ants arrived; at 7.15 one ant arrived; at 7.20 one ant arrived. I then discontinued my watch. Ants, as well as many other insects, are thoroughly familiar with objects immediately surrounding their dwelling places. I am convinced, that all animals which have sight, use their eyes in finding their way back to their homes. One can tell, when an ant is nearing its nest, by its actions; there is no deviation from a straight line when it comes in sight of familiar landmarks. Ants use sight to assist their sense of direction, and I have repeatedly seen them climb to the tops of small blades of grass, for no other purpose than to take observations. In another paper on "The Senses in the Lower Animals," I have stated, that the range of an ant's vision does not exceed twelve or fourteen inches. Some of my recent experiments lead me to correct this statement, for some species of ants have a visual range of at least twenty-four inches. The praying mantis some species of ants have a visual range of at least twenty-four inches. The praying mantis is an insectivorous insect, and its favorite food is an insectivorous insect, and its favorite food is the ant. I placed a mantis on a table and then set free an ant on the same table at some distance from it, probably three feet. The ant ran rapidly in the direction of the mantis until within two feet of it. She then caught sight of her enemy, and suddenly crouched down on the table. She remained a second immovable, then, in panic terror, turned and fled in an opposite direction. I performed the experiment eleven times with the common large red ant. In every instance the ant was able to see her enemy at a distance of from twenty to twenty-five inches. five inches.

The range of vision in some spiders is much greater than has been taught before. Especially is this true in the case of the hunting-spiders. These spiders spin no trap-webs, and secure their food by creeping up, unawares, and springing on their victims before they can escape. I have repeatedly seen these spiders stalking flies at the measured distance of two and even three feet. A large hunting-spider

posite to, and three feet from, her den. I then struck the table. She came out at once, and immediately began to stalk the fly. This experiment showed conclusively that the spider, at least, could see a fly at the distance of three feet. Bees, also, possess the sense of direction in a marked degree. The following experiments were performed some years ago, by me, with some Italian bees taken from the apiary of Mr. Stone. Twenty bees were marked with white paint, and carried, in a closed box, three miles from their hive, (a measured distance from point to point of 2576 yards.) They were then set free. This was at 11.30 A. M. The first bee came back to the hive at 12.30 P. M; three bees came back at 12.35; two bees came back at 12.37; two bees came back at 12.40; one bee came back at 2.15; one bee came back at 3.25. A watch was kept until 6 P. M., but no other marked bees came in. A week after this experiment, I took twenty bees and blinded them by painting their eyes with a mixture of gumarabic and white lead. These bees were taken to the same point as in the first experiment, and then set free. Not one of them ever came back to the hive. From the result of this experiment, I am convinced, that sight is a necessary adjunct to the special sense of direction, in all animals that possess image-producing eyes. sary adjunct to the special sense of direction, in all animals that possess image-producing eyes.

#### Bears.



ANKIND has ever ANKIND has ever been afraid of a bear, and that animal has ever been the worst "bugaboo" children have feared. Do you know what variety of the many kinds of

know what variety of the many kinds of bears is the biggest in the world?

The great Kadiak bear has become famous during the past few years, as not only the biggest of all the bear family, but the largest carnivorous animal now in the world. Last year the Smithsonian Institution offered a reward of \$50 for every cub bear of this specie turned over to its agents, while the officials of the New York institution made an offer of two hundred and fifty dollars for each cub. This year, it is understood, an increase has been made in the case of each bonus and notices of the reward are being posted along the Alaskan coast and on Kadiak Island. This is because it is feared that the fate of the buffalo will overtake these monster Alaskan animals and the species will be exterminated. monster Alaskan animals and the species will be exterminated,

be exterminated.

It is hoped that the close of the present year will place naturalists in possession of the long sought definite information regarding the giants of the animal world. Three expeditions are now under way or planned with this object in view, and the wealthy men who are behind each project are displaying something of the enthusiasm which actuates the "backers" of Arctic expeditions.

In contrast to this giant is the St. Elias bear, the smallest bear in the world. This latter animal, which derives its name from the famous Alaskan peak, is little larger than a sheep and not only is there no specimen in captivity, but (CONTINUED ON PAGE 24).

#### Men, Women and Things.

CONDUCTED BY JENNIE MELVENE DAVIS.



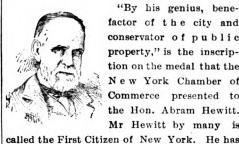
John Oliver Hobbs is a upon two continents. In private life the lady is Mrs. Craigie, the wife of Reginald Walpole Craigie. She married at the early union proving unhappy, Mrs. Craigie procured a divorce about six years

with English life that many people forget that this brilliantly gifted woman is an American. Her grandfather was a New York clergyman, while her father, who was John Morgan Richards, was a resident of Boston where Mrs. Craigie was born a little more than thirty years ago. Mrs. Craigie had a cosmopolitan sort of education, but it was very thorough so that the light and sparkle of her writing is but the gleam upon very solid scholastic attainments. Moral, was published in 1891 and attracted immediate and general attention. Serious problems of life are treated in a sketchy and conversational manner while the book is stuck full of epigrams. Many novels followed this first one. Their titles are cumbersome but curiously distinctive, as witness: A Study in Temptations, Journeys End in Lovers' Meetings, and The Gods, Some Mortals, and Lord Wickenham. Mrs. Cragie has had success as a playright. "The Ambassadors" is her most successful dramatic venture, and was first presented in 1898. Previous to this a one act play of hers had been presented by Miss Ellen Terry. Mrs. Craigie's latest book is The Serious Wooing, which deals in a characteristically "advanced" manner with the marriage and divorce prob-

Signor Guglielmo Marconi has suddenly become one of the most famous men in the world through his undoubted success in transmitting a message across the Atlantic without wires. The cable company at St. John, Newfoundland, showed that they realized what his accomplishment meant to the entire telegraphic systems of the world when they endeavored to get an injunction forbidding further experiments on the ground that it invaded their rights. Signor Marconi's station was erected on Signal Hill at the entrance to the harbor of St. John. The other end of the "line" is in Cornwall, 1800 miles distant. Here at Poldhu he has a most powerful electric station. A kite attached to a wire was elevated at certain hours agreed upon and again and again the letter "S" was spelled out by three quick dots or strokes. If the system is perfected it means that ships in passage may receive messages at any time as they now do when within a few miles of land. This has been done so often and so successfully that it has ceased to excite comment but it was hardly thought possible to annihilate space and distance and reach the Old World as Marconi has done. Signor Marconi says that the theory of electric waves as demonstrated by Hertz is the and every form of civic indifference. basis of his work. The electric vein passes through any solid substance like a wave or rock and fog does not interfere in the least. Many messages may be sent in different directions at the same time. Signor Marconi was born near Bologna, Italy, in 1874. When he was but twenty-two years of age he came into prominence and even before this time he had demonstrated in Italy that by means of the Hertzian waves, wires could be dispensed with. In spite of his success however his experiments attracted little attention in Italy and it was not until he went to England in 1896 that he received proper and adequate financial support. Since then his work in England and America has had scientific and financial backing and he has at last solved one of the greatest possibilities of electricity.

Captain George Wellington Streeter, Delegate unique and interesting personality. Both the Captain and his district have a strange history. On the north shore of the Chicago lake front after forty years of faithful service to the coun-

in partly by deposits of sand from the lake and partly by land owners. The property is now valued at about \$10,000,000 and the title to the land is in litigation, being claimed by the riparian owners, the State of Illinois, the Linname known and famed coln Park commissioners, some private citizens and also by Capt. Streeter and his friends. Many years ago, Captain Streeter was shipwrecked on the tiny little spot of land that was just appearing above the surface of the lake. He claimed the island as newly disage of nineteen, but the covered territory and for many years he lived there in the hull of his ship hoping to secure the property by squatter's right. The island eventually became united with the main land ago. She has become so thoroughly identified and Streeter was ousted by the riparian owners. Since then he has annually descended upon the disputed lands, at times with an armed force that has called out the police reserve of the entire city. He has been again and again before the courts as a disturber of the peace but has always managed to escape without punishment. Captain Streeter claims that the greater portion of the land is outside of the state line of Illinois. The inhabitants of the land side with Streeter. They declared Mrs. Craigie's first book, Some Emotions and a the land a separate territory as the District of Lake Michigan and after formally declaring it annexed to the United States elected Captain Streeter as delegate to Congress. He visited Washington and declared that he had assurances that he would be allowed to take his seat in Congress At present he has "squatted" upon the disputed territory in a couple of old furniture vans where with his wife Maria he is at home to all his friends and also his enemies. His wife claims as her relatives many influential people among whom is the Princess de Chimay whose elopement with a gypsy fiddler made her notorious. Captain Streeter has much solid backing in his lawsuit and will be either a millionaire or a pauper.



"By his genius, benefactor of the city and conservator of public property," is the inscription on the medal that the New York Chamber of Commerce presented to the Hon. Abram Hewitt. Mr Hewitt by many is

earned this honor by a long and honorable devotion of more than sixty years to all that makes for higher ideals of citizenship and for the public that should work for the general good. Mr. Hewitt has filled many public positions and always to the betterment of the service and the enlarging of the possibilities of the position. His public service has not been confined to the time when he has been in office. Whenever any civic, educational or philanthropic work has required intelligent direction, sympathy or funds, Mr. Hewitt has given freely and generously of time, thought and money while the influence that his support gave has brought these in unstinted measure from others who needed but Mr. Hewitt's endorsement to be assured that the object was worthy. Few men of Mr. Hewitt's wealth or of his vast business interest have either time or inclination for public service and his example is a rebuke to all

The captain of the United States training ship Lancaster is Captain George P. Colvocoresses, a most popular official. His Greek name recalls the interesting life story of the father of the captain. Many years ago an American cruiser sent a boat ashore to the Greek coast near a town that had been sacked by Turks. In a small hut near the burned village they discovered two survivors of the massacre in the shape of two children who were carefully wrapped up. One of them wore garments of fine quality and upon them was embroidered the name "Colvocoresses". The children were brought to America and the aristocratic little Greek was adopted by the captain of the cruiser and taken to Vermont. Every effort was made by the child's foster parents to discover his friends or relatives but without success. He entered the navy and rose to the rank of captain. He married from the District of Lake Michigan is a most a Vermont girl. His record reads "George P. Colvocoresses, born in Greece, appointed from Vermont February 21, 1832." In 1872 he died,

named after his father and like him became a captain in the United States Navy. He was assigned to the Lancaster upon his graduation from Annapolis in 1869. Since then he has held many responsible positions and at last returns to the Lancaster as its commanding officer.

The name of Madame Tsilka has become a fa-

miliar term through the interest in the capture and ransom of Miss Stone, the missionary. The details of the life of her companion in bondage, Madame Tsilka, are most interesting. She is the wife of a Bulgarian although a Macedonian by birth. Her full life story would make a highly thrilling sensational novel. Her father was a Greek priest in a little village of Macedonia but was an unusually intelligent man. In the next village was a school taught by a teacher who had been trained in one of the American missions. Girls as well as boys were admitted to the school but all members of the established Greek church were forbidden to send their children to this school therefore the father of little Katherine as a priest was doubly obligated not to seek admission to the school for his little girl. Alone she sought the school and stood outside until the teacher asked her to enter. Her father was alarmed both for her safety and his own when he learned that she was a student at the foreign school, but with rare firmness the child of eight declared she should die unless allowed to continue at the school. For five years she studied and then at the age of thirteen her father arranged a marriage for her. She had not been consulted as to her choice as this was not the custom but much to her parents' surprise the bride was found to be missing. When her hiding place was revealed, it was found that she refused the marriage with the same firmness with which as a child of eight she had refused to give up attending school. Her parents yielded for the second time, and the brave little Balkan maiden at last graduated with high honors from the American college at Samakov. She did not yet feel fitted for the work she planned to do and with little money but high courage she sailed for New York. Here she found interested and influential friends and the celebrated Moody took her to his famous Northfield school where she had a two years' course followed by a study of kindergarten methods in New York. She was planning to fit herself for general and useful work in Hacedonia. She knew that within a radius of thirty villages there was neither physician nor trained nurse. She entered the school for nurses of the New York Presbyterian hospital and after graduation entered upon the practice of her profession until she could earn money enough to return to Turkey, there to work among her own people. When about to sail she was called upon to nurse a dear friend who was ill in the Adirondacks. Here she met and married a young physician who was a native of her own Macedonia. In 1900 she returned to Turkey with her husband and commenced her missionary work of teaching nursing and healing the sick. She went to join Miss Stone on a tour when they were kidnapped by brigands. Their captivity since then has excited the interest and sympathy of all the world and the machinery of two governments has been at work to secure their release.



Millions have become so ordinary an affair that their mere possession does not make their owner famous. The time was in America when the millionaire was pointed out as a man of note for no other reason than that he possessed wealth. The

name of Astor has been famous for four generations as a synonym for wealth. Colonel John Jacob Astor is of the fourth generation, but his claims to distinction do not rest upon his name alone. It is thirteen years since he graduated from Harvard. His classmates and friends at the famous old university had learned to respect the remarkable imagination that made his articles in the college papers peculiar and interesting. Some years after his graduation Colonel Astor published A Journey to Other Worlds, an account of a trip to Mars. The book proved popular with the general public

is about two hundred acres that has been filled try which had adopted him. His son was and was much discussed, as it told in a brilliant and forceful manner what we might expect to find upon that planet which many astronomers believe to be inhabited. There was enough of a scientific tone to the book to make it come within the limit of possibility. The same great imaginative faculty later led Colonel Astor into the field of invention. He secured a patent upon a pneumatic road sweeper and improver and later upon a bicycle brake. John Jacob Astor has an intense patriotic interest in public affairs but has never been a candidate for public office, although others have tried to induce him to enter the field. His title of Colonel came first from an appointment on Governor Morton's staff. When the Spanish American war broke out, Colonel Astor equipped a mountain battery and presented it to the government. In May, 1898, he was commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel of Volunteers and saw active service in the operations about Santiago, where he was present at the surrender. Colonel Astor married a beautiful Philadelphia girl, Miss Willing. She is a leader in the inner circle of New York's four hundred, where she is famed for her beauty and exquisite taste. Colonel Astor is kept busy with the management of his vast estate, but in addition he is on the board of directors of no less than six banks and three railroads.





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TLBURY FOOD

COWS IMPROVE IN CONSTS SAND FRAIN TRYING CONSTINE SAND EVERY SAND FRAIN TRYING CONSTINE STORM SOOSTHE STORM SOOSTHE STORM SOOSTHE STORM ST



# ONE

#### A DOLLAR PACKAGE ABSOLUTELY FREE!

We present for your consideration a plain, business-like proposition. Nearly a quarter of a contury's actual experience has proven beyond doubt that Wilbur's Food is a money maker for feeders. WE KNOW THIS. It has been PROVEN to us thousands upon thousands of times in the most foreful manner. We want to convince Volu and are willing to do it AT OUR OWN EXPENSE.

You know the value of pasture for any kind of stock; how it keeps the animals in good condition—nature's own way of doing it. There is no argument about the value of the pasture, but it does not last the year 'round. Nature fixes up things for us only part of the time in anything. It is a part of her wise plan to leave us to our own human resources the rest of the time. But she always leaves us a way and the wherewithal to do nearly everything she does if we only find it out. We simply make the common-sense proposition that we prepare a Food, which, mixed with grain and fed to stock, furnishes in stall or feed box in the proper proportions the ingredients of pasture diet, hog or sheep, and a proportionately larger one for the owner of thousands of heads.

You know when the pasture goes down in the proper way when the pasture goes down in the proper way when the pasture goes down in the proper way when the pasture goes down in the proper propers.

hog or sheep, and a proportionately larger one for the owner of the FOR HOGS Hogs, you know, are the most susceptible of animals to contagious disease. But stock. There is either "make" or "break" in raising hogs. If you keep your hogs healthy they can resist contagion, will fatten quickly and cheaply. If they get sick and refuse to eat you know how quickly they die. Nothing will save them. Medicine is useless. Tokeep them healthy you must feed them something they will eat, and something that will satisfy the demands of their system. We believe there is only one thing in the world that will do this, and that is Wilbur's Food. It is not a medicine; it is a pure food made from pure barks, roots and seeds. Hogs like it, and hundreds of hog raisers say it is the only thing they can feed which proves satisfactory. Every hog that eats its will improve at once. If fed for thirty days the hog will be in perfectly healthy condition and fatten fast and cheaply.

FOR HORSES The demands of their system make them cat with relish the barks, roots and leaves of the pasture, and when they are out at pasture, getting them regularly, they are in perfect health. When you take them off pasture, unless you provide a good substitute, you deprive them of what nature desires them to have. You can supply this want by feeding Wilbur's Food and at the same time work or drive them every day. One ounce of Wilbur's Food in grain every day will put and keep your horses in good condition.

sands of heads.

FOR COWS You know when the pasture goes down in the FOR COWS Fall the milk goes, the butter goes, the flavor goes, until all are shortest when the price is highest. Wilbur's Food invigorates cows; it supplies the needed roots, barks and leaves of the pasture, sustains the flow of milk and color, quantity and flavor of the butter. Take a cow right off the pasture, feed her Wilbur's Food in the stall, and she will show very little loss of milk, and one cent's worth of Food per day saves one dollar's worth of grain per month.

FOR STEERS AND CALVES One ounce of Wilbur's Food fed with grain to flesh on them and save you money on grain. A healthy animal wastes no food; it is all transformed into flesh. For calves you are raising, or ones you are fattening for real, you can obtain the most wonderful results by using one half measure of Wilbur's Food mixed with one pint of ground oats or corn meal.

FOR POULTRY Wilbur's Food makes hens lay more and better eggs, keeps them in better condition, and produces better market poultry.

#### READ THESE TESTIMONIALS

I have been using Wilbur's Food for some time, and my horses are looking and doing better. At the same time I have cut down their usual allowance of feed. Where I was feeding 4 quarts oats. I am now feeding 3 quarts, and the horses never looked or felt better since I have owned them.

Regarding the value of Wilbur's Food would say that we have used it in our stable and find our stock is greatly improved in the using of it. We have tried several kinds of horse foods, but find that Wilbur's Food gives the best satisfaction and is as reasonable in price as any other, if not more so. We send you another order for 100 lbs.

JAMES WHITEHOUSE & SONS, Cleveland.

Regarding Wilbur's Food, I will say that I have used different kinds of stock food but consider Wilbur's Food the best and cheapest because my horses look and feel batter when fed on it than they do on any other kind I have tried.

My hogs were stricken with the hog cholera, and after losing thirty-five I began using Wilbur's Food. I have not lost any since and they have all entirely recovered. I am sure if I had used Wilbur's Food on week sooner I would not have lost any. T. J. PARKS, Fullerton, Neb.

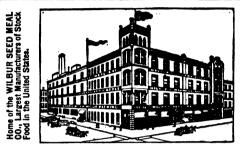
My hogs were stricken with the cholera, and after using your Wilbur's Food on only three feeds they began to recover. They are now all well and I have not lost any.

My drove of forty-eight hogs were all badly affected with some hog

and I have not lost any.

My drove of forty-eight hogs were all badly affected with some hog disease, supposed to be hog cholera. Your Wilbur's Food being highly recommended to me, I commenced feeding, and have continued now for two months. Every hog is in good condition and I am perfectly satisfied with the goods, as my loss was very little compared with the condition of my hogs when commencing to feed.

P. E. JOHNSON, David City. Neb.



#### WILBUR'S FOOD

It makes animals fat, sleck and healthy. Prevents disease, keeps the blood cool, bowels loose and water clear. Use Wilbur's Food once every day and you will keep your horses' stomachs soft and sweet, and in a healthy condition. They will require less grain and are always ready for work. Use Wilbur's Food for cows running down on their milk and out of condition. It increases the flow of milk and improves the quality.

EVERY PACKAGE GUARANTEED TO GIVE SATISFACTION

#### READ THESE TESTIMONIALS

My hogs were affected with some hog disease about September 1, and I commenced using Wilbur's Hog Food strictly according to directions. My hogs are now all in a fine, healthy condition, and I can cheerfully recommend Wilbur's Food as a reliable food, not only for fattening hogs, but as a preventative for hog diseases, BARNEY KLAASEN, David City, Neb.

Having lost nearly all my hogs every year for the past three years with some hog disease, and my hogs being in a bad condition this fall. I concluded to try your Wilbur's Food, and I have been feeding the same for the past two months. I have not lost any hogs, and they today are all in fine condition. Will cheerfully recommend Wilbur's Food to all hog-raisers as a preventative for hog diseases.

CONNOVER KENNEDY, Fullerton, Neb.

I have been using Wilbur's Food for my hogs and find it is the best hog remedy in the world. I can use lots of it myself and sell considerable as there is quite a demand for it. A. F. FORTNAY, Laurel, Neb.

erable as there is quite a demand for it. A. F. FORTNAI, Laurei, Nob.

I have used and handled Wilbur's Poultry Food for over seven years, and can say it is the best seller I have in that class of goods. I would say to those using anything of the kind, if you want the best, use Wilbur's Food, it is the cheapest. J. R. HAMMOND, Kansas City, Mo.

I have fed Wilbur's Food for several years with unqualified success. I would just as quick think of stopping their regular feed as I would yours. You tell the truth when you say it is a money-maker.

HARRY JONES, Racine, Wis.

I have relied poulty for many years; tried all kinds of foods with in-

HARRY JONES, Racine, wis.

I have raised poultry for many years; tried all kinds of foods with indifferent success until I gave Wilbur's Food a trial. I can produce 20 per cent. more eggs by feeding Wilbur's Poultry Food, and my eggs sell one to three cents above market prices. It's a winner. It makes them lay.

M. S. GILMORE, Racine, Wis.

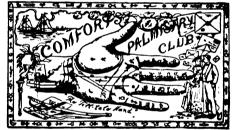
## FREE AT OUR 1 A DOLLAR PACKAGE

So great is our faith in Wilbur's Food and so sure are we of our ability to prove to you that it is a money-maker, that we have decided to give you a practical test of its value. If you will fill out this blank and send to us today, we will send you a full-sized \$1.00 package of Wilbur's Food. There are absolutely no conditions to this offer. This dollar package is absolutely free.

Our responsibility. It is sometimes a source of satisfaction to parties answering advertisements, to know the parties to whom they are writing are thoroughly responsible. We refer you to any bank anywhere in the country, any commercial agency or any wholesale house in the city.

2

WILBUR SEED MEAL CO., 222 Second St., Milwaukee, Wis. You may send me absolutely free a dollar package of Wilbur's Food which I agree to feed according to directions. I HAVE NEVER USED WILBUR'S FOOD. Name ..... Town Cows, Horses, Hogs, Poultry and have acre farm.



CONDUCTED BY DIGITUS.

E have the privilege of reading the palm of the distinguished actress, Julia Marlowe, this month. Her life story is plainly written in her palm. We see therein all the causes for her success, for the shape of her palm alone gives the keynote to her success in life, in some field of artistic endeavor—without doubt the stage. Perseverance, the faculty for dealing with imaginative things in a practical manner, the realization that genius, no matter how great, must be developed, fingers denoting highly acute intuitive faculties combined with inspirational qualities that tip the gray technique of labor with the golden gleam of inborn talent—all these facts are clearly indicated at a glance. She is quick to grasp the entire effect, but possesses the requisite capacity for detail to make possible the working out of a perfect whole.

of a perfect whole.

In the thumb, will power and logic are happily mated. Its flexibility shows a suavity that softens but does not lessen the workings of her

iron will and her capacity for determined effort.

The life line tells of an illness in the past, one of a severe nature, and evidences a constitution that explains how she recuperates in a seemingly marvelous manner from exhausting mental and physical labor.

She will live to a good old age, too, and the latter part of her life will be both happy and

The line of head shows her quickness in mak-The line of head shows her quickness in making the most of opportunities and a newly acquired ability to grasp the business as well as the artistic side of affairs. In the development of Luna is shown a peculiarly magnetic nature requiring sympathetic approbation to pro-

duce great results, rather than the sting of censure, which in this in-stance chills and depresses instead of rousing to greater effort. Her fate line shows her short and unhappy married life, be-tween the ages of 25 and 30. I do not think she will ever marry again. Her hand plainly indi-cates one of those charmingly exas-perating women who graciously listen to expostu-



JULIA MARLOWE

lation, entreaty or argument, but calmly proceed on the course

already decided, as though nothing had been said. But she will always have the love and admiration of thousands of people, just as she has now.

"Mrs. M. C. T." has a very strongly-marked hand also, and one that makes for success at last. She has a wonderful fate line, and that is the best line there is. Both that and the life line show that she was very much bound down to the wishes and caprices of others during the first part of her life and that she did not marry the right man. But after the age of 40 to 43 there will be a decided change for the better. She is exceedingly nervous and inclined to magnify her troubles by brooding over them. At the same time she has a great deal of courage and energy and will not despair. She will bear her burdens until she is convinced that her duty to others demands that she lay them down. She will be a good mother and a faithful, if not loving wife. I think she will move away from her present home in a year or two and that comfort and a change for the better will result. If she were to go into business for herself she would succeed, for she has a splendid hand and with that fate line could hardly fail if she tried. She needs to learn a little more of the art of cheerfulness and patience. She has an unusual quantity of worry lines, but these grow much less numerous after the age of 40, indicating a beneficent change then. Long life and fairly good health are indicated. I think there will be a second marriage at the age of 55 or near it, that will result happily. There are good signs of travel with good luck attending. In matters of the heart this subject will see much sorrow and little com-

will see much sor-row and little comfort until her second marriage. In money matters there will be some wealth in the later wealth in the later life, and loss of money in the earlier through no fault of the sub-ject. If she goes into business her-



MRS. M. C. T.

self she will make a success. She would make a good farmer or ranch-woman; a good real estate dealer, a successful merchant or milliner. She has excellent taste but is inclined too much toward melancholy and depression if left to herself. She needs to brace up and have more courage and more confidence in her future.

Some one asks about the meaning of the thumb in palmistry.

"The thumb in its indication is regarded in India as supreme. With gypsies the thumb is the first thing they look at on seeing a stranger. the first thing they look at on seeing a stranger. In Christian rites and ceremonies it is used to represent God, the Episcopal blessing being given with the thumb and two first fingers only, the three representing the Trinity. In medical science a 'thumb-center' is recognized in the brain, and any delicacy or pressure on this center in the brain is indicated in the thumb before it has made itself otherwise visible. When children are born the thumb is protected by the fingers, and it is admitted protected by the fingers, and it is admitted that if a child persists in keeping the

already decided, as though nothing had been said. But she will always have the love and admiration of thousands of people, just as she has now.

"Mrs. M. C. T." has a very strongly-marked whose thumbs turn backward are suave, but

whose thumbs turn backward are suave, but not always reliable.

Therefore, it will be seen, that the greater or less development of the various portions of the thumb plays a most important part in the science of cheirosophy; you may take it, as a rule, that a small, ill-formed, feeble, or badly-developed thumb indicates vacilation of mind

the thumb plays a most important part in the science of cheirosophy; you may take it, as a rule, that a small, ill-formed, feeble, or badly-developed thumb indicates vaciliation of mind, irresolution and want of decision in affairs which require to be governed by reason rather than by instinct or by sentiment.

If the shortness of the second phalanx (logic) shows want of reasoning power; pointed fingers, a weak line of the head declining upon a high Mount of the Moon, and forked at its extremity, all give unfailing indications of a foolish-mindedness that cannot be counteracted even by a well-developed phalanx of will, or a well-formed line of fortune.

Small-thumbed subjects are governed rather by heart, as opposed to large-thumbed subjects, who are governed by the head; the former have more ideas than sentiment.

The bad indications (i. e., the weakness) of a small thumb may be counteracted by a high Mount or Plain of Mars, which will give firmness and decision to the character, as well as calmness and resignation. Another modifying sign is softness of the hand, (i. e., taziness), for in this case the subject will not take the trouble to get into mischief, (though he lacks the strength of will to resist temptation when it comes in his way).

With a large thumb, you will be independent and self-reliant, inclining rather to despotism, governing by will rather than by persuasion; with a small one, you will be reliant on others, easily governed, and wanting in self-confidence, but will possess, if your fingers be smooth, (no matter what their termination), the instincts, the natural tendencies, (undeveloped though they may be), of art.

So in the same way, he who is poetic or artistic by reason of his smooth, conic fingers, the more certainly so if he have a small thumb; while he who is exact and scientific by reason of his square or knotted fingers, will be more so if he have also a large thumb.

Digitue

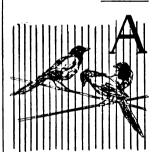
Odd Names for Guns.

S the use of artillery became more common, and the advantages of portability and a greater rapidity of fire were recog-nized, guns, except among the Orientals, became smaller, but of better workman-ship and construction. Inventors began to try their hands at all sorts of improvements or attempts at improvement, and in the course of a hundred years or so the number of different pieces of cannon, large and small, muzzle or breech loading, was simply legion. There were cannon, cannon royal and demicannon, three or four classes of culverins, bom-

bards, mortars, perriers, serpentines, carthouns, curtails, passevolants or zebratanas, basilisks,

orgues, sakers, minions, mojanes, falcons and falconets, robinets, fowlers, bases, slings, port pieces, murderers, drakes, aspics, double dogs and lagtors, to say nothing of ribadoquins, flying dragons and partridge mortars.

#### Birds in Giant Cages.



VIARIES are the newest fad of rich people in this country, though as yet they have not become the fashion in the East.
Quite a number
of them are to be
found in California, and their attractiveness as a feature of a rural estate is likely to give them vogue. All sorts of wild

All sorts of wild birds may be confined in them, but those most used are parrots, canaries, parrokeets, lories, cockatoos, love birds, macaws, and pheasants of different species. In addition to these one may keep Java sparrows, zebra finches from Australia, goldfinches, and numerous other interesting feathered prisoners.

Such an aviary is in effect a huge cage built in the open air, twenty or thirty feet in height and covering as much ground as may be deemed desirable. It is enclosed with wire net, and is so constructed as to include one or more

is so constructed as to include one or more trees, so that the birds may have as happy times as if they were at liberty. In winter, if the latitude demands, protection may be given against cold by housing the whole affair with glass. The finest aviary in the United States is the real graph park of New York City It is glass. The neet aviary in the United States is in the zoological park of New York City. It is a couple of hundred feet long, about seventy-five feet in height, arched at the top, and covered with wire netting. Being so spacious, it is like a large section of out-doors, and the feathered captives hardly realize that they are feathered captives hardly realize that they are such in reality, the immense cage embracing not only trees, but also ponds for the waterfowl. Flamingoes, herons, pelicans, spoonbills, and many other out-of-the-way species are represented in the collection thus confined. This aviary is called a "flying cage," because the inmates have plenty of room to exercise their wings. their wings.

The greatest difficulty in the management of

The greatest difficulty in the management of an aviary is the food question. Pelicans and berons, for example, require a diet of fresh fish. Flamingoes, too, are hard to suit in this matter. Cormorants, of course, are fish-eaters. It often happens, however, that birds used to a certain kind of provender can be persuaded to get along on something very different and more readily obtainable.

An illustration of this last remark is afforded by insect-eating birds, most of which are

An illustration of this last remark is afforded by insect-eating birds, most of which are satisfied with finely-chopped beefsteak. The scarlet tanager and various small warblers are cases in point. When meet is not good enough for them, meal-worms are pretty sure to serve, and these are always obtainable in unlimited quantities. All that is necessary is to put a few meal-worms into some grain, and they will propagate almost ad infinitum. Owls thrive on beefsteak, but are the better for an occasional mouse.



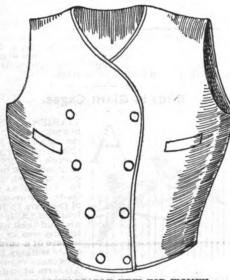
WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HE golf vest, so called from its origin as part of the costume of the woman golfer, has come to be an important part of the wardrobe of every woman who is obliged to be out in all kinds of weather. It is comfortable as well as natty, and worn with a medium weight jacket or raglan gives sufficient warmth without the extra weight of a heavy garment made

of cloth thick enough to keep one warm. These vests are made of knitted woolen material, usually, though there are also those made from heavy felting and broadcloth. They come in black with white spots, navy blue and red with white spots, also the plain colors. The red ones are particularly popular. The cost of these vests is from four to six dollars, but one could be made for much less by a woman with any sort of an idea of how to cut, fit and finish a garment. Our illustration shows the general style. They are double-breasted, fastened with two rows of brass buttons, and bound around the entire vest, armholes and all, with a bias piece of silk to match the color, stitched on. Pockets add to the attractiveness of the garment, but unless one is really an exceptional sewer one should not attempt to put them in, as they are difficult to do and if not done perfectly would spoil the effect of the whole vest. The double-faced cloth used for golf skirts is good for vests, as the wrong side is usually of bright plaid and gives a pretty finish. This cloth is so wide that only the length of the vest need be bought, probably half a yard.

Fancy embroidered turn over collars are having a tremendous vogue. We have had the white hemstitched and lace-trimmed turn overs for some time, but the present fad is entirely different, as heavy canvas in colors is used, embroidered in scallops and dots in a variety of colors of silk. The one illustrated herewith is of light green canvas, the edge being button-holed in white silk and the dots and vines beheavy felting and broadcloth. They come in black with white spots, navy blue and red with



A COMFORTABLE VEST FOR WOMEN.

ing in red, blue and black silk. While this

ing in red, blue and black silk. While this colored neck wear is extremely popular, it never does look as neat and refined as a white collar, but the colors make a nice contrast on the plain white or gray flannel waists so much worn.

A suggestion for making a child's ball comes from one of our readers and probably will be just what "E S. L." asked for instructions for making, sometime ago.

Find a pillbox—a tin one is best—and put in it a dozen shot to make a noise. Make a bag of white muslin or cambric the size of a big ball and fill with cotton wool, putting the pillbox in the middle before sewing the end up. For the outside choose very gay colored wools in five colors. On the ordinary steel knitting needles cast on 18 stitches and knit 30 rows. Sew the strips together and slip the muslin ball inside, drawing each end close and fastening it securely. The rattling noise it makes will be much enjoyed by the youngster.

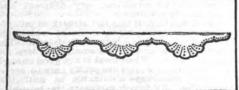
At various times we have had requests for a recipe for making a good waterproof blacking, and have finally found one which we hope will prove satisfactory.

Mix one part borax with eighteen parts melted beeswax and stir to a stiff jelly. Then mix five parts oil of turpentine with six parts melted spermacetti. Combine mixtures, and the result will be nearly colorless paste, excellent to use on natural leather.

Someone asks us how to make liquid glue

use on natural leather.

Someone asks us how to make liquid glue that will stay liquid and not harden with



EMBROIDERED COLLAR.

time. Break pieces of glue and put in a bottle with whiskey. Cork tightly and set aside 2 or 3 days. This should be ready for use at all

making 2 sc in 1st. The next 22 rows widen only in the center; on this last row when within 11 st of center turn and work back taking the st only through the back half st until you are within 11 st of center on the other. Turn and work back and forth, until you have 9 ribs made, when fold and crochet together; this forms the heel. Break the thread and leave an end. Commence where the ribs are joined, crochet straight around without widening at the instep, for 6 rows; skip a st at each side where the ribs and the plain crochet come together; then one row of ch 1, 11 c in 2d st, then 3 rows of s c, and a row of shells for a finish at the top. Take 11-2 yds. of ribbon and put through the open work row.

We wish all mothers were as sensible as the one quoted in the following paragraph:

one quoted in the following paragraph:
A girl who had been very clever at college came home, the other day, and said to her mother: "Mother, I've graduated, but now I wish to take up psychology, philosophy, bibli—"

"Just wait a minute," said the mother. "I have arranged for you a thorough course in roastology, boilology, stitchology, darnology, patchology and general domestology. Now put on your apron and pluck that chicken."

#### Candlemas Day.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



Candlemas Day be fair and bright, Winter will have another flight."

flight."
For hundreds of years, now, people who live in cold countries have repeated the above couplet or some version of the belief which is set forth in it, and have watched with more or less confidence in its truth, to see what kind of weather the morning of February 2nd ushered in.

In New England the farmers say:

"Candlemas Day. Candlemas Day.
Half your corn and half your hay."

Then on the second day of February they make a mental inventory of the contents of their barns and corn cribs, to see whether they can add another cow and hog to the barn yard's live stock, or whether their stock already on hand must be put on short rations for the rest of the season. of the season.

In far northern New England and in Canada, where bears are yet not uncommon, it is believed that Bruin, who has been hibernating through the winter in some cave or hollow log, comes out for the first time on Candlemas Day. If he can see his shadow on the snow—that is, if the day is "clear and bright"—he goes back into his den and curls up for another long sleep. If, however, the day is so cloudy that no shadow falls beside him, he knows that spring will come so early that he stays out and begins the year's campaign then and there.

In Scotland the form of the weather maxim is: In far northern New England and in Canada

"If Candlemas is fair and clear, There'll be twa winters in the year."

"If Candlemas is fair and clear, There'll be twa winters in the year."

Unlike Easter, Candlemas is one of the fixed feasts of the church, and always comes on February 2. It is celebrated with great pomp by the Catholic Church, and is recognized by the Church of England, the Lutheran Church, and by the Episcopal Church in this country. Formal celebration of it was given up in the English Church a long time ago. Some of the Lutheran churches keep the festival and some do not. The day commemorates the presentation of the infant Christ in the Temple forty days after his birth, and is sometimes called St. Simeon's Day, on account of Simeon's words, "A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of my people, Israel." In England it used to be called "Wives' Feast Day." In Scotland it is one of the four "term" days appointed for periodical annual payment of money, interest, taxes, etc. The other days are Whit-Sunday, May 15, Lammas, August 1, Martinmas, November 11.

The name of Candlemas comes from the fact

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times except in extreme cold weather, when, if it is kept in a cold place it will probably harden. To soften, place the bottle into hot water for a few minutes.

Jane L. C. wants the rule for making a plain worsted bedshoe. Chain 7 st 1 s c in last of ch, 2 s c in next st, 1 in each of next 2, 2 s c in the last of ch, 1 s c in the back side of all the chain stitches, which makes 1 row around. For 7 rows widen at the ends and in the center, by making 2 s c in 1st. The next 22 rows widen only in the center; on this last row when with-

the Pope's palace.

The festival is probably much older than the Catholic Church itself, and is a survival of an old Roman custom, the story of which will old Roman custom, the story of which will interest young people who are just studying their Latin mythology. The Romans devoted the month of February to the infernal deities, because they believed that it was at the beginning of this month that Pluto had stolen Proserpine away from the world. They believed that Ceres, the mother of Proserpine, had sought her daughter through Sicily for a whole night, looking for her with the help of torches kindled at the volcano of Mt. Aetna. The festival of St. Agatha is still kept in Sicily, beginning on Candlemas Day, and the procession of wax tapers is sometimes varied with an out-door procession of men carrying pine torches which are kindled near the spot where Ceres was supposed to have lighted hers. In Ceres was supposed to have lighted hers. In commemoration of Ceres the Romans held torch light processions every year. The fathers of the early church found the custom so strongly established that they decided not to do away with it, but instead transferred its ob-ject from Ceres to the Madonna, and as such it has remained.

One of the sweetest of Keeble's hymns was

written for this day, the one in which occur the stanzas:

"Blessed are the pure in heart,
For they shall see our God;
The secret of the Lord is theirs,
Their soul is Christ's abode.

Might mortal thought presume To guess an angel's lay, Such are the notes that echo through The courts of heaven today."

#### CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections: also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. Noyes, 847 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.



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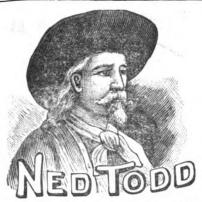


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### The Oklahoma Detective,

#### The Strange Cabin in the Wilderness.

BY HENRY DALE.

Author of "Boomers and Cattle Kings," "The Chevenne Outbreak," "Shadowing a Shadow," "Chepita," "Mormonism Unveiled," Etc.

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During the past year portions of Indian Territory were opened to settlement by the Government allotment of lots by chance, and the scenes that were enacted in the years gone by, when Oklahoma vast he objective point of settlers from east and west, north and south, were again presented in a much more exciting manner.

Because of the exciting events that have transpired in Oklahoma and Indian Territory, events that have attracted the attention of the whole country, the story of "Ned Todd" is presented to our readers in the hope that instruction and entertainment may be derived from its perusal.

#### CHAPTER I.

#### THE TRAVELERS AND THEIR MISSION.

THE TRAVELERS AND THEIR MISSION.

Half way between the Canadian and Red rivers, is that much-talked-of country Oklahoma. Long before its broad acres were opened for settlement, when the Indian and the coyote roamed its prairies at will, two horsemen, followed by a pair of pack mules, were leisurely riding along, at the same time exercising that watchful care so necessary of observance in the wilderness. Oklahoma, in the days of which we write, was the Indian's name for the "Beautiful lands," and late developments in that now prosperous and thriving territory prove that the title was well deserved.

The soil is deep and fertile, and covered with

The soil is deep and fertile, and covered with a dense forest, or rolling prairies. The country is watered by hundreds of small streams, which are tributaries of Red river, or the Cana-

dian.

One of the horsemen was about forty-five years of age, though his bronzed face and long white hair gave him the appearance of being much older. His companion was a youth of not over two and twenty. Both were attired in the costume essential to western travel. They wore the soft, broad-brimmed hats, the heavy riding boots, and coarse garb so essential to the plains man. Each was armed with a repeating rifle, a knife and a brace of revolvers.

a repeating rifle, a knife and a brace of revolvers.

The faces of both were stern and grave, and the young man's in addition, denoted fatigue. He was evidently unaccustomed to roughing it, in the wild West. His hands were too soft and his complexion too clear, for him to have been long on the frontier, yet his bright blue eye was bold, and his nerves as steady as if he had led a life of danger.

"We must be far from civilization now, Ned," said the youth in a voice which he designed to be cheerful.

"Yes, we are in the midst of the country called Oklahoma," his companion answered.

"Beautiful,—beautiful land indeed. Why Ned, this is a veritable paradise."

"It is indeed lovely."

"Have you ever been here before?"

"Yes, I have been through the country a number of times. Three times I have guided the troops in here, to drive out the white settlers."

"It seems wrong that the poor white people

settlers."
"It seems wrong that the poor white people cannot live in this beautiful country."
Ned merely sighed and bowed his iron-grey head. It was for the courts, and the interior department at Washington to decide and not for him to bother himself about. The man whom the youth called Ned, was Major Edward Todd, who had earned a national reputation, as a guide, western detective and ranger. At one time he was a major in a regiment of Texas rangers, and since then he employed his time in ferreting out criminals who infested the Indian Territory. dian Territory.

For a few moments, the horsemen rode along

the narrow wood path in silence, while their pack mules with their heavy burdens jogged along in their rear. At last the younger man, whose name was Archie Holland, with a sigh,

"Ned, do you think that we will find him?"
"Your father?" asked the detective in a manner which indicated that the subject was not a new one to him.
"Yes."

"Yes."
"I have a strong hope. Can you put any reliance in Frank Erwin?"
"It was his dying confession."
"Was he sane?"
"He was. He was mortally wounded in a saloon fight and carried to the hospital. Knowing that I was in the city he sent for me and ing that I was in the city, he sent for me, and told me that my father who has been missing for ten years, and who was supposed to have been murdered by the Indians while on his ranch in Texas, was here in Oklahoma a pris-

'It is strange that your father should be

"It is strange that your latner should be kept a prisoner for ten years."
"There is a mystery attached to it which I cannot understand. Having full confidence in your ability to ferret out such things, I employed you for that purpose. I shall depend altogether on your judgment, Major."
Major Todd was silently chewing his quid of tobacco, while his keen eyes wandered through the woods. They were surrounded by danger

the woods. They were surrounded by danger on every hand, and he knew that their venture

on every hand, and he knew that their venture might terminate at any moment in the death of himself, or his employer, or both.

Archie Holland's father had been a very wealthy stock dealer, who had numerous ranches in Texas, and all along the frontier.

Archie was his only son and heir. His mother had been married before she married Mr. Holland, and had a son by her former hus-

band. Ralph Spencer was twelve years older band. Raiph Spencer was tweive years order than his half brother, whom he despised. He had gone out west to care for one of his step-father's ranches, and finally ran away, and was not heard from any more. Archie Holland's mother was dead, and there was nothing now to hinder him from following the bent of his inclinations. inclinations.

He determined to unravel the mystery con-cerning his father's fate, or lose his life in the effort.

"Archie," said his companion, in a cautious undertone, "do you think that you can stand

"Yes," the young fellow answered, fixing his clear blue eyes in astonishment on the face of his interlocutor. "Why do you ask?" "Because we are in imminent peril."
"From Boomers?"

"From Boomers?"

"No, no, the boomers are several miles from here, but if I am not very much mistaken we are in the district infested by Captain Snell."

"Captain Snell, who is he? A Boomer?"

"No, worse than that."

"Explain yourself, Ned, I never heard of this man Captain Snell before."

"He is well known to record a clong the bore."

"He is well known to people along the border. He is an outlaw. A road agent."
"A robber?"

"Yes."
"Well, he has certainly chosen a place where he can do mankind but little harm."
"You are mistaken. He has about him a band of horse thieves and desperadoes, white renegades, Indians, and negroes. They steal horses, rob wagon trains, ranches and even pillage villages, always seeking safety from pursuit in this vast wilderness, and neutral ground, where they have not yet been successfully pursued."
"Major," said the youth. He sometimes called the detective Major, and sometimes

fully pursued."
"Major," said the youth. He sometimes called the detective Major, and sometimes Ned.
"What were you about to say?" asked Ned?
"May it not be possible that this man, Captain Snell, is the person who has captured my father?" father?

nave in my mind connected him with it, since I first heard your story," the ranger detective answered. "But it would be wholly unlike Snell to spare the life of a prisoner. He prefers killing, as dead men tell no tales."

"Hark!" "I have in my mind connected him with it,

There was a crashing sound in the woods on their left. Before the Major could comprehend what Archie was about, the young fellow had slipped from his horse, and with rifle in hand plunged into the thicket. He was gone but a moment when the sharp stunning report of a rifle filled the woods with reverberating sechoes. echoes.

echoes.

"Confusion!" cried the ranger springing from his horse and cocking his gun. "The boy is as rash as boys always are. It may be some redskin drawing him into an ambuscade."

The ranger knew that was Archie's rifle that he heard. He also knew that he was giving something a close chase through the woods, for he could hear the loud tramp of feet. A few moments later the youth reappeared rifle in hand. in hand.

"What was it?" asked the ranger.
"I don't know what it was," Archie answered shaking his head mysteriously.
"You don't? Did you not shoot at it?"
"Oh yes, I shot at something like a man, as it ran away, and then it seemed to all at once change to a parther and next to a horse and

it ran away, and then it seemed to all at once change to a panther, and next to a horse, and it galloped away."
"Did you see the horse?"
"No, but I heard the horse's feet, just as plain as I ever heard anything. I tell you, Major, there must be something supernatural about it."
The ranger smiled. To him it was all very clear. After a few moments lost in listening

clear. After a few moments lost in listening for some signs of an enemy, he said:
"Mount your horse Archie, we must be

going.

"But that thing," said the mystifled youth.
"I can't understand it. Have you any explanation?"

nation?"
"Yes, it was an Indian with a panther's skin wrapped around him. He had a horse concealed in the bushes, and ran away to him. It is a wonder that he did not send a bullet or an arrow into you."
"But I thought that there were no Indians here."

"But I thought that there were no Indians here."

"This they claim for their reservation."

"Are not all the Indians here friendly?"

"Yes, or supposed to be. There are hundreds of them, though, who will not hesitate to send a shot into a traveler, if they think they will not be discovered in the act."

They were riding down the path which at this point became a narrow rocky defile, with

They were riding down the path which at this point became a narrow rocky defile, with bluffs and tall trees on either side. The youth felt his nerves tingle with excitement, and clutching his rifle nervously, his eyes searched the woods about him.

Suddenly a wild unearthly shriek rent the air, and from the bluff above on their right, are thurdering a burge stone weighing the

came thundering a huge stone weighing two

or three tons.
"Back! back!" cried the frontier detective, wheeling his horse about so suddenly, that he struck the horse on which Archie was riding, and almost unseated him. Both horses got out mass of rock which struck into the bed of the ravine with a thundering shock. Small frag-ments of stone were scattered over the two

They glanced up to the bluff above from whence the stone had fallen, but no sign of any one could be seen. It was certainly very

mysterious.
"Ned," said the youth, "do you understand it?"

"Everything, but that warning cry," answered the border detective leaping from his horse, and with his rifle in his hand running up the steep rocky hillside with the agility of a mountain sheep. But a few moments later he returned, his face wearing a still more puzzled look.

"Moior what did you see?" asked the youth

puzzied look.

"Major, what did you see?" asked the youth.

"Nothing after I got up there."

"Did you see anything before you went?"

"Yes, if my eyes did not deceive me, and they never have, I saw the face of an Indian in war paint."

"Impossible, what become of """

"Impossible, what became of it?"
"That's what puzzles me most. I can't say what became of it," answered the ranger shaking his head very mysteriously. "It is gone, whatever it was. There were two of them, one a friend and one a foe."
"How do you know?"

"How do you know?"

"The warning \_cry was from a friend, the mass of stone a toe. When a redskin decides to kill anyone, he does not give him warning in advance."

in advance."
"I had not thought of that."

"You must think of everything here."

"I believe you."

"I believe you."
They rode unmolested down the narrow rocky defile which seemed wedged in between two hills. It was undoubtedly the bed of a stream that was dry at certain seasons of the year. At last they came to a level bottom, covered with oak, pecan, hackberry and various other kinds of trees common to this country.

While gazing about among the cool dark aisles, the youth suddenly caught a glimpse of an object, which suddenly flitted behind a giant oak.

giant oak

giant oak.

"Look, Major, look," he cried wheeling his horse about toward the tree.

"What do you see?" the ranger asked.

"A head; a feather, see!"

A white puff of smoke curled up from the

distant tree, and the next moment a rifle bullet came whistling through the air, piercing the broad brim of the Major's hat.

In an instant both horsemen had clapped spurs to their horses, and were thundering away into the woods after the would-be assassin, like a brace of thunderbolts. They reached the tree while the smoke hung still like a faint cloud upon the air, and was fading

like a faint cloud upon the air, and was fading away among the woods.

But not a sign of the would-be assassin was to be seen. They searched diligently, but without avail. The ranger detective dismounted and examined the earth for some sign of the trail, but it could not be found. This led him to believe that the rascal was in the tree, but a careful examination proved that he was not, and they once more returned to the path which they had been traveling.

to the path which they had been traveling.

The ranger detective was silent, while his brow was gathered into a knot of wrinkles, and it was apparent to the youth, that he had met a mystery that he was incapable of solving. They came to a creek, the water of which was so deep as to come quite up to the bodies of their horses.
"Look there, Major," said the youth draw-

"Where id it going?"

"Where did it come from?" said the Major.
"I will ride back and see," said Archie Holland. He had wheeled his horse about, when

land. He had wheeled his horse about, when suddenly a sharp cry farther ahead, arrested his attention.

"There it is again,—that warning voice. What is it?" cried the ranger for the first time showing some degree of excitement.

With his horse's forefeet in the stream, Archie had paused and was looking back at the detective as if to ask what he should do. Another shrill, unearthly shriek in the dark woods ahead attended by the shouts of men's voices, was borne to their ears. Major Todd could retain himself no longer.

"Come on, come on, there's trouble ahead and we have no time to lose!" he cried.

In a moment Archie was at his side, rifle

In a moment Archie was at his side, rifle ready, and eyes blazing with excitement.

Leaving their pack mules to follow, they dashed away at the top of the speed of their borges.

horses.

Suddenly the sharp report of a pistol rang out on the air. It was followed by a cry of pain, and two or three more shots in quick succession. Loud angry voices, and the clash of arms, made it evident that a conflict was raging in that dark old wood.

"Has some one been attacked by Indians?" asked Archie, as they thundered along the path.

"More likely, it's Captain Snell's gang," an-

"More likely, it's Captain Snell's gang," answered the major.
The sounds of conflict were receding, and mingled with them was the rattle of carriage or wagon wheels. There was a crash at last, followed by a double report, and the shriek of a female rose on the air.

"It's a woman, Major, Heaven help her!" groaned the youth.

"Let's help her ourselves," cried the border ranger, as he spurred his horse onward, cocking his rifle and holding the bridle rein in his teeth.

teeth.

The horsemen did not see the grape vine that was stretched across the path, until it struck both of them at the waists, and sent them whirling to the ground. Their rifles were dis-charged in the air, and their horses fled into the woods.

#### CHAPTER II.

#### SIGNS AND ADVENTURES.

Neither Archie nor the ranger were injured Neither Archie nor the ranger were injured beyond a few trifling bruises by the fall. In a moment both were on their feet trying to recall their horses, which had stopped a few rods away, and stood uneasily sniffing the air."

After some little delay they caught them, and slipping a couple of cartridges in their guns, again vaulted in their saddles.

"They're not far," said the youth.

"Yes, but it is all over," his companion returned.

Strange to say not a single sound of conflict had been borne to their ears after they had been thrown from their horses. They rode more carefully, yet at considerable speed. When they had gone about two hundred yards, they came upon a dark form lying at down her back, almost to the belt about her the roadside. It was a man either dead or waist.

dying.

Archie Holland threw himself from his horse, and raised him to a half-sitting position. He now noticed that he was about fifty tion. He now noticed that he was about fity years of age, his head was quite bald, his beard long and gray. A few feet further away lay a dead horse and the wreck of a buggy. "Who did this? Speak quick," cried Archie realizing that the stranger's moments on earth

"Captain Snell, and his cut throats,"

"Captain Snell, and his cut throats," was the answer in a very feeble voice, for the blood was welling up from a wound in his breast. "Who are you, and where are you going?" asked the detective, who at this moment had

asked the detective, who at this moment had come to the dying man's side.

"I am Randolph Miller, and was going to the Boomers' camp on Calvary Creek, with my daughter. The villians came on me and shot me and carried her away."

His deathly pale face, and the contortions of his features showed that he was suffering extreme agony. But his mental agony for the loss of his daughter was far greater than his physical suffering. Although it cost him a great effort he continued: physical suffering. Although it cost him a great effort he continued:
"If you are men with hearts in your bosoms,

if you ever had any sympathy for a stricken man, oh, rescue her! Death is better than captivity with such monsters! Save, oh, save my Daisy!"

Archiv Holland was so deeply impressed by

Archie Holland was so deeply impressed by the appeal of the dying man, that there upon his knee, holding the hand that was growing

stiff in death, he swore that Daisy Miller should be found and rescued from her captors or he would perish in the effort.

The detective reminded him that he already had one object to accomplish, but he paid no heed to him. Youth is quick, impulsive, and not likely to listen to reason.

A few gasps and the man who had given his life in defense of his child, was dead.

"He is gone," said Archie, rising to his feet.

"We must bury him before we proceed further," said the detective. "Wild animals would devour the body, before we could return

would devour the body, before we could return

The mules had by this time come up, and from one pack they took an axe and, with their knives they soon hollowed out a shallow grave.

knives they soon hollowed out a shallow grave. In this they put the body, and covered it up with earth and stones.

"Now Major," said Archie solemnly, "we have a new obligation upon us. The young lady must be found."

"I am very much afraid young man, that you are putting so much upon our shoulders, that we shall not succeed with any of it."

"But this was a very solemn obligation," said the youth, thoughtfully. "Who could refuse the dying man such a request? Not I. I swore to him that I would rescue his daughter and I will."

They mounted their horses and with their

and I will."

They mounted their horses and with their pack mules following, rode away. What had become of the outlaws and how many of them were they? were questions that constantly occurred to both travelers. The noon-day sun was high in the heavens, and with the exciting events of the morning, both the travelers had grown quite hungry. They had sufficient provision to last them several days. Todd, understanding the youth, asked him if he did not think it almost time to feed.

"I believe it is," he answered. "At least, I

"I believe it is," he answered. "At least, I feel that way."

There is an open spot about half a mile fur-

"There is an open spot about half a mile further on where we can halt and cook our dinners, while the horses graze."

They rode to the spot, which was near a spring of clear cold water.

"What a delightful country," said young Holland dismounting, and gazing in admiration on the wild picturesque scenery which surrounded them. The country was indeed possessed of a wild, strange beauty, calculated to charm the beholder and at the same time inspire him with awe.

spire him with awe.
The detective gathered up a few armfuls of ry wood and started a fire. Archie was not the boy to play the fine gentleman, and ren-dered all the assistance he could. Having been but a few days on the frontier he was not yet proficient in camp duties. The horses were picketed out to graze in the narrow valley, near the camp.

picketed out to graze in the narrow valley, near the camp.

Dinner was almost ready. The Major was squatting at the fire with a piece of venison on the point of a sharp stick, holding it over the coals, when again that warning cry was heard from the bluff above. Before he could turn his head, or even rise from where he sat, there came a loud report from the bluff above, and an ounce ball whizzing past the Major's cheek struck the venison steak from the stick, and sent the ashes flying in every direction.

The startled frontiersman sprang to his rifle, but his young companion was ahead of him.

The startled frontiersman sprang to his rifle, but his young companion was ahead of him, and three shots rang out in quick succession from his repeating Winchester rifle. Before the smoke had blown from the spot where Archie stood, he was half way up the steep hillside, tearing along over the rocks and bushes, regardless of the scratches and bruises. In fifteen minutes he was back to find the frontiersman putting the finishing touches to the dinner.

"You've been gone so long that dinner has almost got cold," said Ned Todd quietly.
"I was trying to kill that infernal redskin or scoundrel, whoever or whatever he is."
"Well, did you succeed?"
"No—"

"I knew you would not. He is too shrewd to put himself in your way."
"But how does he manage to disappear as soon as he shoots? That's the question I would like to have answered."

"Just now it's a question that I am not able to answer, so let us eat our dinner and think the whole thing over afterwards."

While eating their venison steak and army bread their horses began to utter snorts of surprise or terror. The men grasped their rifles and wheeled about to meet an object that filled them with astonishment.

prise or terror. The men grasped their rifes and wheeled about to meet an object that filled them with astonishment.

Coming leisurely toward them was a woman. Her dark face and sharp black eyes were evidence that she had Indian blood in her veins. She wore a short skirt coming a little below the knee, and ornamented with a fringe of braided beads. Her jacket was made of the tanned skins of wild animals, elaborately and fantastically ornamented. A pair of close-fitting leggings covered her legs, and her small feet were encased in a pair of moccasins, the soles of which were made of the toughest bull's hide. Her slender waist was encircled by a belt in which was a brace of pistols and a dirk knife, while she carried a rifle in her hand. Her head was without covering save her abundant hair that was gathered back and held by a bright red ribbon, hanging in massive splenoor down her back, almost to the belt about her

waist.

She was a being more calculated to excite curiosity than alarm in a romantic youth, like Archie Holland. Without evincing either fear or hostility toward the strangers, she adrefine Holland. Without evincing either fear or hostility toward the strangers, she advanced in a bold reckless manner, and in a voice of the clearest, purest English said: "Good-day, gentlemen."
"Good-day to you, be seated," said the

Major.
With careless ease she threw herself upon the grass within a few feet of the travelers.
"Will you not have some dinner?" asked the

"Will you not have some dinner?" asked the detective.

"No, I'm not hungry."
Archie fixed his eyes on the strange woman. Notwithstanding she was bronzed by long exposure to wind and weather, there were still left upon her face some traces of beauty. She was near thirty years of age, but about her large black eyes, there was a look of youthfulness.

Do you live about here?" asked the ranger.

"Do you live about here?" asked the ranger.
"No, I live up on Bender's Fork."
"Then you must be out hunting?"
"Yes, for men," she answered, with a strange laugh. The Major fixed his shrewd gray eyes on her for a moment in an enquiring manner. She met his gaze and after a moment said:
"Ned Todd, I thought you too smart to venture down here."
"I have businese"

"I have business."

"I know all about it, but I tell you it is impossible." (CONTINUED ON PAGE 19.)



CONDUCTED BY AUNT SARAH.



HEN the average housewife is found lamenting over a "batch of poor bread," she is very apt to exclaim, "It must be the flour." But were she to visit the baking department of a large mill where fine patent flour is made, she would certainly look about for so me other agency of evil before she condemned her flour, provided of course she had used a brand of good quality. Probably she never dreamed that bread was baked in a flour mill, any more than she would expect washing to be done, or baths to be given in a soap factory,—but it is. On the upper floor of a big stone building in Minneapolis, in the midst of dozens of railroad tracks, and with the rumble and vibration of heavy machinery all about, is to be found the baking, or as it is technically termed, the testing department, of the largest flour mill in the world.

This department occupies three rooms, the office, the kitchen and the testing room, all as immaculately clean as the traditional Dutch kitchen is fitted out faultlessly with mixing table, shining tins and rising and baking ovens, and the perfection of every appliance for baking would fill the average housewife's heart with envy. The rising oven has three tiers of shelves, to each of which the heat may be

ovens, and the perfection of every appliance for baking would fill the average housewife's heart with envy. The rising oven has three tiers of shelves, to each of which the heat may be turned on separately. The bottoms are fitted with small boards each of which accommodate a loaf. The doors are of glass. This rising oven maintains a perfectly even heat which is tested by means of a thermometer secured in the back of each tier. The baking ovens, for there are two, are of sheet iron, one round, the other square. These two are heated to an exact temperature for each baking. All the heat is supplied by electricity, and the baker has only to turn a knob and his fire is ready.

But of the actual work of testing the flour, that done in the testing room is to be inspected first. In this room is a miniature rolling mill, where samples of all newly received wheat are ground between rollers and bolted. The samples of what is thus ground are then subjected to the gluten test. For this a small portion of each is mixed with a given amount of water and then put in small pats on a glass slab. These are analyzed in order to ascertain the proportion of gluten and starch which each contains.

the proportion of gluten and starch which each contains. A report is made to the wheat men which enables them to determine where the

best wheat is coming from, and accordingly where to buy.
An expert can
judge of the
quality of the
wheat by the appearance of the pats on the glass. The dry color shows on top,

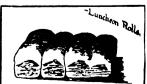


shows on top, after it has stood for a time, and the moist color may be seen through the glass. If there is doubt about the strength of the gluten, a baking test is made. A small piece of the gluten dough is put into the bottom of a cylinder, and above it in the cylinder is placed a weight of eleven and one-half ounces. The cylinder,—there are four fitted into a sort of frame which keeps them upright,—is then placed in an oven heated to 600, and baked. The strength of the gluten is indicated by the height to which the weight above it is raised.

Besides the gluten test which is for the purpose of determining the quality of the wheat received, the flour itself is tested several times each day. Samples are taken from each one of the company's mills, usually five times during the twenty-four hours. These are subjected to the color test. This consists in mixing a given portion of each sample of flour with an exact proportion of water. The dough is then put in small pats on glass, and the dry and moist color of each is noted and compared with dough of standard grade. This is known

and moist color of each is noted and compared and moist color of each is noted and compared with dough of standard grade. This is known as the "standard dough test," and enables the man who does the testing to locate at once any flavor which is falling below the standard. The samples are not taken at stated times, and the head miller never knows at what moment his flour may be taken to the testing room.

After the dough test, some of the flour from each mill is taken and baked into a loaf of bread. To the uninitiated this seems the most satisfactory test of all, since the proof of the bread, as well as the pudding, "is in the eating." When the loaves have been baked each ing." When the loaves have been based one is numbered, that the baker may know to which mill each loaf belongs, but the numbers are changed every day, so that the head millers never know which loaf is their own until after the test has been



made.
The head miller of each mill goes to the test-ing room every day at a given hour to test the loaves. Each loaf is cut in two

lengthwise and the millers in turn are required to grade the loaves in accordance with a standard grade. Sometimes the miller unknowingly condemns his own as falling below the standard, but the test is absolutely fair, and it has the effect of keeping the miller up to the mark as regards the flour his mill puts out.

And this is the prime object of all the testing, to keep the quality of all the flour put out by the company's mills up to the very highest

Each flour is measured in all its dimensions, weighed and color noted, and a complete re-port of the day's baking is sent to each man-ager and head miller, while a record is kept al-

ager and head miller, while a record is kept also in the testing office.

After all the tests have been made, the remaining flour in each sample is put into a glass jar properly labeled with date, mill and shipment, and is kept for six months. This is done as a precaution against unjust claims for rebate. Sometimes after a merchant has bought a large consignment of flour, the wheat market drops, and in order that he may not lose on the deal he will claim a rebate, stating that the flour was not up to standard grade. The tester goes at once to his glass jars, picks out his sample of the flour that was sent, makes a loaf of bread from it and sends it to the complaining customer, asking what he considers wrong ing customer, asking what he considers wrong with it. It has proved a safe precaution, although one not often required to be brought

into evidence.

The process and essential points of bread making as given by the baker of this mill will making as given by the baker of this mill will be of interest to every housewife. Every step of the bread making is done by rule, and there is no guesswork or "luck" in the process from start to finish. The exact time given to one batch of bread from the beginning of mixing to its withdrawal from the oven, is three hours. "The quicker the dough is off your hands, the better bread you will have," is the baker's way of putting it.

better bread you will have," is the baker's way of putting it.

In mixing the bread, every ingredient is weighed accurately, the flour, water, lard, compressed yeast, and even the sugar and salt. Then it is set to rise in the rising oven which is kept at a uniform temperature of eighty-five degrees. It will rise sufficiently in this oven in forty minutes, when it is taken out and worked down by hand. This process consists of pulling it apart over and over again instead of using the ordinary method of kneading. It is then set away again in the rising oven and left thirty minutes, after which it is worked in the same way and put into the baking tins. When it has nearly doubled its size again it is ready for the baking oven. This is kept at a temperature of four hundred degrees, and the loaves bake in another forty minutes, but they are somewhat smaller than the ordinary household loaf.

All the work is done by hand, while the bak-All the work is done by hand, while the baking is by electricity. Compressed yeast is used, but this is obtained in the dry state, as the moist yeast does not rise as rapidly. The ordinary dry yeast of the market does not, however, rise as fast as the compressed, even in its moist state. The lard used is real leaf lard, tried out in the kitchen, not the rendered lard of commerce.

An average of 30 loaves is baked each day at this mill. After their testing by the head this mill. After their testing by the head millers and the official tester, the loaves are given to a certain number of poor families who

send each day to the mill for their regular supply.
It would be difficult to imag-

ine a more thor-ough process of flour testing than is here employed, and it is by this means that the fine patent flour is kept of so high and uniform a grade.

At the present time there is much discussion as to the relative



SPRINGERLIE.

of various grain foods, as compared with fine white flour. The patent flour, it is stated by a flour expert, is rich in gluten, in proteids, and in all those elements of the wheat which go to build up all the various parts of the human system. The best and most nutrient parts of



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three packages for 25 cents, or single package cents. New catalogue and shade cards free. Ad W. CUSHING & CO., Dept. S. Foxorof

REE WATCH AND CHAIN For One Day's Work Fully Guarante We will send you a Nickel-Plated Watch, also a Chain and Charm, for selling 18 pkgs, of BLUINE at ten cents each. Bluine is the best laundry bluing in the world, and the fast-BLUINE MFG. CO., Box 556Concord Junction, Mass.

the wheat are preserved. Another argument in favor of the white flour is its absolute cleantiness and freedom from all impurities and adulterations. This is not only due to the cleanliness of mills and machinery, but also to the necessary process of bolting. The germ is preserved in all other cereal foods, and this will in time cause the food to become unfit for

will in time cause the food to become unit for use, and will in many cases cause fermentation after eating unless the stomach is very strong. So in spite of the latter day arguments which are aired on nearly every new cereal put upon the market, we may still feel safe in eating good wholesome bread and biscuit made from fine white flour.

We have been asked for the recipe for making the delicious little cakes which are universally made in Germany a few weeks before Christmas. These cakes are called springerlie, and we give recipe for making, also illustration of the mould.

springerlie.

Beat the yolks of four eggs until lightcolored and thick, the whites until dry, then
beat together. Add the grated rind of a lemon,
and beat in very gradually one pound of sifted
powdered sugar. Lastly add one pound of
flour, sifted with one-fourth teaspoonful of
salt and a scant level teaspoonful of bakingpowder. Add the last of the flour cautiously,
as all may not be required. Knead the dough,
cover closely, and let chill two or three hours.
Then roll, a small piece at a time, into a sheet
one-eighth an inch thick. With a very fine
sieve dust the sheet of dough lightly with
flour, then press the wooden mould down very
hard upon the dough. Cut out the little
squares with a knife and set aside, on a board
lightly floured, over night. In the morning
transfer to baking-tins, buttered and sprinkled
with anise seed, and bake in a slow oven to a
light straw-color.

N Paraguay oranges are found in great abundance, many of the trees growing wild. The fruit forms a staple article of diet for the poor people, especially for those who live in the country. A tree seven years old averages about 1000 oranges during the season, which extends from April to December, inclusive. The poorer oranges are fed to hogs kept by the farmers, and orange-fed pork is said to have a delicious flavor.

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folly to take them. You must get the disease out of the blood.

My remedy does that, even in the most difficult, obstinate cases. No matter how impossible this seems to you. I know it and I take this risk. I have cured tens of thousands of cases in this way, and my records show that 39 out of 40 who get those six bottles pay, and gladly. I have learned that people in general are honest with a physician who cures them. That is all I ask. If I fail I don't expect a penny from you.

Simply write me a postal card or letter. Let me send you an order for the medicine; also a book. Take it for a month, for it won't harm you anyway. If it cures pay \$5.50. I leave that entirely to you. Address Dr. Shoop, Box 304, Racine, Wis.

Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

mmigration to this country seems to be on the increase, in spite of the stringent laws governing it. The official figures of the immigration to this country for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899, show that 311,715 immigrants arrived during the year against a total of 229,299 for 1898, 230.832 for 1897. The successful war with Spain was the leading cause for the increase.



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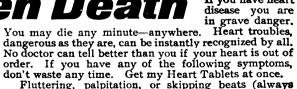
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WRITTEN FOR COMFORT



ERY elaborate were the preparations made by President and Mrs. Roosevelt for the bril-Roosevelt for the bril-liant ball which they gave at the White House in Washington, on the evening of Jan-uary third. Its suc-cess was especially gratifying to them for upon that occasion they formally present-ed their daughter Alice ed their daughter Alice to the social world of the Nation's Capital. It was the social event

MISS ALICE ROOSEVELT. MISS ALICE ROOSEVELT. of the season. Intended originally as a purely debutante affair, confined to young ladies and their escorts, it grew daily until it resulted in bringing together un-der the roof of the President's home the most distinguished party that has assembled there since the days of President Grant's regime, when his daughter Nellie was ushered into so-

The scene was full of animation. The Army and Navy officers were in full dress, the diplo-

and Navy officers were in full dress, the diplomats from foreign countries, many of whom hold high military rank, were gorgeous in the finest uniforms of the crack regiments of the Old World, and the costumes of the ladies in attendance were brilliant in the extreme.

Miss Roosevelt's gown was a model of simplicity. It was of white chiffon, embroidered in white roses, made with a train and falling in simple, graceful lines, well adapted to the splendid figure of the wearer. More than one thousand exquisite bouquets of flowers were received by her, and they were displayed on the six great mantlepieces of the East Room, and in their mass and delicate bloom were the principal features of the decorations.

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt danced the

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt danced the opening waltz, composed especially for the oc-casion, the former with Mrs. Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts, and the latter with Senator Kean of New Jersey. Miss Roosevelt led her train of cavaliers and ladies through

Major Charles L. McCawley of the Marine Corps.

There were five hundred guests and among them were

persons from every portion of the country. Miss Ruth Hanna, daughter of the Senator from Ohio; Miss Rebec-ca Page Knox, daughter of the Attorney General; Miss Edith, Secretary of War

Edith, Secretary of War miss RUTH HANNA. Root's daughter, and many others of equal prominence were there.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, shows that there are 997,735 pensioners on the government rolls, and that during the year the enormous sum of \$144,003,469.01 was expended in payment of pensions and the administration of the pension office. There are on the rolls the names of 715,657 soldiers who served in the Civil War, and also the names of 20,122 men who served in the navy of the United States during the same period.

There are upon the rolls the names of nine widows and daughters of revolutionary soldiers, and 1,528 of the widows and survivors of the war of 1812. The rates of pensions granted range from \$100 per month down to \$6 per month. Not only is a pension granted to a soldier, but to his widow, minor children and dependent relatives, under certain prescribed legal restrictions. Indeed, there are now on the rolls the names of 258,411 widows, children and dependent relatives of soldiers of our various wars. Since the foundation of the and dependent relatives of soldiers of our various wars. Since the foundation of the government there has been expended for pensions the sum of \$2,849,173,372.41.

The Emperor of Germany has invited the President's daughter, Alice, to christen his new yacht, which he has had built in this country, and the distinguished honor has been accepted in her behalf by President Roosevelt. Prince Henry of Germany, the Kaiser's younger brother, has been selected to represent the German Emperor at the festivities, which will take place February 25. The new yacht is to be named "Alice," in honor of Miss Rooseveltand a cousin of the Emperor, the Czarina of Russia, who was the Princess Alix of Hesse, grand-daughter of Queen Victoria.

President Roosevelt has selected Hon. White-law Reid of New York, General James H. Wil-son of Delaware and Capt. Charles Edgar-Clark of the U.S. Navy, to represent the United States at the coronation of the King and Queen of England in May next.

Comfort announced last month that Post-master General Smith and Secretary Gage had resigned their places in the cabinet. To succeed General Smith the President appointed Henry C. Payne of Wisconsin and named Leslie M. Shaw of Iowa as successor to Secretary

cessor to Secretary

cessor to Secretary
Gage.

Henry C. Payne
was born in Ashfield,
Mass., Nov. 23, 1843.
Nearly forty years
ago he removed to
Milwaukee, Wis., and
has since resided
there. He is a successful business man and a railway manager.
He was receiver for the Northern Pacific Railroad from 1893 to 1895. At present he is at the
head of the Electric Railway and Light Com-

pany of Milwaukee and the Wisconsin Telephone Company. For ten years he was postmaster of Milwaukee, having been appointed by President Grant in 1876, and served under Hayes, Garfield, Arthur and Cleveland until 1886, so that he knows the business of the postal service thoroughly. Mr. Payne is full of industry and administrative ability and that he will successfully master the details of the department over which he now presides is the firm belief of those who know him best.

Leslie Mortimer Shaw, whom President Roosevelt has made Secretary of the Treasury, was born in Morristown, Vt., Nov. 2, 1848. When very young he went west and located in Iowa. For more than twenty-five years he has practised law in Dennison, Iowa. In 1898 and

Dennison, Iowa. In 1898 and 1900 he was elected Governor of the State, and has been

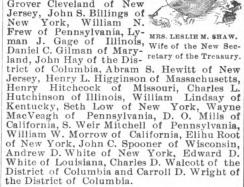
one of the most popular Governors Iowa has had in many years.

A determined effort will be made at this session of Congress to secure the admission to Statehood of the three territories—New Mexico, Arizona and Oklahoma. It is not denied that all three territories have sufficient population to enable them to become states, but there is some question as to the desirability of admitting Indians, half-breeds and Mexicans.

A memorial meeting in honor of the late President McKinley will be held in the hall of the House of Representatives in Washington on Thursday, Feb. 27, at which time Secretary Hay will deliver an address. The meeting will be held at noon and it is expected that a large attendance will be present. attendance will be present.

Bills have been introduced in Congress to make the census bureau permanent and to pension ex-Presidents at a salary of twenty-five thousand dollars a year, one-half of the salary now paid the President. These bills are

The trustees, whom Mr. Andrew Carnegie has named to assume the management of the great educational institution which he is to endow with the princely sum of ten million dollars, are as follows: The President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Secretary of Smithsonian Institution, the President of the National Academy of Sciences, Grover Cleveland of New Jersey, John S. Billings of



The President of the Spanish Claims Commission, Ex-Senator William E. Chandler of New Hampshire, has published an important letter in which he makes an

argument for a reform in the present methods of con-ducting executive business. He believes that the President of the United States should not be bothered with appointments to office, but should be free to consider the few very important matters which must be settled ters which must be settled by the chief executive of the nation. Mr. Chandler thinks that the great weight of the pressure for office should fall upon the cabinet ministers and the President ought to have more time for important things.

time for important things.

Galusha A. Grow of Pennsylvania was first elected to Congress in 1850, when he was 37 years of age. He was Speaker of the thirty-seventh Congress. In 1894 he was again elected to the House and has been a member of that body ever since. While he has not served so many years in Congress as some of his colleagues he has the greater disleagues he has the greater distinction of having been a member of the lower branch

half a century ago, a distinction that no other Congress-Galusha A. Grow. man or Senator can claim. Although for more than half a century he has been prominent in public life he is still a leader of men.

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While one half of our country shivers in the bleak winter of the North, the other portion is basking in southern resorts. Year by year the number of those who are able to "chase summer" increases and out of door amusements are pursued from our summer resorts steadily south to winter resorts.

Now some of the critics are trying to prove that Satan never was in Heaven. As the nonorthodox long since reasoned him out of an infernal kingdom there seems no place left for him but this earth. We at least have to admit that he seems rather busy here.

If the novelists and play writers show as indefatigable industry in the future as they do at present no, field of American life, manners, customs or ideas will be left unexploited. We have dialect vernacular and localisms until North is South, and East is West in thorough knowledge of local speech, ideas and traditions. As these books increase it becomes more and more evident that no single book can ever hope to be the great American novel. Our territory is too vast and too diversified to compress in the narrow limit of one book. The Philippines, Porto Rico, Guam and Hawaii yet remain as fresh fields for the novelist who would photograph American life in all its varied aspects.

We cannot but feel more than the usual interest in all that relates to Spain. An inquiry has recently been instituted relating to the fate of some thousands of Spanish prisoners who are believed to be yet in the hands of the insurgents. The Spanish government has been characteristically slow to act in the matter and a committee of women relatives of the prisoners have solicited Mrs. Dewey to present a memorial to our Congress asking its kindly offices in ascertaining the fate of the captives. This is the last session of the Spanish Cortes that will meet under the regency of the Queen. In May, Alfonso comes of age. There are many who predict a radical change of policy in Spain and the institution of many needed reforms at that time. Spain has not been a success as a colonial power but the United States today has a better appreciation of the difficulty of the problem of rule over an alien race than she had when we acquired the territory from

The fierce white light that beats upon a throne makes royal domestic infelicity even more of a tragedy than such affairs usually are. Europe has had two royal love matches within the past few years. Servia's young king wedded the woman of his choice in the face of all opposition. He seemed a veritable Prince Charming of the old fashion days of true love. Then Holland's girl queen chose whom she wanted as Prince Consort. Now all Europe is receiving tresh assurance that Love is truly blind and no less so than when he shoots his arrows towards a throne. It is the royal parties to these marriages, the ones who made the selections who are becoming weary of their bargain. Royal divorces are the topics of the hour in both Holland and Servia and as there are no children to be considered in either household, the sharers of the thrones may find themselves divorced.

The honorable senator from Massachusetta has awakened much interest by his apparently honest declaration that the nations of the earth should purchase an island and deport to it all anarchists who could then work out their systems of no government to their own edifica-

tion and to the annoyance of no one else. Many papers have been at a loss whether to consider the proposition jest or earnest. If the latter what then? Whom shall we deport? How shall we define anarchy! Is it resistance to legal government and law? We have laws that provide for the punishment in such cases. Is it incendiary utterances against existing social. political or religious conditions? Is it assassination of a ruler? How shall we define anarchy? Are lynch law and mob rule anarchy? Are we to have political criminals like those of Russia and a Saghelian like Russia's convict island? Public sentiment must be the island of exile for anarchists while crimes that come within the reach of the law must have adequate punishment proportioned to the crime. Assault with intent to kill is too lightly punished whether the victim be president or pauper. Senator Hoar's proposition is the plan of an idealist who has been too long removed from the stern school of facts.

combination of rhyme that exaggerated sentiment could devise. The maid of today as she gazes upon the time yellowed record of a love that wrote itself as deathless may smile—partly in derision at the manner of expression but wholly in sympathy after all with the sentiment. She and her world are ashamed to give such poetic expression to the feeling—but the feeling is there. In this age of extravagance and display the intrinsic value of the gift says in the century's intense material fashion what the time worn paper does, "I love you." It is true the bunch of hot house violets may rest in a bowl of priceless china or the basket of orchids may contain a jewelled heart; for after all these things do the Gentiles seek. Yet without the old fashion sentiment that the festival commemorates, the gifts would lose value for to "loyal hearts the value of all gifts must be the giver." So to good old Saint Valentine we pledge the faith and worship of the world of today. The expression of the sentiment changes with the passing years but the sentiment is as old as the world.

February has two days that bid the busy rushing American pause a moment to reflect. The twelfth and the twenty-second of February are holidays in some states in honor of two Saint Valentine never has a chance to feel the pangs of jealousy that the old pagan gods must have endured when they saw their shrines deserted. Saint Valentine's day is in honor of a sentiment and feeling that is more deathless than the sad old world itself—that is Love. The fourteenth of February is given over to observances in honor of Saint Valentine. Many of these are of very ancient origin and have fallen into disuse. The old Saint Valentine customs yielded to the fashion of our grandmother's day when poetry held sway. On paper lace stationery the love lorn swain of that time indicted original rhymes to the object of his admiration. It was the day of Ladies Annual of Books of Beauty, of sloping shoulders and paper robes, of unrequited love and broken hearts. The verses were compounded of "hearts and darts" "doves and loves" and any other"

Every child in this land should be given a good readable biography of Lincoln and of Washington so that the lives of those men may be real living entities in the minds of the coming generation. Exercises are held in most of the public schools but necessarily these must be devoted to sentiment rather than fact. There are sturdy truths and principles to be understood by a careful reading of these two lives, representing as they do the aristocratic side of our people through Washington and the "plain people" through Lincoln. Both extremes can and should contribute to the sustaining and upbuilding of our nation by an active interest in public affairs. These two men taught that and a perusal of their lives will continue their spirit in the new generation and

Next Month's Comfort to Contain a Wonderful Song by a Famous Author.

The Reproduction of Two Letters Comfort is Here Able to Print this Month Gives Our Readers a Good Idea How the Per-tonal Correspondence is Handled for the Heads of Two of the Greatest Nations on

HE Editor of "Comport" calls special attention of its subscribers to the song to be printed in next month's issue, entitled "You Can Only Have One Mother," the words and sentiment of which speak for themselves. This song is likely to have a very large sale not alone on account of the very pretty melody to which the words have been happily wedded by the authoress, Mrs. Louise Wray, who happens to be a young woman although having just passed the allotted three score and ten (Mrs. Wray is just 76 years of age) is a remarkable instance of what even old people can accomplish even in what might rightfully be considered their declining days.

Mrs. Wray is an Englishwoman, the mother of about a dozen children and as grandmother and great-grandmother lays claim to being almost as prolific as the late Queen of England to whom incidentally she dedicated the song and to whose son, King Edward, she recently sent a copy and whose letter photographed from the original you no doubt will enjoy reading.

Mrs. Wray, when her song was first publish-

from the original you no doubt will enjoy reading.

Mrs. Wray, when her song was first published—a few months since, wrote a letter to Mrs. McKinley in which she said:

RESPECTED MADAME:
I send you, herewith, a complimentary copy of my song which I would like you to call to the attention of your respected and beloved husband whose love for his mother has endeared him to the hearts of all of our ex," and was gratified at receiving the following

DEAR MADAM:

In Mrs. McKinley's behalf I beg to ackn owledge the receipt of your favor of recent date, and to thank you for the courtesy which you have been good enough to extend to her.

Very truly yours,

GEO. B. CORTELYOU, Secretary to the President.

the courtesy which you have been good enough to extend to her.

Cery truly yours,

Geo. B. Cortelyou, Secretary to the President.

She also sent copies to a number of other prominent people in every instance received replies exceedingly complimentary, among others a letter from Bishop Potter of New York, and has kept the postmaster of her village busier than he has been in a decade past, attending to the letters she received from all sorts and conditions of people from one end of the world to the other, all of whom speak in the highest possible way of the old lady's song.

Mrs. Wray was not unknown to fame in her earlier days, having had the honor of being the first singer to introduce "Columbia The Gem of the Ocean" to an American public, and it is rather a peculiar coincidence that Mr. Saalfield, her publisher, who some twenty years ago made an attempt to get Jenny Lind to revisit this country and who failing to do so (Jenny Lind was then almost seventy years of age) induced Madame Anna Bishop (the wife of the man who wrote "Home Sweet Home") and with Madame Anna Bishop who was then almost eighty years of age gave a Jenny Lind concert at Steinway Hall, New York, which packed that auditorium to its utmost seating capacity and brought to that concert not alone the aged and crippled, but in some instances people who were positive invalids who for the sake of "Auld Lang Syne" undertook to visit a place of amusement which they had not for years previously attempted, all of which was at the time commented on extensively by the Press of the discounter to the heavent of the discounter of the sake of discounter to the heavent of the day.

It is the songs of this nature that appeal discounter the the the tother the sake of discounter to the heavent of the discounter the sake of discounter to the heavent of the day.

time commented on extensively by the Press of the day.

It is the songs of this nature that appeal directly to the hearts of all people and we know the six million readers of "COMFORT" will each and every one fully appreciate and commend the editor's success in securing this popular song for next month's issue without extra expense to them. To be sure that you do not miss this rare privilege, send your renewal or subscribe at once, the 10e coupon blank will fix it.

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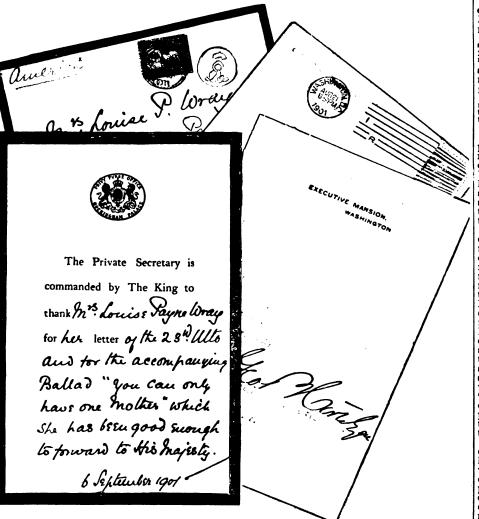


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We reproduce the above letters to show our readers some correspondence that passed be tween the Department heads of these two great nations and the talented authoress of the now famous song "YOU CAN ONLY HAVE ONE MOTHER." By special arrangement with Publisher this complete Song, Words and Music will be published exclusively in "COMFORT" dvantage of the six months' 10c. subscription coupon offer belov vho take a will be privileged to get this great song without any extra expense. As all expiring subscriptions are being promptly removed, kindly renew yours early to avail yourself of this privilege.

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## WHEN ROSE AND BEE WERE WED.



#### A Rubber Mill.

N our smallest state

disagreeable smell of rubber is from the pungent odor of smoke from the wood, saturating it as it dries. The bits of rubber left over are rolled into balls called "nigger-heads," and sold cheaply. Rubber reaches the manufacturer full of dirt. First of all, the lumps are almost ways cut open to remove the stone which may have been used to increase the weight. Then it is soaked, broken up by a mighty machine, and cleansed by letting water run through it over and over. The African rubber, which is ragged, dirty stuff, easily torn apart, loses about forty-five per cent. in the cleaning.

It was not easy to make clothes of rubber, We would not wonder the savages did so little with their material, and indeed, some people say our rubber things are made only of tar, give, ashes and such stuff, but that is not true. The first rubber shoes used to grow sticky and melt in hot weather, and the first rubber coats would get as stiff and hard as wood in winter. The second step, however, is as plain as the first. The sheets and strips of rubber are nut.

It we hoets and strips of all as a plain as the first. The sheets and strips of rubber are nut.

The second step, however, is as plain as the first rubber are nut.

It was not easy to make clothers of rubber, we would get as stiff and hard as wood in winter. The saces and strips of rubber ragged is recommended to the standard of the strategy of the such as the such and the such and the such and the such and there are some secrets in rubber coats would get as stiff and hard as wood in winter. The saces and strips of rubber are nut. Nour smallest state on the busy little and the busy little on the busy little and the little and the



HERE are some curious superstitions connected with some of the mosques in Cairo. In one of them, for instance, are two columns which are believed by the faithful to mark the exact spot where the ark rested after its voyage. The same spot is also claimed to be the place where Abraham offered the ram in place of his son Isaac. These columns, of course, are supposed to possess the most wonderful curative properties, and diseased believers rub them with pieces of orange and lemon peel which are afterwards applied to the affected parts. In case of stomach trouble it is believed that licking these columns will bring about a cure.

PROFESSOR at the Pasteur Institute in France has discovered a microbe which breeds a pestilence among rats. The new method of destroying these vermin has been tried with good success in a number

#### The Nicaragua Canal.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HERE have been many measures pending in the Congress of the United States from time to time that have attracted the that have attracted the attention of the whole country, but few have created more intense interest than the bill of Congressman Hepburn of Iowa, chairman of the House committee on Inter-State and Foreign Commerce, recommend-

WILLIAM P. HEPBURN. ing the selection of the Nicaragua route for building an Isthmian canal, which was discus-sed in the house after the holiday recess. After days of debate, during which many speeches were made for and against the bill, amend-ments were offered and defeated, parliamentary objections were invoked and brushed aside, the

objections were invoked and brushed aside, the bill in its original form was passed by an overwhelming vote. Only two members of the House voted against the bill on its final passage, while 308 voted for it.

The bill was passed on Friday, January 9, and went to the Senate, where Senator Morgan of Alabama took it in charge. It has not yet been considered by the upper branch of Congress and its fate in that body is problematical though it is said a majority of Senators favor the measure.

he Caribbean sea, at a po Nicaragua, by way of Lake Nicaragua, to a point on the Pacific coast near Brito, and also construct proper harbors at the termini of said canal and to make nec-essary provisions for the defense of the canal and harbors. It is likewise provided that in the construction of the can-al the river San Juan and Lake Nicaragua shall be used as far as they are available. The governments of Nicara-gua and Costa Rica are to be guaranteed the use of the canal and harbors, of the canal and harbors,

of the canal and harbors, upon terms to be agreed upon, for all vessels owned by those states and by their citizens.

The bill fixes the aggregate cost at \$180,000,000, and makes a present appropriation of \$10,000,000 to at once begin operations, and authorizes the Secretary of War to enter into proper contracts for material and work, such to be paid for as appropriations are made from time to time.

Now that the first steps toward the construction of an American ship canal across the isthmus separating North and South America have been taken, it only needs the concurrence of the Senate to make the stupendous project a possible reality. The President will interpose no objection to the measure; indeed, he has advocated the immediate construction of a canal in public utterances and in private conversation.

Although there have been other schemes for

He will carry out the wishes of Congress.

Although there have been other schemes for building a canal across the isthmus, none have

Secured such powerful endorsement as the Nicaragua route. The Panama canal has been begun, the people of France having contributed millions of money for the project, but the impression is deep-rooted that no consignified company

pression is deep-rooted that no quasi-private company can succeed in constructing such a gigantic engineering enterprise as this must necessarily be through individual effort. No doubt the promoters of the Panama com-SENATOR MORGAN. pany realize this fact, for they offer to sell their route to the United States for \$40,000,000, although they claim to have spent more than one hundred millions of dollars in the work they have thus far done.

The Hay-Pauncefote treaty, binding the United States and Great Britain to neutrality, the protocol with the state of Nicaragua granting to this country a perpetual lease of a strip

ing to this country a perpetual lease of a strip of territory ten miles wide for the purposes of the canal, the favorable attitude of the Presi-dent and the recent vote in the House of Representatives, seem to assure the route across Nicaragua. Besides, surveys made in 1876, 1880 and several times since, show this route to be the most feasible.

be the most feasible.

The total distance across the isthmus from Graytown to Brito is 169 1-2 miles, of which 26.85 miles will be excavated canal, and 142.65 miles free navigation. The locks and excavated channels will have a depth of thirty feet, and the San Juan river, where needed, will be dredged to a depth of 28 feet. There will be six locks and two dams, of which three locks and one dam will be between Graytown on the east coast and

dam will be between Graytown on the east coast and Lake Nicaragua; and one dam and three locks between Lake Nicaragua and Brito on the west coast of Nicaraguan Minister, the isthmus. The estimated time of transit for steamers at the regular speed, according to circumstances, is 28 hours; and the number of vessels that, with single locks, could be passed through in a single day is stated at 32. The available water supply is estimated at ten times the quantity required for 32 lockages a day.

In comparison with existing canals the Nicaragua will be the deepest in the world. The North Sea and Baltic is 28 feet; Corinth in Greece is the same depth; Suez, 27.90; Burges, 26.26; Manchester, 26; Amsterdam, 23 feet.

The estimated time within which the canal can be opened for traffic is six years from the



E CHINA DINNER SET

beginning of the work.

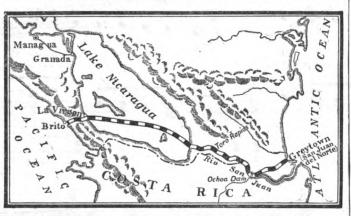
beginning of the work.

The Isthmian Canal Commission, of which John Grimes Walker, a retired Rear Admiral of the navy, is chairman, has reported in favor of the Panama route. The Commission consists of Admiral Walker, ex-Senator Pasco of Florida, George S. Morison, of New York, Lieut. Col. O. H. Ernst of Washington, Alfred Noble of Chicago, Brigadier General Peter C. Hains, of Baltimore, William H. Burr, of New York, Professor Emory R. Johnson and Lewis Muhlenberg Haupt, of Philadelphia. These gentlemen reported in favor of the Nicaraguan route, but since the Panama combut since the Panama company has made an offer to sell its property the Com-mission has made a supple-mentary report in which the Panama route is advocated.

though it is said a majority of Senators favor the measure.

The bill as passed authorized the President to secure from the states of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, in behalf of the United States, control of such portion of the territory belonging to those states as may be desirable and protect a canal suitable to the wants of modern navigation and commerce, and appropriates such a sum as may be necessary to secure the control of said territory.

After securing control of the needed territory the President is authorized to direct the Secretary of War to construct such canal from the Caribbean sea, at a point near Graytown in Nicaragua, by way of



Panama company to sell all its property, with out reserve, for \$40,000,000,wholly changes the situation.

out reserve, for \$40,000,000,wholly changes the situation.

The report is voluminous, going into all phases of the question and attempting to meet the objection that any legal complication will arise out of the purchase, or that there will be any international difficulties should the deal be concluded.

To further complicate matters the "Darien route" is being advocated by prominent engineers as the most available of all that has been proposed. The promoters of this canal say it can be built from the Gulf of San Blas on the Caribbean side to Panama Bay at a point about thirty miles east of the city of Panama at a cost of \$100,000,000,000, but the Isthmian Canal Commission says it will cost \$289,770,000.

Apparently, the difficulty of determining upon the route for an isthmus canal is as great today as it was when the first survey was made by Col. A. W. Childs more than fifty years ago.

#### ORANGE LILY

Cured me of painful periods, leucorrhea, displacements, ulceration, etc., after doctors gave me up and all other remedies failed. No physician required. I will send a trial box free to any lady. Address Mrs. H. L. Fretter, Detroit, Mich.

Mulhall, the statistician, states that 980 out of 1000 firms conducting a successful business in this country for a period of ten years, owe their continued success more to honesty than to energy.

The Von Mohl Company of Cincinnati, O., whose advertisement appears on page 23 of this issue, was organized and began business in a small way in 1885. It is now the largest and wealthiest firm in the United States dealing exclusively in imported goods for special weaknesses, diseases, etc.

The financial and mercantile character of this firm has never been questioned.

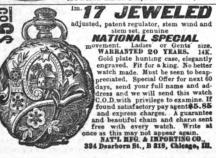
BIG MONEY selling Flavors, Perfumes. Credit. Agt. terms free. Herbene Agency Co., Bx 554, Station L, New York.



Our 200-page book, "How to Cure Stammerling," sent Free to any address. Enclose 6 cents to pay postage. THE LEWIS SCHOOL. 20 Adelaide St., Detroit, Mich



Two Rings Free! We will give these Two SOLLD GOLD laid Rings, one set with large Garnet and three Pearls, one with Ruby and two Brilliants, FREE to any one that will sell 12 of our Gold Plate Enameled Brooches, set with different colored stones at 10 cents each, and sends us the \$1.20. No money required until brooches are sold. We take back all not sold. Address HOWARD MFG. CO., PROVIDENCE, R.L.





BARGAIN BEAUTIFUL CHAIN FREE.

Please mention COMPORT when you write.

THE LIGHTEST METAL

in the world is Aluminum. You have no idea how
well it is adapted to every-day use unless you have
one of our Frosted Silver Frinish Aluminum
Pencils, vest pocket size, patent lead protecting
delivery when not in use, can be concealed and
prevent lead from breaking. A business man's
pencil, a ladies' pencil, or for school children there
is no equal. To get our big catalogue of novelties
into new hands we will send one for only 5c.

Address SUNSHINE. Augusta, Maine.

\$3 A 1000 for distributing samples (either sex).

Smith Adv. Asso'n, Washington, D.C.

Marriage PAPER FREE, many very rich.

Handsome young widow without children or near relabused. Address Grand, 195 Washington St., Chicago, III. We Pay \$20 a Week and expenses to advertise and intro-duce Poultry Compound, rig necessary. Send stamp. Royal Co-Op. Mfg. Co., Dept.CC, Indianapolis, Ind.

LADIES TO DO PLAIN NEEDLEWORK and pay 87 to 810 per week. Send stamped envelope to STANDARD CO., Indiana Ave., Chicago, III. WOMEN WANTED Do Binding. \$9.00 week. Steady work. Material furnished free and sent prepaid. Send stamped addressed envelope for particulars. Universal Co., Dept. 29, Walnut Street, Phila., Pa.



PRINTS YOUR NAME. POCKET STAMP 15¢ NICKEL PLATED PERKINS RUBBER STAMP CO., G6, NEW HAVEN, CONN.

ADIES We will give for a short time, to one Lady in each town who agrees to devote one hour's time in our interest amongst their ly Friends. FREE, the new invented and perfected belf-panding Safety Syringe. Sond address and we forward once Syring, etc., including full directions and special value advice. ST. GERMAIN CO. 70 Lees Bldg. Chicago.

## Drunkard

MILO DRUC CO., Dept 19. St. Louis, Mo.



A LINK TO FORTUNE. NICE WATCH and a A SOLID GOLD Watch rom \$23 to \$62. Don't pay extrav rices. We can make your FINE **FOB** CHAIN.

the Watch sud 6 in. Fob Chain. OUR GREAT OFFER:

rissers with more vialization of the sare in enormous demand, order to place these won health-tivers in the homes of one throughout the land, we send eight Oxien Electric F that sell for 25c. a piece to any worthy and honorable person will agree to sell them to frien acquaintances or use themselver turn us \$2.00 received fro same. Upon receipt of this tance we guarantee to forware appears are proposed to the same to the sa

and other Remedies, as the universal demand is so great,
OUR GUARANTEE. If you want one of these face
American Watches and Fob Chains write a,
YOU SENDING NO MONFY WHATFVER,

all free. You then have a rea-onable time in winceness these 25c. articles and if successful will return us (\$2.00.) We will then send this Watch and Chai described without any conditions or holdbacks of any ATTENTION ! As a great many people teady money on hand they may have the privilege of \$2.00 at first and we will forward the eight Oxi Plasters together with the Watch and Fob Chain silves. Ill services or mail charges and by us.





FREE FOR CLUB OF A New King All Steel Combination Rifle for Birds or Came

using shot that can be obtained anywhere at a trifling expense, also shoots darts making it desirable for outdoor target practice or parlor amusement or it can be used in any part of the house with perfect safety, making a practical and entertaining form of evening amusement for the boys and girls as well as older folked and the possession of one of our accurate shooting air rifles makes a boy manly and affords him an excellent means of successfully competing with his chums for marksman's honors as well as teaching him the use of a rifle. Remember this is a combination gun, so your boy should have one be he old or young. If he is sick in the house he can shoot darts and keep out of mischief or go into the woods for game and get robust and healthy besides.

SPECIAL. Send at once for sample copies of our big monthly and subscription blanks and canvass among the neighbors. For a club of four yearly subscribers at the popular price of 25c, each, \$1.00 in all, we will send one of these King Pneumatic Rifles as a present, all charges paid, guaranteeing absolute satisfaction.

Address, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Remember the above is a real gun, nearly three feet long. It looks like a gun and shoots like a gun.

RICH 3 Armenian Needlework Designs So Closely Followed as to Defy Detection.



the expert, on close examination, reveals the minor points of imitation.

An Art Table Cover Free. We wish to introduce Oxien Nazone Salve into thousands of new homes and to accomplish this intend to actually give away these rich and ornamental Table Covers to our friends. We shall send a handsome cover, about two feet and a half square, of the richest and most pleasing designs, and being in appearance like the hand-made covers that Armenian experts sell for from \$12 to \$25 each, to one agent in each city or town who will sell for us only two boxes Nazone Salve at 25c. apiece. We send the monet, you con credit and trust to your honor in returning the moment your 50c. arrives. This is the greatest offer ever made, for, besides receiving this Beautiful Art Gift, which will give a whole room an air of luxury and refinement, you learn of other inducements that are rich with money profits and grand presents. Address THE GIANT OXIE CO., Box 987, Augusta, Maine.

ART TABLE COVER FREE.



Voracious Records of the Doin's in the Cobb Corner Postoffice, "Writ out" by the Boy Behind the Counter.

[EDITOR'S NOTE. The quaint philosophers, the dry wags, the shrewd dickerers and the eminent yarn-spinners of the countryside make a forum of the country postoffice when there is room at the rear around the big stove. The stories and incidents on which some of the most successful human interest novels of the day are constructed come from the quaint loungers around the stores in Yankee communities. These official records of "Jeth's Crowd" are to be taken down month by month for the readers of "Comfort," and we hope that as you become acquainted with the members of the "Congress" your interest in their discourse and stories will deepen.

In the March number of "Comfort" the "Cobb's Corner Congress" will continue sessions.



HET Woodrow came stamping into the post-office—thud—thud-ding his moccasined feet to restore circula-

tion.

"Kind o' chilly out back, hain't it, Chet?" asked The Postmaster

asked The Postmaster genially.

"Wal, I think p'raps the weather would stiffen cream up a little if it was left out over night," Chet admitted. He pulled off a big blue shaggy beard. "Anything for out back folks?" he asked. The Postmaster fingered in one or two boxes and then shook his head at the wicket. He was just shifting his chew and therefore didn't find it convenient to speak.

"Hain't nothin' do ye mean?" asked Chet rather suspiciously.

"Not a serimmetor of the strength of the str

rather suspiciously.

"Not a scrimptom for any of the folks out your way," said The Postmaster now recovering his voice.

"Wal, Waterses' folks said the' was sure to be a support of the folks out your way."

something for them—said their niece allus wrote 'em about this time of month and that's really one of the things I'm out here after, that letter. The Waterses are anxious to hear, for one of the niece's children has been sick and they are anxious to hear how's she's gittin' along."

they are anxious to hear how's she's gittin' along."

"Wal, I wish I could help 'em out," said the Postmaster, "but I hain't got no way of poking people up to write letters. All I can do is to deliver 'em over when they get along."

"They was so gol-nation sure about that letter!" mused Chet. "Say, Jeth, ye don't mind takin' another look do ye jest to make sure?"

"Wal," snapped The Postmaster somewhat testily. "I might borry the telescope from the Lick observatory and take a special and thorough look through the postoffice jest for the benefit of the Waterses. Jt may be that the letter they are expecting has accidentally got benefit of the Waterses. It may be that the letter they are expecting has accidentally got into one of my hollow teeth or I may comb it out of my whiskers when I get up tomorrer mornin'. You and the Waterses may think that I take a baseball bat and distribute the mail with it. But I don't. I put it into the boxes where it belongs and it's there when ye call for it."

"There hain't no need of setting the set o

"There hain't no need of gettin' teetery over the thing," remonstrated Chet. "Ye're paid to stand there and accommodate the public,

hain't ye?"

"Yas, I get about a hundred and thutty dollars a year for bein' bossed round and jawed at by ev'ry old fub-dubble in town. Of course I'm overpaid and all that but you know that these high-salaried govument officials are allus set 'way up. I can't help it."

"Wal," persisted Chet, "it won't hurt ye a mite to take just another look through your boxes there to make sure. There won't be any one come in from out back for another week and I'd jest like to make sure that there hain't any letter here."

any letter here."

"Say," thundered the Postmaster, his face close up to the wicket, "do ye suppose that I'm goin' to have any cuss that's wearin' a buffler co't which is bald-headed below the waistline co't which is bald-headed below the waistline comin' in here and tellin' me how to run this postoffice? Do ye think I'm goin' to get down on my hands and knees and hair-pin out the cracks in the floor or that I'm goin' to pitch over the hay in my barn to see if there's any letter for the Waterses who have about four letters a year? Wal, not if the court knows herself and she thinks she does."

"You put on more sire and get off more sass

"You put on more airs and get off more sass than the postmaster of New York City," said Chet disgustedly and he made way for Aunt 'Phrony Sawyer who called at the wicket for her Zion's "Adversary," as the Postmaster always called it in fun.

As she turned to go away after receiving the paper something dropped out on the floor. Chet picked it up and handed it to her. She put on her specs, pulling them down from under her hood she turned is something dropped picked it up and led it to her. She put er specs, pulling them n from under her hood examined the object. It was a letter.
"That ain't mine," she

presumin' as to speak to Your Grand Gazoo-zicks and respectfully inquire once more if the mice have not been trying to build a nest in your whiskers with one of the Waterses' let-

ters?"

The Postmaster passed the missive through the wicket. "That does sartinly beat me all to snum," he said. "Of course mistakes are li'ble to happen, you understand that Chet. That letter got folded into that newspaper in some way, gol-darned if I know how. I 'pologize for anything I might have said to ye, Chet, but people do get so sassy in front of that wicket that it does aggravate a man dretful."

"Wal," said Chet somewhat ungraciously, "before ye sass the next man ye better find out whether ye're in the wrong or not. A man never knows when he's goin' to knock a pop foul, even if he is at work for the 'Nited States govument."

The man from the back "deestrick" shoved the letter into his breast pocket and strolled out to the stove at the rear of the store. A large part of the Cobb's Corner Cracker-barrel Congress was in session, early in the day though it was.

large part of the Cobb's Corner Cracker-barrel Congress was in session, early in the day though it was.

"What you and Jeth heifered up over?" asked Uncle Wack Spofford.

"Oh, that two-legged encyclopedy there with a chaw of terbacker for a back mark has been open ag'in at the page headed 'Damphool'", snorted Chet. "He knows so darn much that his brain must have wrinkles in it like the gouges round the neck of a Merine buck."

"Jeth sort of feels that he reprusents the govument and he throws it on a leetle too thick sometimes," said Teed Strout.

"These men that know it all remind me of the time that Hen Hartshorn went down to Nubble Head to visit his cousin at the seashore," said Chet. "Hen is one of those fellers that knows everything at least two weeks before it ever happens. He never asked any advice of any one in his life even though he's givin' it away all the time. But he never seems to run out. If a man starts to tell him anything Hen always snorts out, 'Oh, yes, I know—I know!' And the interestin' part of it is, he never does know. He never stopped long enough to find out anything in all his life. Why, one time he drove down to the railroad station to unload some potatoes. He hollered to the station agent, before he crossed the track, to find out if the express train had gone past. 'Ten minutes late at the last station'—the agent started to say. He was goin' to add that prob'ly, though, the express had made up the time. But Hen chopped right in. 'All right—all right—I know!' And then he drove round the corner of the station right onto the track. The goin' was bare there and his runners stuck. The next minute the express tore round the corner of the station right onto the track. The goin' was bare there and his runners stuck. The next minute the express. But Hen happened to be previous enough that time to get off the team. Hen happened to be previous enough that time to get off the team.

"As I was tellin' ye about that trip to the seashore. He wanted to visit his cousin and do a leetle fishin'. The cousin told him that the mackerel were jest a dite shy at that time and the weather didn't look settled enough for a trip outside very fur the first day. But he told Hen that prob'ly he could have consid'able fun goin' out lobst'rin, while he, the cousin, was baitin' the trawls for the next day's fishin'. Then the cousin went to tell him suthin' about how to set the pots.

cousin went to tell him suthin' about how to set the pots.
But Hen sliced right in with his 'Oh, I know-I know!'
And away he went down to where the dory was moored.
Hen had never been at the seashore before in his life and the cousin knew it. But he thought if Hen was so mighty knowin' he'd let him wallop round a while.

he thought if Hen was so mighty knowin' he'd let him wallop round a while.

"Wal s'r, Hen staid out there all day, rowin' from Quahaug Point to Cow Ledge, sploshety-swosh, his oars whirlin' like a windmill in a gale. The cousin was settin' baitin' trawls and could watch him all the time and he wondered how he could keep so busy. The cousin reckcould watch him all the time and he wondered how he could keep so busy. The cousin reckoned that Hen did know at least a leetle suthin' about the science of catchin' lobsters, and he reckoned that if he was as lucky as he was busy he was makin' money out there.

"Along about sundown Hen rowed in and came doublin' up to the house with his hands on his back. He called for some taller to put on his palms.

on his palms.

on his palms.

"'Reckin ye must have got a slew of lobsters, Hen,' said the cousin. 'Never see a man so busy as you've been a-pullin' pots.'

"'Never caught a ding-hecked lobster,' groaned Hen. 'Don't b'lieve there was ever a lobster down there except me.'

"'Wal, it's funny ye didn't catch none after workin' the way you did,' said the cousin. 'How deep did ye set your pots?"

"Set pots!" snorted Hen. 'What are ye talk-

"Mow deep did ye set your pots?"
"Set pots!" snorted Hen. "What are ye talkin' about. I never had no luck still-fishin' for
anything. I jest rowed back and forth there
trollin'. And I tell ye there hain't a lobster in
that bay.

"That's what the critter had been at all day
towin's lobster you appear and all habing

-towin' a lobster pot, anchor and all, behind his dory across the cove back and forth expect-

ing a lobster to catch up with him and dodge "Thought he was goin' to ketch 'em same's ye'd net a butterfly, eh," haw-hawed the Post-

master.

"Yas," replied Chet, dryly, "stood about as much chance of gittin' a lobster as a man does

of gettin' a letter out of this postoffice the first time he asks for it."

The Postmaster glowered and rammed his

the rostnaster glowered and rammed his knife angrily down into his trousers' pocket after he had sliced off a chew.

It was evident that he was meditating some indignant retort but as he glared at Chet he evidently bethought himself of a surer method

evidently bethought himself of a surer method of confounding his adversary. Chuckling, the Postmaster stooped and poked the fire and then straightened with his hand at his back. "You couldn't have caught Chet here on that lobster bus'ness, boys," he said. "Did ye ever hear how well posted Chet is on this salt water end of the line?"
"No" was the chorus "what about 12?"

"No," was the chorus, "what about it?"
"Don't ye go to tellin' no lies about me,
now," commanded Chet.

"Don't be stoppin' a man, Chet, when he's ready to praise ye about how much ye know," said Teed Strout.

Then he turned it over and looked at the back of the envelope. Then he looked once more at the address. Chet was watching him through the window with a huge grin growing under his thawing beard. The Postmaster's face was a study.

"Lord Chief Mogul of the 'Nited States postoffice department," said Chet, "may I be so office department," said Chet, "may I be so many cheats in these partunt things that ye

couldn't tell nothin' 'bout it unless ye 'tended to the matter yourself. So he hitched up and drove down to the coast, fifty miles. Struck a place where there is a landin' with a store at the head of the landin'. Ye have to go right through the store to get onto the landin'. Chet kind of got the idea that the storekeeper council that section of the coera right round. through the store to get onto the landin'. Chet kind of got the idea that the storekeeper owned that section of the ocean right round there and he didn't see no way of gettin' at the water except goin' through the store, 'cause the banks were so steep. He went in and says to the man, 'is all that out there nice fresh seawater?' 'Yes,' says the man, 'it's jest been dumped in this mornin'.' 'I want to get this jug full,' says Chet. 'Go out and help yourself,' says the man. When Chet came back he says, 'How much do you tax me?' 'Call it five cents,' says the man. So Chet paid and come away." 'Say, look here—'commenced the hero of the tale, but the others shut him off by shouting "Go ahead, Jeth!"

The Postmaster scratched among his whiskers and pursing his lips humorously went on:
"Wal, after that jug of water give out, Chet's wife said it done her so much good and was so savin' of doctor's bills that she wished she had another jug full. So Chet went down ag'in. Went to the same place. Same man there.

"'I'd like another jug of that same seawater,' says Chet. 'All right,' says the man, 'go 'long out and help yourself jest the same's ye did before.'

"When Chet was there before, the tide was

water,' says Chet. 'All right,' says the man, 'go 'long out and help yourself jest the same's ye did before.'

"When Chet was there before, the tide was in. Now it was way out over the flats and Chet had to shin down the trestle-work to fill his jug. When he came back he asks: 'Any lift in the price, mister?' 'No,' says the man, 'only five cents jest the same. Why!' 'Wal,' says Chet, 'I see ye've had such a thund'rin' big bus'ness since I was here last and reduced the stock so I didn't know but what ye'd come up a leetle.'"

"Ye're a liar," said Woodrow. jumping up and shakhis fist in the Postmaster's face. He tried to say more but the laughter drowned him out. The Postmaster saw that he had made a hit.

"Now look here, boys," he went on. "While overwithing is pleasant I'd like to read we a leer

"Now look here, boys," he went on. "While everything is pleasant I'd like to read ye a leeeverything is pleasant I'd like to read ye a leetle piece of portry I've writ on my bus'ness here. When ye've heard it I b'lieve ye'll have more charity for a man in a second-class postoffice." But before he got the brown paper out of his pocket the Congress had dissolved. Chet was the last man out.
"Say, Jeth," he yelled back, "better put that piece of portry to pickle in some of that salt water I got down to the coast. I'll bring ye in a jug full when I drive out ag'in."
"Them critters is the most dead set agin literature of any crowd I ever see," murmured the Postmaster angrily, as he went forward to draw a can of kerosene for the Walkers' little boy.

A woman's discovery By many years of con-stant study and experiments, I have perfected
a simple, harmless vegetable remedy that will
quickly cure all female diseases, as well as the piles. It

is natures own remedy, and will not only relieve, but will absolutely, thoroughly and permanently cure the ailments psculiar to women, such as falling of the womb, leucorrhea (whites) displacements, ulceration, granulation, paintul or scanty periods, irregular menstruation and all the pelvic ills of women. It positively cures rectal ulcers, piles, hemor-rhoids, tumors, itching, blind or bleeding piles in either sex. It cures promptly, privately and permanently, without the repugnant methods in general use by physicians. You can escape embarrassing examinations, avoid humiliating exposures, cheat the surgeon's knife out of baptism in your blood.
The treatment is so simple, mild and effectual

The treatment is so simple, mild and effectual that it will not interfere with your work or occupation. Thousands and thousands of letters are being received from grateful persons from all parts of the world, who have been cured by the use of this remedy. The first package is free, send for it, send to-day. I know that a fair trial of it will result in your becoming its enthusiastic advocate and friend. With it I will send literature of interest and value. Do not neglect this opportunity to get cured yourself and be in a position to tunity to get cured yourself and be in a position to advise ailing friends.

advise ailing friends.

Consider well the above offer and act upon it at once. It is made in the sincere hope of aiding you and spreading the knowledge of a beneficent boon to sufferers. Earnestly, hopefully, faithfully, Mrs. Cora B. Miller, 329 Comstock Bldg., Kokomo, Ind.

#### WEAK EYES MADE STRONG Sight Restored at Small Expense

Dr. W. O. Coffee, the Des Moines, Iowa, oculist has discovered remedies that not one of the control of the cont DR. W. O. COFFEE, 843 Good Block, Des Moines, la.





Girls can get this beautiful Life Size Doll absolutely Free for selling only four boxes of our Great Cold & Headache Tablets at 25 cents a box. Write to-day and we will send you the tablets by mail postpaid; when sold send us the money (81.00) and we will send you this Life Size Doll which is 24 feet high and can wear baby's clothes. Dollie has an Indestructible Head. Golden Hair, Rosy Cheeks, Brown Eyes, Kid Cored Body, a Gold Plated Beauty Pin, Red Stockings, Black Shoes, and will stand alone. This doll is an exact reproduction of the finest hand painted French Doll, and will live in a child's memory long after child-bood days have passed. Address.

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stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office.

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IF SICK OR ALLING send for my FREE book, on MEDI-CULTURE, the grandest success of the age for the cure of all chronic diseases. If you followed the success of the sending symptoms, to postage, I will tell you just what really alls you, and outline a course of treatment that will cure you. Address DR. J. C. BATDORF, Box A, Grand Rapids, Mich.



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Address. J. E. GEARHART, Box 13, CLEARFIELD, PA.
Please mention Comfort when you write.



#### HOW TO QUIT TOBACCO.

A new discovery odorless and tasteless, that Ladies can give in coffee or any kind of food, quickly curing the patient without his knowledge. Anyone can have a free trial package by addressing Rogers Drug and Chemical Co.. 2763 Fifth and Race Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio.



#### FREE! The New External Prize Remedy. WHAT OXIEN ELECTRIC PLASTERS WILL DO.

1. They will, if used as directed, cure bodily pain as if by magic. They banish Backache, Neuralgia, Nervous and Sciatic Pains, Colds, Coughs, Quinsy, Croup, Pleurisy, Pneumonia, Pever, Soreness, Stiffness, Lameness, Strains, Sprains, Bruises, Cuts, Wounds, Growing Pains in Children, Lumbago, "Stitch in the Back," Inflammation, and other bodily Aches and Pains.

2. When used in connection with Oxien, the Wonderful Food for the Nerves, they promptly relieve and permanently cure Influenza, Nervous Prostration, Kidney, Liver, Heart, Lung, and Stomach troubles, Dyspepsia, Sick Headache, Anæmia, Female Disorders, Malarial Affections, etc.



TRADE MARK.

8. They act as an infallible safeguard against contagious and infectious diseases, and nothing equals them as a chest protector for both children and adults.

4. Their electrical action, and soothing, healing, and vitalizing qualities, render them a blessing to Weak, Weary, and Despondent Men and Women, whose starved 4. Their electrical action, and soothing, healing, and vitalizing qualities, render them a blessing to Weak Weary, and Despondent Men and Women, whose starved nerves and pain racked systems cry out for that Nourish.

UPROOTS DISEASE. BANISHES PAIN. SOOTHES, HEALS, CURES, AND IMPARTS GIANT STRENGTH.

ment, Relief, and New Vigor which Oxien, the Wonderful Food for the Nerves, and Oxien Electric Plasters, alone have been found to give.

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#### THE SALT OF THE EARTH.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY W. J. LAMPTON

S there a reader of COMFORT who does not know what salt is? There may be some who do not know that it is the same thing as chloride of sodium, but as common salt, I fancy there is not one person who does not know enough to read anything. Yet how many of COMFORT's readers, as intelligent as they are, know where all the salt comes from that we use in the United States, or how much of it we use every year? Most of them take a pinch of salt for their vegetables or their meat, or shake a little out of the cellar into a bowl of soup, but what would they think if they could soup, but what would they think if they could be shown by actual figures that the people of the United states use a bushel of salt per per-

be shown by actual figures that the people of the United states use a bushel of salt per person every year?

According to the latest census statistics we used in this country in 1900 4,600,782,200 pounds of salt and our population was 76,149,386, which goes into the other big number, sixty and four tenths times, that is 60.4 pounds, which is a little over a bushel per person. Of this salt we produced all but eight and three tenths per cent. under our own vine and fig tree, or 15,187,819 barrels, of five bushels each.

Although salt is of such common use it is not found generally distributed in all the states, at least, in paying quantities, and almost the entire quantity comes from fifteen states, extending from Massachusetts to California and from Michigan to Louisiana. Michigan leads the list of salt producing states with 5,206,510 barrels although previous to 1859 the state produced none. New York comes second with nearly 5,000,000 barrels and Kansas, which does not seem to be such a salty state, is third over 1,600,000 barrels. Ohio is fourth with over 1,400,000 barrels, and no other state reaches the million point. Oklahoma is in the list with nearly five thousand barrels, and Massachusetts is last with only nine hundred and eighty barrels. is last with only nine hundred and eighty bar-

The first salt ever made in this country was near Cape Charles in Virginia away back yonder in 1620, the year the Pilgrim Fathers landed in Massachusetts. They tried to make salt four years later at Plymouth, but were not a processful. See water was used, but the piolanded in Massachusetts. They tried to make salt four years later at Plymouth, but were not successful. Sea water was used, but the pioneers were too busy with other things to make their salt, and so until the Revolution they brought it from the other side of the ocean. When the Revolution shut off their source of supply they were thrown upon their own resources which they soon found were ample to meet all demands. A great deal of salt was made from sea water about New Bedford and Cape Cod, up to 1812, but salt from springs, or wells, was taking its place and it was not long until the sea was nearly deserted. At least on the Atlantic coast. California makes most of her product from the tide lands near San Francisco, where great evaporating ponds are diked off and the water exposed to the sun. So with the Utah product, the wonderful Great Salt Lake furnishing all the brine that may be needed, and proving an inexhaustible supply, even if every other salt source in the country were shut off. Salt made in this way is called solar salt, and 910,974 barrels of it are made, Utah producing only a little over 235,000 barrels, which shows plainly that the Great Salt Lake is not being drained to salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is salt in the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is salt in the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt, this beat the salt is known as rock salt earth.

Another salt is known as rock salt, this being so called from its hardness. It is mined like coal and the chief sources of it are Kansas, New York and Louisiana. The famous rock salt mines of Avery Island, Louisiana, have been worked for more than a hundred years, but the supply from there is comparatively small now. Kansas at first made her salt from marsh brine, but in 1887 prospectors, looking for petroleum, discovered veins of rock salt, as many as fifteen, varying from four to eighteen feet thick within a depth of two hundred and sixty-five feet, and since that time rock salt has been a great industry in Kansas. Over two and a half million barrels of rock salt are produced yearly, New York being second to Kansas.

All the other salt produced is made by the

kansas.

All the other salt produced is made by the boiling process, that is to say, the brine is taken from wells bored either into salt veins or into brine veins, and the water is run into evaporating pans or vats and boiled until the salt is deposited. Some of it is used without refining, as for packing and in silver mining by the chlorination process, but vast quantities are refined and shipped all over the country.

At one time salt was quite expensive, but by the consolidation of capital and the adoption of the most approved methods of production, it is now brought to a point of cheapness that is almost beyond any comprehension of profit. The total value of the product of 1889 was \$7,966,897, or only about fifty cents a barrel, or ten cents a bushel, about six pounds for a cent. A long while ago when it was said of a man he wasn't worth his salt, he might have had some value, but in these days not much worse could be said of his unworthiness.

As an indication of the centralization of industries and capital the salt interests afford a

be said of his unworthiness.

As an indication of the centralization of industries and capital the salt interests afford a study in economics. In 1860 there were three hundred and ninety-nine establishments making salt, while in 1900 there were only one hundred and fifty-nine, a falling off of two hundred and forty, although these one hundred and fifty-nine salt works turned out nearly eight million dollars' worth of salt to about two million dollars' worth produced by the three hundred and ninety-nine.

eight million dollars' worth of salt to about two million dollars' worth produced by the three hundred and ninety-nine.

Economists who study year in and year out, trying to find out how long this necessity of life and that will last under our extravagant manner of using it, need never worry over our salt supply. No matter how wasteful we may be of it there will always be enough to go around, and although we may run out of all other condiments there will always be salt.

A little something about the history and symbolism of salt may be interesting. Naturally enough salt occurs early in Biblical history, because from the earliest times of the chosen people they lived near the Dead Sea, which supplies inexhaustible quantities of the useful substance. In other parts of the world, however, salt was less plentiful, and in some parts it was as valuable as gold. Among the Greek, Roman and Semitic peoples salt was always associated with offerings of a sacrificial character. Homer calls it "divine," Plato speaks of it as a "substance dear to the gods," and the Bible mentions a "covenant of salt" as made over a sacrificial meal in which salt was speaks of it as a "substance dear to the gods," and the Bible mentions a "covenant of salt" as made over a sacrificial meal in which salt was a necessity. Its preservative quality was held to make it a peculiarly fitting symbol of enduring compact and influenced the choice of the particular element of the covenant meal as that which was regarded as sealing the obligation to fidelity. Among the ancients, and among

orientals of today every meal including salt has a certain sacred character. "There is salt between us," "to eat the salt of the palace" and "untrue to salt" are among the phrases used as indicating the relationship of the people. In the less remote ages in England, the salt on the table was the line of demarcation separating the less from the greater guests, and to be above the salt was equivalent to being separating the less from the greater guests, and to be above the salt was equivalent to being among the "400" of the time. Among the superstitious, salt is a prime factor and to upset the salt is a sure sign of bad luck unless the person upsetting it at once throws a pinch over his left shoulder to get into the eyes of the imp who is supposed to be standing there ready to do his bad deeds. do his bad deeds.

ONT Blanc (white mountain) is the highest peak of the Alps, and indeed, the highest in Europe, being 15,872 feet above the level of the sea. The first person (of whom we have any record) who reached the summit was Dr. Paccard, of Champuny, in 1786. mouny, in 1786.

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Contributors must without exception be not to Comfort, and every contribution must non name and post-office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest, will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them, and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach six hundred and fifty words. Contributors must write on one side of the paper only.

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1st. For the best original letter
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Competitors for these monthly cash prizes must comply with all the above rules, and in addition must bring at least two new Cousins into the Comport circle: that is, they must send two new subscribers with each letter, together with 50 cents for the yearly subscriptions.

These cash prizes will be announced monthly in this department.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Prize Offer.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

CASH PRIZE WINNERS.

Belle T. Osborne, Alice Pierson, Mrs. Louia K. Rogers, J. Mayne Baltimore, Gladys A. Spaulding,

EAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS: February may be a short month as meas ured by days, but viewed in the light of the number of commemorative days which it contains it is surely a full month. We cele-brate the birthdays of Lincoln, of Washing-

ton and of Saint Valentine in February, to say nothing of Candlemas day, which marks for us, according to the old traditions, the length of the

"As far as the sun shines in on Candlemas day So far will the snow blow in before May."

and also by the length of the shadow of the poor little, much berated woodchuck or groundhog on that day.

I haven't a single letter appropriate to the month, however, in spite of the great inducements held out by all these anniversaries, but I have plenty of good letters notwithstanding. The first one which comes to hand treats of an ostrich farm down in Florida, where they have no snow wherewith to measure the probable length of the winter. Our cousin says:—



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NE of the attractions

one which comes to hand treats of an ostrich farm down in Florida, where they have no snow wherewith to measure the probable length of the winter. Our cousin says:—

NE of the attractions of Jacksonville, Florida, is, to me, the ostrich farm I o cated there. There are now several branch farms in our country, but the headquarters are at Jacksonville, and the production of ostrich feathers is among the varied industries of this region.

"Every bird has its own name, and, like the colored race, bears it proudly. Such makes as President and Langtry (a beauty). etc., were among them. The colored race, bears it proudly. As ark Hanna, Prince of Wales, Lilian Langtry (a beauty). etc., were among them. The male selects his mate, and is ever after devoted to her. Should she die he never mate sagain, but remains faithful to her memory. One large bird was pointed out to me who had been a widower for nearly thirty years, his owners having tried in vain to remate him.

"After the male has selected his mate the pair are put in a separate corral and they at one commence to build a nest, the male bird doing the work. He rests his breast bone on the ground and kicks out the sand behind him until he has dug a round hole, probably a foot deep and four feet in diameter, turning himself during the work in order to keep the hole round. When it is finished the hen begins to lay eggs, one every other day, until twelve or fifteen are deposited in the nest. She then scatters a little sand over them to protect them from the heat of the sun. During the laying season the male is dangerous. Herce, and should be careful of swing, the eggs, suithly his may be the remarkable intelligence of the bird.

"This programme continues for forty-two days, at the end of which time the chicks may be heard making a noise within the shell. Then the mother sitting.

"The ostrich is voracious, eating with equal appetite oranges, stones, leather, and even newspapers when tightly rolled. Gravel is supplied them freely, and mounds of oyster shells and bones are

home of the gulls on Duck Island. Here, probab-ly, the woodchuck sleeps his winter away, only varying the monotony of the performance by com-ing out of his hole on Candlemas day, to observe his shadow.

"Among the interesting places which I visited last summer was Duck Island, off the coast of Maine. A tiny steamer took us over from Mount Desert Island, one brilliant afternoon in July, winding in and out among the many small islands that crowd the coast along here, the sunlight making the sea seem bluer, the grass greener, and the lighthouses whiter than we had ever seen them before.

lighthouses whiter than we had ever seen them before.

"After about an hour's sail we reached the island, a low, desolate place, with a single white farmhouse the only sign of human habitation. The gulls which we had come to see were on the other shore facing the ocean, so we had to cross the island to find them. We followed the footpath through the rocky pastures, past what looked like sheepfolds of rough granite, to the sea on the other side. Here we turned and walked southward close along the gravelly 'sea wall', a huge natural dike formed by the stones cast up year after year by the waves. As we approached the southeastern end of the island we began to hear the harsh, discordant screams of the gulls, and soon they came in sight, one or two at first, and then more and more, until we seemed almost overshadowed by the birds that circled gracefully above us, their immense pale gray wings wide-spread.

mense pale gray wings wide-spread.
"Then a strange sight met us. For about a quar-



ter of a mile the shore, rocky and bare, was lined with tall, gaunt, dead pine-trees, whose bare trunks and few limbs had bleached like bones to a glistening white in the wind and sun. On the topmost point of each one, with head and snowy breast toward the late, afternoon sun, was perched a huge white gull. Others were poised, about to settle down, and still others were flying aloft and uttering their discordant shrieks. We wondered why all the trees on the shore just here should have died, until one of the party suggested that the birds took with them to the treetops the fish which they had caught from the sea to devour them there, and that the salt water, dripping down upon the trees, day after day, had gradually killed them.

"As we turned to go back to the boat we saw that the waves for some distance out were white with the gulls which had settled down there close together and were rocking back and forth with the motion of the water. As we recrossed the island towards our boat we took a path over the rocks upon which were the nests of the gulls, some tucked away in corners, some on the bare flat rocks, big rough affairs, made of sticks and twigs, put together with apparently little care, but lined with moss, down or feathers. There were eggs in some of them, although it was late for them. These were rather larger than a hen's egg, brown inh white, with irregular spots of a darker brown. In the clefts between the rocks were the little ones, huddled close together, and hiding their heads like ostriches to escape observation. They were of almost the same color as the eggs, brown and whitish, spotted, and were covered with a soft, furry down. They were a ludicrous sight when walking over the rocks to get out of our way, and it was hard to imagine that the clumsy, ungainly, ugly, brown and white birds could ever grow into the graceful, pale grey gulls which circled above us.

"As we neared our boat the cries grew fainter and fainter and finally ceased, and once on board we could only picture in our minds the wei

"One lovely day of last autumn a merry party, of which your correspondent made one, took a drive out to the Kaolin Hills, six miles distant from Knoxville, Georgia. On the route thither is the highest point in the county. What a beautiful picture was there spread out before us! Far down in the valley below are two little towns, like twin sisters arrayed in white and adorned with eneralds. A sparkling stream bordered with a fringe of willows and golden rod cheerily glides between them



salmon and white pipe clay. The sides are precipitous and form miniature resemblances to the chasm at Tallulah and the smaller canyons of Colorado. Already some of our young people have scrambled down the steep, water swept sides and are busy manufacturing tiny bricks and ornamental vases of the soft white substance found in the depths. In our pathway among the rocks and sand we find small scalloped sea shells, fragments of coral, and even several little star fish encrusted with lime. These five-pointed shells are called by the sailors 'five fingered Jacks,' and are prized for their artistic beauty and the wonderful arrangement of each little ornament in their stellated shells. Is it not surprising to find all of these children of the sea in a dry, hilly country two hundred and seventy miles from the Atlantic? Was this part of Georgia once the bed of the ocean in the age of the lower animals, or is there still some subterranean passage leading from the stormy deep?

"Deeply furrowed in this locality are eight other immense ravines lying parallel to each other, showing what a mighty work is wrought by water. A few years ago a small cottage was engulfed, and a well swept down during a freshet, so it is probable that in the course of time the entire hill will become a vast cavern.

"If those little time-worn shells within the mysterious depths could speak what wonderful stories they might tell us of the ages gone by! But their voiceless lips echo no sound, and we are left unenlightened, save by the studies and researches of scientific men."

LOULA K. ROGERS, Knoxville, Georgia.

Here is a very interesting letter from a little girl eleven years old. I give it a place because I think

Here is a very interesting letter from a little girl eleven years old. I give it a place because I think that many of her young cousins will like to try the same experiment.

eleven years old. I give it a place because I think that many of her young cousins will like to try the same experiment.

DEAR AUNT MINERVA:

"I have found that from one small potato I can extract almost two tablespoonfuls of starch. This process interests me so much that I am going to tell you how I did it, hoping that some of the cousins may be interested and successful in a similar manner.

"Take an ordinary sized white potato, wash and pare it, being very careful to remove the specks. Then in a bowl place some cheese cloth so that it touches the inside of the bowl. With a large grater grate the potato into the cheese cloth in the bowl. The potato will probably discolor as soon as the air reaches it, but that does not harm it. Then gather up the cheese cloth in the hands so that the potato has no chance of escaping, and fill the bowl about two-thirds full of lukewarm water, and knead the potato by squeezing it in the water for about five minutes, being careful that none of it escapes from the cheese cloth. Then take the potato is now fit for nothing but to be thrown away.

"The water left in the bowl will look dirty, but that doesn't matter; let it stand for five or ten minutes without touching it; then pour off the dirty water, being very careful not to allow any of the substance in the bottom of the bowl to escape while doing it. Pour on some more water and let it stand as before for the same length of time; again pour off, and repeat the operation until the substance in the bottom of the bowl is white set the bowl in a warm place to dry out the moisture. When it is perfectly dry the substance which remains is the starch which you have extracted from the potato."

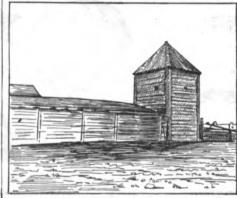
One of the cousins,

GLADYS A. SPAULDING, Waltham, Mass.

I always enjoy reading of the old times in our country and trying to picture to myself the lives of

I always enjoy reading of the old times in our country and trying to picture to myself the lives of the people living then, and I think probably there are many of my nephews and nieces who will enjoy with me the next letter.

"On Marcus Plat, Stevens County, Washington, stand several old and historic buildings which were once the scene and center of great human activity. More than three quarters of a century ago this little community was composed of agents,



factors, trappers and traders of the then great Hudson's Bay Fur and Trading Company. The post was first established very early in the last century, soon after the famous expedition of Lewis and Clarke to the Pacific Coast. For more than half a century it was occupied, known first as 'Fort Colville' and subsequently as 'Fort George' in honor of King George IV.

"For many years the region literally swarmed with Indians, some of whom were not friendly to these traders. Sanguinary conflicts resulted, which invariably terminated in favor of the 'Bostons' or 'Pale Faces.' As a matter of protection and safety a heavy wooden blockhouse was constructed and a high stockade built around the Post. Every vestige of the stockade has long since vanished but the several log buildings are still standing, old, bleached and weather-beaten, but still in a tolerable state of preservation. Conspicuous in the group stands the ancient blockhouse, which, in the years long since flown, has been a target for the savage hostilities, and in its time-worn sides are lodged hundreds of bullets. "This old, deserted and dilapidated Post stands within sight and sound of the famous Kettle Falls, of the Columbia river, and is now in the heart of a thickly settled country. Buildings and grounds are regarded as historic and are yearly visited by hundreds of people."

J. MAYNE BALTIMORE, Roseburg, Washington.

Our cousin, Mayme Pranger, sent us an article on "Christmas in Germany." but it came to me far

Our cousin, Mayme Pranger, sent us an article on "Christmas in Germany," but it came to me far too late for use this season, so I can only thank her for her thought for us and ask her to try again.

Here is an interesting bit upon the canning of tomatoes.

Be it emergies. The keeper removes all the young birds as they are hatched and places them under cover, thus leaving the parents at liberty for another sitting.

"The ostrich is voracious, eating with equal appetite oranges, stones, leather, and even newspapers when tightly rolled. Gravel is supplied them freely, and mounds of oyster shells and bones are kept in the yard for their use.

"An ostrich egg weighs about three and a half pounds. The most valuable feathers are grown on an adult male. The birds are examined every eight months and the ripe feathers removed. This must be done by a man skilled in the work, for careless plucking injures the future feathers. The short eathers are pulled, the heavy, wing feathers are repulled, the heavy, wing feathers are pulled, the heavy, wing feathers are but the worth of a bird in leathers is reckonsel at from thirty to sixty dollars per year, and a pair of ostriches will yield from five hundred to one thousand dollars worth of feathers if they live one thousand dollars worth of feathers if they live one thousand dollars worth of feathers if they live on relative to an old set." The suppression of cruelty to indiscepted extriches from their list of unfortinates, as it is claimed that there is no pain to lite bird. The packing house we took a long walk down to the noted rayine. There are immense furrows of many colors, rich vermillion, light green, establishment is that of these peelers at their words of the most interesting bit upon the middles one in society of canning of one in some sections of our country. We stored in the same seed to see that there is no pain to the feathers are grown on new the packing hundred to a busy little mill plying its merry round all the day. North, east, south and west, are seen the horizon and ranges of hills, while just before us a pleasant little cottage environed by pink crepe myrtle and the sensitive merry rounds all the day. North, east, south and west, are seen the horizon and ranges of hills, while just before us a pleasant little

work singing the while some of their quaint negro melodies. The negro voices are very sweet, and as they also possess much ability as to time and tune some of the singing is very beautiful. "When the cans are filled with tomatoes they are placed in boiling water while the cap is soldered on, a hole having been punched in it through which the air may escape, and which is closed by solder when this is accomplished. Some canners, however, prefer to solder the whole cap on, closing the little hole in the center before cooking the fruit. The last thing done is to label the can, after which the fruit is ready for the market."

H. HERBERT HALL, Nomini Grove, Va.

And now my lap is empty, and I must reluctant-

And now my lap is empty, and I must reluctantly break up our session. So, until called together again by the winds of "stormy March" will say good-by.

AUNT MINERVA.

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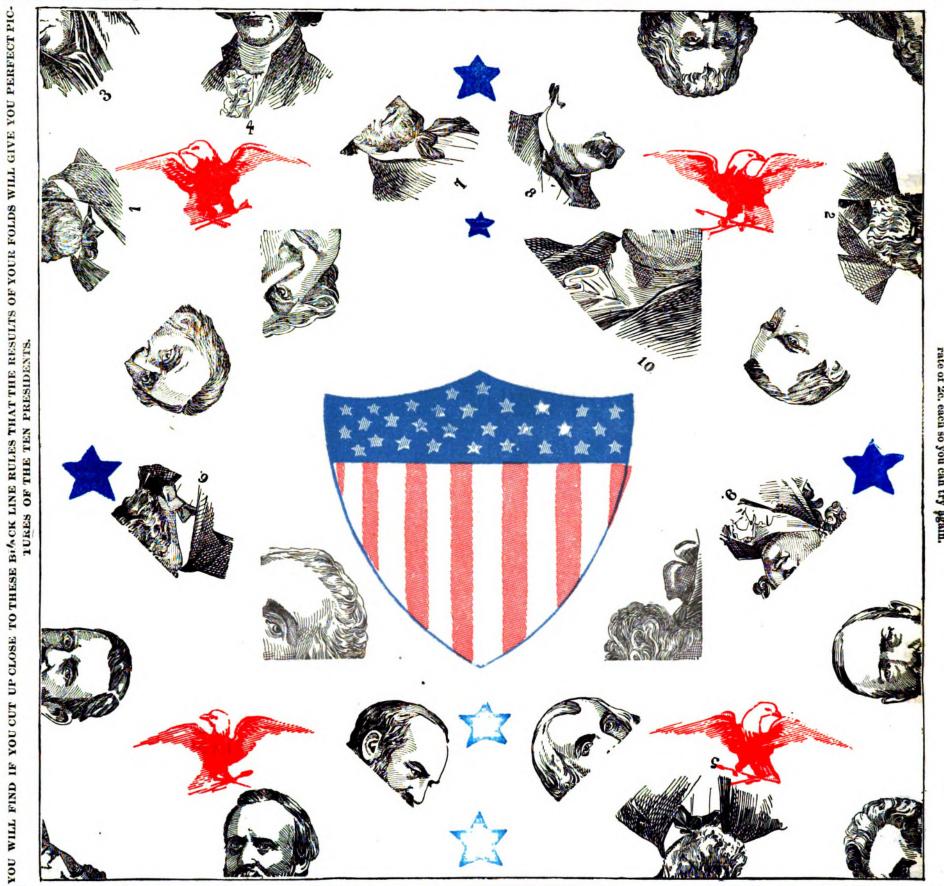
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#### Ned Todd.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

The ranger was astonished. Who was this strange, all-knowing being, who seemed to read their very thoughts. After a few moments lost in wonder, he said:

"How did you know that I was Ned Todd?"

"Oh, that is a secret," she answered. "You are Ned Todd, the ranger, and in the employ of the young man here, whose name is Archibald Holland." Holland.

Archie started up with an exclamation of

wonder.

"How did you learn so much?" he asked.

"Young man," she said quite solemnly,

"don't think that people who live in the woods
are all fools. You left Muskogee two weeks
ago."

ago."
"Did you see us there?" began Archie, but a

look from the detective silenced him.
"I never saw you until to-day," she answered. Noting the glance of the detective,

swered. Noting the glance of the detective, she added:

"Ned Todd, don't you be afraid that I will take advantage of this young man's inexperience. I will however talk with you."

"Who are you?" asked the ranger.

"I am more generally known as Oklahoma

"I am more generally known as Oklahoma Peg."
"I thought so, I have heard of you."
"It you know much of me, you know that I am noted for truthfulness."
"I have heard so."
"Bad as I may be, I am not one to deceive, and now I advise you both to turn back."
"Why do you advise us to turn back."
"Because it is death to advance."
"We know what we are doing."
"No you don't, there are dangers here of which you know nothing."
"How far is it to Calvary Creek where the

"How far is it to Calvary Creek where the Boomers have settled?"
"Fully two hundred miles."

"We can probably reach there."
"You never will."

"Then we will go to Fort Sill." "You will never live to reach either place."
For a few moments the frontiersman fixed his keen gray eyes on the sharp black orbs of Oklahoma Peg, and she divining his look,

said:
"Why don't you ask what you want to? You

"Why don't you ask what you want to? You have been long enough on the plains to know when to speak out."

"Where is our danger?" he asked. "Is it Indians, or Captain Snell's band?"

"Both," she answered quickly. "You are surrounded by foes of whom you know nothing, and cannot see. They are nearer than you suspect. You are in danger of being shot down at any moment by some unseen assassin."

sin."
"Peg I thank you for your advice."
"Won't you take it?"
"We have not decided."

"We have not decided."
"You had better."
"I'll decide as my judgment dictates."
"If I were you, Major, I would go back," she said, her black eyes burning with eagerness.
"What has become of the young lady that was captured to-day?" asked Ned Todd in order to change the topic of conversation.
"To-day?" To-day?

"Yes, Peg, you seem to know everything, ou must know that; a Miss Miller was cap-

tured to-day."
"By whom?"
"Captain Snell."

"Captain Snell."
"Her keen black eyes flashed fire, and she gnashed her white teeth in rage.
"Do you think we would turn back like cowards and leave that poor girl to her fate?"

asked Ned Todd.
"Do you know her?"
"No, I never saw her in my life."

"Then how know you that she was made a "Then now know, captive?"
"We buried her father, who received his death wound while he was defending her. He lived long enough to tell us what the villian had done."

"Ned Todd, if you will turn about, and go back, I will save the young lady." The ranger shook his head and said:

"No, no. Peg, we can make no such promises. If you have any desire to save the young lady, you should turn out at once and give us your assistance. Besides we have other business of importance that we must attend to."
"Then you will not take my advice?"

"Your blood be upon your own heads."
With a wild cry she sprang toward the brook, leaped across it and disappeared.

#### CHAPTER III.

A HIDDEN HOME. NEW PERIL.

Buried in the midst of the wood was a large comfortable house built of logs. The logs were fully two feet through, notched and fitting so closely as to be almost air tight. There was an addition at the end of the house and the whole contained several apartments. The roof was made of logs split and hewn down with such excellent mechanical skill as to be almost perfectly tight. It was as much a blockhouse as a dwelling.

This strange fort-like building was not over five miles from the spot where we left Ned Todd and Archie Holland. Strange as it may seem the house had been erected in these woods five or six years before the opening of our story, and yet it was wholly unknown to either the wnite or Indian authorities. Again, and again had the United States soldiers raided the country, driving out boomers or quelling the Buried in the midst of the wood was a large

war-like spirits of the Indians, but to them the home in the wild wood was unknown.

Near by it was a small field cleared and in cultivation. Turkeys, chickens and geese were about the place in abundance. The grunt of pigs could be heard in their sty. The dark wood which surrounded the strange house came quite up to the door.

It was near sundown, and a man past middle age was sitting in front of the door, his head drooping until his chin rested on his chest as if he were almost asleep. There was a sort of a shuffling rolling noise from within and a horrid creature came wriggling its way to the door. It was a man. His hair was almost white as snow, the beard was short and white and bushy, and the hands and feet from some misfortune or deformity were twisted and misshapen until they were almost useless.

He made no effort to walk, but crawled and wiggled his way along. He saw the sleeping man in the chair and chuckled and rolled over on the floor in a most idiotic manner.

Rapid steps, coming down the forest path awoke the sleeper, and he started up very much as a guard caught napping on his post of duty.

"Very likely, perhaps we can here get lodg-ing and rest for the night, if we dare risk it."

"Risk it? Why there can surely be no risk it. We will have nothing to quarrel with an Oklahoma Boomer about."

"An Indian, then, if he is sufficiently civilized to build such a house, will be friendly to us."

It was with no little reluctance, however, that the two men approached the door, where the old man arose, and came out to meet them. "Yes."

"Ov you live here?" the ranger asked.

"Yes."

"Ov we give the door, it was a man. His hair was almost white as snow, the beard was short and white and bushy, and the hands and feet from some misfortune or deformity were twisted and missortune or deformity were twisted and misor turn away anybody who comes to his poor shanty. Seein' ez it's a good way from here to any other house, of course I'll take ye in and do the very best I kin with ye."

As they dismounted a peculiar c

A man about thirty or thirty-five years of age

A man about thirty or thirty-five years of age came up to the door at a rapid walk. He was armed with rifle and pistols.

"Bryce," he said.

"Well, captain, yer're back."

"Yes," he answered, panting with exertion, while his eyes gleamed wild with excitement.

"Are the sojers comin'?" asked the guard, seizing the rifle that stood leaning against the wall of the cabin.

"No."

"What is it, then? Suthin' I know is goin' ter happen."
"Two strangers are comin' this way."

"Two strangers are comin' this way."
"Good, they'll stay here to-night?"
"Yes Bryce, and it's to be their last night on
earth. I tried to get 'em to go around but
they wouldn't do it. Where is Peg?"
"Out with her gun."
"Good. Have the boys been in with their
prisoner?"
"Yes."
"It's agin' the rules. Capen."

"It's agin' the rules, Capen."
"But this is a girl, and sometimes there is more money in a live girl than in a dead one. I don't want Peg to see her, and probably she will not come back until things can all be fixed. Aye, here they come now."

fixed. Aye, here they come now."

Three men were coming through the wood on horseback. On a fourth horse sat a beautiful girl with large black eyes and long dark hair. One could tell at once by the fact that her hands were tied that she was a captive. Her face was deathly white and her eyes bore traces of weeping. It was Daisy Miller, whose father had been killed a few hours before by these desperadoes. these desperadoes.

"Oh sir, let me go, do pray let me go!" she implored, as the captain of this terrible banditti lifted her from the horse as if she had

been an infant.
"Wait here," he said to his men, and hurried with the terror-stricken, horrified Daisy into the house.

the house.

Upon the floor, kicking and rolling about in a most idiotic manner, was the cripple to whom we have before referred. At sight of the captive he increased his idiotic chuckles and kicked and screamed as if he were highly delighted at sight of her.

"Be quiet, Snap," said the captain of the banditti, administering a not very gentle kick in the side of the idiot, which quieted him at once. "Come here, Miss, and now if ye will be quiet and behave yerself, ye shall be treated like a lady. But ef ye go ter kickin' out'n the harness, ye shall be put in the dungeon beharness, ye shall be put in the dungeon be-

"Oh sir, release me! You have killed my father, and now why should you want to harm me?"
"You shall be taken care of. Never mind

"You shall be taken care of. Never mind now. In course of time you will find it all right."

With this unsatisfactory assurance he left her and went to where his three ruffians stood just outside of the house.

The captive took a quick survey of her prison and soon ascertained that escape was impossible. The windows were small and barred with iron bars, the doors were of massive oak, strengthened with iron bars on the inside, and bolted and locked on the outside.

The captain told his men to remain at a convenient distance from the house, but not come

renient distance from the house, but not come near unless summoned, until nightfall.

"Bryce," he said, addressing the guard at the door, "if they come, and I guess they will, you must pally the boomer, or squatter on 'em to-night." em to-night.

"I'll do it Cap, don't ye be afraid of me," said Bryce.
"Take them in, and entertain them well. Put

"Take them in, and entertain them well. Put them in our guest chamber up stairs, and mind you they must never get away."

"He, he, trust me for that Cap," said Bryce with a demoniacal laugh. "But where will you be all the time, Cap?"

"In convenient call."

"Yer sure they're comin'?"

"There hain't no doubt of it; and now d'ye see that they don't get away."

The sun was just sinking in the west, as two men appeared in the road leading to the house."

"There they come, now, Bryce. I must go and transfer my lady to the dungeon, she might make a noise and in some way excite their suspicions." As he went hastily across their suspicions." As he went hastily across the front room the idiotic cripple chuckled and giggled, and the bandit captain could not and giggled, and the bandit captain could not resist the temptation to pause and administer a severe kick in his side as he hastened to the room of the captive.

With little difficulty he conducted the pale, terror-stricken girl to the dungeon or cellarlike apartment beneath the house.

"Now if you cry out, or make any noise, I will gag you," he said.
"Go away and leave me alone and I will be quiet," she answered, plaintively.
"I will, but be sure that you make no noise down here, or you will have me back in a moment," and he bounded up the stone stairway, closing down and fastening the trap door as he went.

he went. When Ned Todd and Archie Holland came a sight of the strange habitation, they both halted and gazed in wonder. The detective ranger was even more astonished than his com-

panion.
"I never saw or heard of that house before," he said, "though it seems to have stood there for years."
"Who lives there?"

"Who lives there?"
"I don't know."
"It must be a boomer."
"Very likely, perhaps we can here get lodging and rest for the night, if we dare risk it."
"Risk it? Why there can surely be no risk in it. We will have nothing to quarrel with an Oklahoma Boomer about."
"Yes we would be good friends if it is a boomer, but it might be somebody else."
"An Indian, then, if he is sufficiently civilized to build such a house, will be friendly to us."

brother, who's a cripple frum bein' froze."

brother, who's a cripple frum bein' froze."
Putting their horses in a sort of a corral, they went into the house where supper was soon prepared for them by the pretended boomer. It was dark before they sat down to partake of it. While at the table a pair of basilisk eyes glared at them from a narrow aperture, and Captain Snell, who was gazing unseen upon them, said to himself:

"It is he, I know him though it's years since I last saw his face, and he has changed greatly. It is Todd the frontier detective with him. Very good. There will be two fresh graves in my garden in the morning."

Don't wait until morning to subscribe to "Comfort" and get the next installment of this fascinating story in the March issue. If your subscription is about to expire or you are anxious to become a reader of "Comfort," now is the best time as these interesting serial detective stories will be a distinct feature, in addition to all the many interesting departments, and you will not want to miss a single copy. But all subscriptions must be paid in advance, so we call your attention to the opportunity of obtaining a two year renewal at the present 25c. rate by paying 10c. in advance for a 6 months' subscription. We shall add other features to "Comfort," continue serials after the ending of the "Ned Todd" story, and give you the biggest and best home monthly that is published. Fill out and send 10c. coupon now, (see coupon on page 12) so you will not miss a single chapter.

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Perhaps you have a friend whom you can induce to subscribe to "Comfort;" if so, see our special premiums offered for one new yearly subscriber.



HERE are innumerable

HERE are in numerable ways in which one may enjoy himself provided he has money. But the question arises when one has very little of that necessity.

While I was on my vacation this summer I had an opportunity to see a house boat, and the occupants were getting as much pleasmore) as the millionaires who them daily in their superb steam-

ure (perhaps steamed by them daily in their superb steam-yachts. House boats are made from all sorts of vessels and used in all kinds of waters, but this one was made from an old, tho' seaworthy, lumber vessel.
On deck was built a regular cabin twelve feet

high and twenty-eight feet square, with three windows and a door. Inside the cabin, in one end, partitioned off

by a curtain of denim were three bunks built one above the other and at the other end of the cabin was the cook-stove. Aside from these necessities the little house was fitted up with Chinese lanterns and the walls hung with ap-propriate pictures for decoration and comfort-able chairs. In temperat they make for herable chairs. In tempests they make for har-bors and in fair weather they hoist sail and cruise along the coast dropping anchor here and there for fishing. Taking it altogether for those who care for a quiet few weeks on the water there is nothing for comfort and convenience like a house boat.

IONS are so easily bred in captivity that the importation has almost ceased, the only demand for imported ones being to keep up the stock of breeders. At one time an importer could count on getting \$5000 for a fine specimen.

AFTER YEARS OF SUFFERING
I have found a positive cure for all female diseases such as leucorrhea, displacements, ulcerations, granulation, etc., or the Piles in either sex. It is a pure vegetable remedy that never fails; a home treatment and without the aid of a physician. Send at once for a FREE box of this wonderful medicine. Address, Mrs. Pearl R. Morgan, Warsaw, Indiana.

AGENTS CREDIT. Perfumes, Flavors, etc. Big Profits. Expr. Pd. Terms free, Herbene Agency Co., Box254, Station L. New York. SILVER AND HIDDEN TREASURES CAN BE found by Hall's Magnetic Rod. Millions of wealth is lying





#### A New Cure for

# Rheumatism

of which any suffering reader can have

# **50** CENT **BOX FREE!**

It is now possible to be quickly cured of any form of rheumatism without having your stomach turned up-side-down or being half choked to death and made to vomit, and every sufferer from rheumatism should welcome this new and marvelous discovery with open arms and give it an honest trial. John A. Smith, Milwaukee, Wis., while apparently hopelessly sick with rheumatism, hit upon a combination of drugs and is generous enough to send a 50 cent box free to every sufferer who writes at once. It is a home treatment and will not keep you from your work.

As you know if you've tried them, every so-called rheumatic remedy on the market today, except this genuine cure, will cause you violent stomach pains and vomiting, and some of them are so dangerous they will cause heart trouble. And the worst of it is they never cure. When a person has rheumatism the constitution is so run down that he should be very careful what he puts into his stomach.

It therefore gives me pleasure to present a remedy that will cure every form and variety of rheumatism without one single unpleasant feeling. That remedy is

#### "GLORIA TONIC."

"GLORIA TONIC."

Before I decided to tell the world about the discovery of "Gloria Tonic" I had it tried on hospital and sanitarium patients with perfect success. But some people never will believe anything until they know it from experience, so the best and quickest way is for you to write me that you want to be cured and I will send you a trial box of "Gloria Tonic" free of cost. No matter what your form of rheumatism is—acute, chronic, muscular, inflammatory, deformant, sciatic, neuralgia, gout, lumbago, etc., "Gloria Tonic" will surely cure you. Do not mind if other remedies have failed you, nor mind if doctors say you are incurable. Mind no one but write me today sure. "Gloria Tonic" will stop those aches and pains, those inflammations and deformities, and cure you so that life will again be worth living. This offer is not for curiosity seekers but is made to rheumatics only. To them I will send "Gloria Tonic" free.

Never before has a remedy been so highly endorsed as "Gloria Tonic." Among the eminent people who recommend its properties and say it positively will cure rheumatism is

DR. QUINTERO, of the University of Venezuela, whose endorsement of Gloria Tonic bears the official scal of the United States Consulate.

Consulate

THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT of London, England, prior to sending it into that country made a thorough investigation of its ingredients with the result that it is admitted without any restriction, thus it cannot contain poisons or worthless drugs.

or worthless drugs.

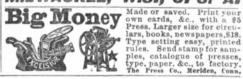
A MEDICAL JOURNAL WRITES: Gloria
Tonic possesses all the qualities desired by
Dr. Haig to alter the uric acid and thus create
a new epoch in the practice of medicine, hence
Gloria Tonic should receive recognition from
the medical profession and health journals
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If you are a sufferer send your name today and by return mail you will receive a regular 50 cent box of "Gloria Tonic" and also the most elaborate book ever gotten up on the subject of Rheumatism, absolutely free. It will tell you all about your case. You get a 50 cent box of "Gloria Tonic" and this wonderful book at the same time, both free, so let me hear from you at once and soon you will be cured. Address,

#### John A. Smith,

3241 Germania Building,

MILWAUKEE, WIS., U. S. A.





Made of Swiss Woods, Handsome Hand Carvings with Leaf Embellishments on Top and Bottom.

Real Swiss Style, with exposed pendulum and weight. The movements in these clocks are made by hand of solid brass by old Swiss Clock makers, the finest in the world. There is nothing to get out of order, there are no springs, everything is operated by the weights bearing tension on the two wheels controlling the hands. The characters in Roman style, also hands are hand made of Ivory just the same as Piano keys and are very conspicuous on the dark wood face so the whole effect is very beautiful. This weight is solid metal, in the shape of a handsome pine cone and as it hangs on the six feet long chain next to the wall gradually dropping, dropping towards the floor as time escapes it is indeed a pleasure to watch.

You can't have too many clocks in your home and even if you have a number made of marble, iron, onyx or china, you have not got one that will give you as much genuine pleasure or be so much admired and coveted by your friends as this handsome Swiss Clock. Two times the importation into this country of these Swiss made clocks has been forbidden. However we succeeded in procuring, on very favorable terms, an entire consignment which we shall give away absolutely free as premiums with our charming monthly.

SPECIAL OFFER. If you will send us a club of only 5 special trial subscriptions to our magazine at 25c. each per year we will send you one of these Swiss Clocks as a free premium and send our magazine one year to each subscriber. Clock will be carefully packed and sent by mail or express at our expense and is a magnificent reward for a slight effort.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



The ordinary life of a locomotive averages fifteen

Shetland's shortest night is five hours, but her longest is over 18 hours.

The fish shell was used in warfare by the Sultan of Gujerat, India, in 1480.

A cubic foot of cork weighs 15 pounds; a cubic foot of gold weighs 1155 pounds.

The atmosphere if compressed would make a sea thirty-five feet deep around the globe.

The longest span of submarine cable in existence will be that between Vancouver and Fanning Island, 3000 miles apart.

Stations on the Russian railway in Manchuria are placed eighteen miles apart without reference to the location of towns.

An electric motor car has been made in Germany that has attained a speed of one hundred and twenty-five miles an hour.

An invention for gold separation with the use of water has been perfected by Prof. Lucien I. Blake of the University of Kansas.

Russia contains 32,000,000 horses of various breeds from the Tarpan, the singular wild horse of Turkestan, to the thoroughbred Arab.

The Electrical Review states that there are 2,278,-717 telephones in use in this country. The total capital invested is nearly \$500,000,000.

The Egyptian perfumes, according to ancient authorities, were mostly made in Egypt from materials imported from Arabia, Persia and Central Af-

There are two hundred and fifty clocks in Buckingham palace. Some of them are as old as the time of Louis XVI. and the works are still in good

Far away from civilization gesture language is still extant in Australia. Some of the tribes pre-sent an excellent code that is almost as effective as the spoken language. Rev. John Herr of Lima, Ill., is the owner of the oldest Bible in the United States. It was printed in 1553 at Zurich, and has been in Mr. Herr's family for twelve generations.

Antiseptic preparations may easily be forced into wood by causing them to follow the lines taken by its sap; otherwise it is exceedingly difficult to fully impregnate the wood with them.

In the Kew gardens in London is a flower—a new kind of arum lily—presented by a Boer prisoner on parole named Meintjes, who received it from no less a person than General Louis Botha.

M. Capazza, who crossed the Mediterranean from Marseilles to Corsica in a balloon now intends to go from the Canary Islands to Panama in the same way. The distance is over four thousand miles.

Several rare Roman coins have been discovered in the progress of the excavations in the Finsbury property of the London corporation at London wall. These include a coin dated A. D. 161. They have been added to the Guildhall collection.

The United States produces more coal, iron ore, pig iron and steel than any other country in the world. These products are: Coal, 240,985,917 tons; iron ore, 27,553,161 tons; pig iron, 13,789,242, and steel 10,188,329 tons. England comes next and then Germany.

Charles Oscar Keller, of Chattanooga, Tenn., after 16 years' work. claims to have completed an invention which will, without wires, locate and indicate separating distances of ships within a radius of sixty miles and establish telephonic communication under all conditions.

The Smithsonian Institution has just received the gift of a unique volume. It is a capitation of the alphabets of the world so tabulated as to show the origin of all of them in the Egyptian hieroglyphic, and to exhibit the development of each from its earliest to its latest forms.

Sixty million years hence, according to Sir Bobert Ball, the famous astronomer, day will be about twice as long as it is now, or in other words, it will take the earth approximately forty-eight hours to revolve on its axis instead of twenty-four. This is based upon the theory that an equal number of years ago the day was only half as long as it is now.

Nathan B. Stubblefield, an inventor residing in Murray, Kentucky, claims to have perfected a system of wireless telephony by which the sounds of the human voice may be transmitted great distances without wires. By the construction of a special electric bell which he calls his "earth call," he takes advantage of the earth's magnetism and communicates through it.

A curious feature to travelers in the highroads of Norway is the great number of gates—upward of ten thousand in the whole country—which have to be opened. These gates, which either mark the boundaries of the farms or separate the home fields from the waste lands, constitute a considerable inconvenience and delay to the traveler, who has to stop his vehicle and get down to open them.

Dr. M. Ekenberg of Gothenburg has made a discovery which will be of importance in dairy farming. He claims to have invented an apparatus by which milk can be brought into the form of powder, like flour, but possessing all the qualities of with in concentrated. der, like flour, but possessing an unit of the milk in concentrated form, moisture excepted. It is said that this milk flour is completely soluble in mater and can be used for all purposes for which water, and can be used for all purposes for which common milk is employed. The flour does not get

common milk is employed. The flour does not get sour.

Rudolph Custodis, a German architect and engineer, discloses that he has solved the problem of destroying fog and smoke. His invention consists of a mechanical apparatus capable of making the densest atmosphere transparent in any desired latitude through consuming the particles that produce clouded air. Custodis believes that his process is also adaptable to the uses of navigation. He declares that ships equipped with it will be able to plow through foggy seas with safety.

The discovery in a Chilean copper mine of the body of an Indian workman, who had died there many years ago and who had been preserved from decay by the antiseptic action of copper, is reported in an American mining journal. The mine in question is situated in the district of Chuquicamata, in the desert of Atacama. The Indian had evidently been killed by a fall from the roof while engaged in collecting atacamite in a small basket which was still in his hand, his stone implements being found alongside.

being found alongside. Steamships crossing the Atlantic are to use oil instead of coal for the purpose of generating steam. The British steamship Clam recently made a successful trip, consuming 450 tons of fuel oil. The steamer is fitted with three ordinary return tube boilers. The oil-burning apparatus consists of a steam generator which atomizes the oil

and discharges it into the furnaces. A firebrick structure is fitted upon which the oil impinges so as to secure complete combustion. One injector is fitted to each furnace. Fuel oil in Texas is now selling for 15 to 40 cents a barrel.

According to an article published recently in a French chemical journal, the output of sulphur in Sicily has increased from 150,000 tons in 1860 to 441, 000 in 1898. The whole world's product in these two years was 157,000 and 488,000 tons respectively. It will thus be seen that Sicily furnished more than 90 per cent. The amount of sulphur in the ore varies from a very rare richness of 75 per cent. to 20 or 25 per cent. in the ordinary ore. The older method of obtaining sulphur from its ore was by setting fire to it in heaps or in kilns, the sulphur itself serving as fuel. This method has, however, been discarded both on account of the waste and because of the intolerable nuisance to which the fumes of the burning sulphur gave rise. Extraction of the sulphur with carbon bisultid or with a concentrated solution of calcium chlorid is in many cases used, but the only method in which no noxious fumes are generated is the extraction with steam under pressure. The extent of the industry is rapidly increasing, and Sicily will long continue to supply the major part of the world's production.

Custom Suit and Complete Outfit Only \$10 is the offer made by the Gents' Complete Outfitting Co., Chicago, Ill., whose advertisement appears in another column. Those of our readers who are interested should write for samples of cloth at once as the offer is limited.

The Wilbur Seed Meal Co. is one of the oldest and largest stock food manufactories in the world, and is so sincere and honest in its representations, in its advertisements, that it is willing at its own expense to let all the farmers and stock growers in the United States make the test for themselves and verify the claims made by it. They offer to send a \$1.00 package free to every one who will fill out and send to them the coupon appearing in this advertisement on page 7.

Women who suffer with ailments peculiar to their sex from stooping shoulders, weak back and general ill-health, or lack of strength and vitality, will be interested in the advertisement of The Natury Body Brace in another column. Husbands and friends of such women will be interested in it also. The company's high standing and pleasing business methods are vouched for by leading banks throughout the country and by many thousands of customers. Satisfaction is guaranteed by the fact that the full purchase price is refunded to any one not pleased after 30 days' trial. The Brace supports the whole body, is adjustable to any figure, comfortable and invigorating. It brings light step, graceful figure and good health. It enables weakly women to walk, work, ride a wheel, play tennis or golf, with ease and pleasure. It is free from the objectionable features of other supports and treatments. It does away with pessaries. We suggest that you read the advertisement and write at once for free book and full particulars.

#### A GIFT OF EMBROIDERY SILK.

Embroidery silk will cost you a lot of money bought at the store. We have a great jobbing-house lot of rich silk bought at wholesale. No high retail price with a lot of middle profits; but we get actual cost price. We want to give the whole benefit to our lady readers. We have prepared a lot of assorted packages containing a liberal supply of bright, rich, new silk in a variety of tones and shades, which would cost a heap of money bought at the stores. We will send our illustrated bargain list and full assorted, large sized silk package for the ridiculously low price of ten cents; or, three packages for twenty cents. Write to-day before the rush. S. W. LANE & Co., Augusta, Maine. Embroidery silk will cost you a lot of money

CASH PAID for distributing circulars. Send stamp. American C. Distributer, Kansas City, Mo.

If you suffer from Epileptic Fits, Falling Sickness or St. Vitus' Dance, or have children or friends that do so, my New Discovery will CURE them, and all you are asked to do is to send for my FREE RENEDIES and try them. They have cured thousands where everything else failed. Sent absolutely free with complete directions, express prepaid. Please give AGE and full address.

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GOLD WATCH FREE

This Elegant Solid Gold Filled Hunting Case Watch (Ladies' or Gents' size), 17 jeweled expansion balance, fully guaranteed American movement, is given FREE to each person selling our jewelry. Send your name and address and we will send 18 pieces of jewelry to sell at 10c. each. When sold send us the \$1.50 and we will send you at once, prepaid, a fully guaranteed American movement Watch. Address:

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nd we will mail you 12 nthese two solld gold laid rings. Will wear a lifetime. Noney required till tablets are sold. We take back all not soll. COMFORT MEDICINE CO., Providence, R. I.



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escapement, quick train, pat, pinion, accurately regulated and adjusted with 20 YEAR SUARANTEE Railroad men all over the country buy this watch on account of its durability and timekeeping qualities. Our factory price is \$42.00 per doz., for the next 60 days we will send you one sample for free inspection. If fully satisfied pay \$8.50 and express charges, otherwise not one cent. State nearest express office, and if Ledies or Gents' watch. FFE FILEI awords 31 with every Watch Catalogue 65 Central Bank Bide. Ohioagoomfor when you write.

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I pay from \$1 to \$100 for certain coins dated 1838-46-51-52-53-56-58-61-63-64-65-66-73-75-76-77-78-70 to 90-93-94 and 95. For certain o der rare dates I pay \$10 to \$100. Some coins with Mint Marks bring 500 per cent. over face value. 65 rare foreign coins and medals sold recently for \$152.586, and some postage stamps bring \$4,000 per stamp. If you are interested in large legitimate profits send two stamps for an illustrated circular on coins and stamps.

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# Cures Weak Men Free

Send Name and Address To-day-You Can Have it Free and be Strong and Vigorous for Life.

INSURES LOVE AND A HAPPY HOME.



L. W. KNAPP, M. D.

How any man may quickly cure himself after related years of suffering from sexual weakness, lost ritality, night losses, varicocele, etc. Simply send your name and address to Dr. L.W. Knapp, 1074 Hull Bldg., Detroit, Mich., U.S. A., and he will gladly send the free receipt with full directions so that any man may easily cure himself at come. This is certainly a most generous offer and the following extracts taken from his daily mail show what men think of his generosity.

"Dear Sir:—Your method worked beautifully. Results were exactly what I needed. Strength and vigor have completely returned."

"Dear Sir:—Yours was received and I had no trouble in making use of the receipt as directed and can truthfully say it is a boon to weak men. I am greatly improved in strength and vigor. All correspondence is strictly confidential, mailed in plain, sealed envelope. The receipt for the asking and he wants every man to have it. years of suffering from sexual weakness, lost vitality, night losses, varicocele, etc. Simply send your name and address to Dr. L. W. Knapp, 1074 Hull Bldg., Detroit, Mich., U.S. A., and he will gladly send the free receipt with full directions so that any man may easily cure himself at home. This is certainly a most generous offer and the following extracts taken from his daily mail show what men think of his generosity.

"Dear Sir:—Please accept my sincere thanks for yours of recent date. I have given your treatment a thorough test and the benefit has

Six Steel Pens Free.

Millions of people use steel pens and we have bought an immense lot which we want to introduce into new families. Will send six of different kinds, fine, coarse and medium, to all who send two cents for mailing expenses. Lane & Co., Augusta, Maine.

HOME WORK 60c. a sheet, copying. Send stamp. The World Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

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STANDARD COR. CELT., Sta. E., Chicago, III.

Absolutely cured. Never to return.
A Boon to Sufferers. Acts like Magic,
Dr.E. M. Botot. Box 978. Augusta, Me.

Dr.E.M.Botot.Box 978.Augusta, Me.

Do you want a watch that runs and keeps good time? Our watch has a Gold laid case, handsome dial, dust proof, adjusted to position, patent escapement, and highly finished. This is a remarkable watch. We guarantee it, and with proper care it watch. We guarantee it, and with proper care it has the appearance of a Solid Gold one. The movement is an American Style, expansion balance, quick train, and you can rely handsome watches you will always have with the correct time in your possession. Just the watch for railroad men, or those who need a watch for railroad men, or those who need as a premium to anyone for selling 18 pieces of jewelry postpaid. When sold, send us the \$1.80, and we will send you the handsome Gold laid watch. We trust you and will take back all you cannot sell. We propose to give away these watches simply to advertise our business. No catch-words in this advertisement. We mean just what we say. You require no capital while working for us. Satisfaction Guaranteed, Address, SAFE DEPOSIT WATCH CO. New York City

SAFE DEPOSIT WATCH CO. New York City

\$300 Genuine Conf. money for \$1. \$100 for 50a. MAXWELL, Box C, South Bend, Ind.

GET MARRIED 10,000 Ladies are anxious to marry Many very beautiful and wealth, Send stamp for hig sealed list giving full description and Potenses. Satisfaction guaranteed. Star Agency, No. 415 Austr. III



"Goo Goo."

The popular "Goo Goo" Winking Eye is what you must wear on your coat or vest if you want to cut all the other fellows and mash the pretty girls. You can engage a conversation and slyly turn back your coat lapel and wink your "Goo Goo" eye so easily you will win the girl and fool the other fellow or if a g a funny story that is old and stale or not can bring your winking eye into play

A NOTTY WINK.

and turn him down without any hard feeling. The eye is strongly made of metal, the front is painted in natural life-like colors and the wink is produced by pulling an invisible string from behind and there is a long strong pin to fasten through your clothing. The whole thing is strong and durable and the most talked about novelty today. Every one is wild for one, every young man in the big cities has one and all the girls too. "Just because she made dem Goo Goo eyes" is why you should have one, so send 12c. today for a special sample. 6 for 50c.; 1 doz., \$1.00. Agents make big money. Address

LANE & CO., Dept. C. Augusta, Maine.

**\*** 



SPECIAL CLUB OFFER.

PRICE OF TEA SETS ADVANCING. We find ourselves in a fortunate position in obtaining for our old club raisers an extraordinary value in China Ware. There are more opportunities to obtain as a premium a set of dishes than any other kind of merchandise, probably because of the great usefulness of the same. It is our custom at this season of the year to renew all subscriptions, also obtain large numbers of new readers for the coming year. So we have made a special effort to add attractive features to our already popular magazine and can promise every issue next year will please every member of the household.

A Word About the Tea Sets. These sets are of the latest and most beautiful design, of choicest coloring and pattern, they are regular \$4.00 to \$8.00 store price sets. This useful and ornamental set, which would adorn and beautify any abode of luxury, we shall give away for a short time to our club raisers. Let us tell you what it is. It is a 56-piece tea set consisting of teapot, sugar bowl, cream pitcher, 12 cups, 12 saucers, 12 tea plates, 2 cake plates, 12 preserve dishes and one slop bowl. It is of the finest style ware and every piece perfect in design and shape. Never was a more handsome set put together and it will be a marvel of beauty for years. It is the perfection of daintiness and every woman will find instant delight and constant pleasure in owning one.

SPECIAL CLUB OFFER. If you will send a club of only twelve subscribers to Comport to dat until January, 1903, we will send COMPORT regularly during this period and as a Christmas gift for sending the club will send you, carefully packed, one complete 56-Piece Tea Set exactly as above described.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Well, well, how swiftly the time flies, doesn't it? Here I have had hardly time to say "How d'y' do?" to you for the winter and this is the last month of the season. I hope you all had a pleasant New Year's and did not make any more resolutions than you could keep. But I must get to work, as all of you should do when there's work to be done.

The first question is from several of the cousins wanting to know what celandine is, as I gave it in a formula for a depilatory. Celandine is an herb of the poppy family, and my authority is the druggist, as yours must be; because we who do not know drugs must go to headquarters for information.

Chestnut, Fayetteville, O .- There is no set form Chestnut, Fayetteville, O.—There is no set form for response to an introduction. Say what you please. (2) Consult your physician. (3) If you want to wait three years before marrying, tell the young man so. (4 and 5) Permit no familiarities. (6) A pretty, inexpensive scarfpin is always a nice present for a young man. (7) Eighteen is too young to marry. Wait at least two years. (8) The bridesmaid does not dress the same as the bride. (9) The man does not really love you and he is one you should avoid utterly.

Adelle, Washburn, Wis.—The questions you ask about what you should do in the society of young men show that you are too young yet for such society. (2) You can only break yourself from using slang by thinking before you speak.

Winter Rose, Devonshire, Eng.—If you really do not care for the young man and cannot marry him, you should not accept any attention from him except as from the most ordinary acquaintance. Seeing him as you do is encouraging him whether you mean it so or not.

Leonore, St. Louis, Mo .- Sixteen is at least four years too young to become engaged. Your half dozen questions, which I do not answer, would in-dicate that. Wait a little and watch the world.

The Sisters, Tipton, Iowa.—Custom is changing in the matter of wearing mourning. Crepe is seldom worn now, and if at all not longer than six months. Black the next six months, and black and white, with some heliotrope or lavender, the second year

Pure Love, Wausa, Neb.—Fifteen is too young for society and too young for beaus. Keep to your school books for some time yet and you won't ask questions like those you ask now.

Blue Eyes, Wheeling, W. Va.—If you simply tell the young man you do not care to walk with him, that ought to be enough. If you so dislike to hurt his feelings, you shouldn't so dislike to walk with him. (2) If the one you like goes part of the way home with you he should go all the way.

Violet, St. Louis, Ma.—In this country of schools

Violet, St. Louis, Mo.—In this country of schools ignorance is as bad as vice, and an ignorant husband will make you as unhappy as a vicious one. If he will not learn, then do not marry him.

Three Girls, Hookrun, Ark.—No to all your questions except the last, and to that I would say that no nice girl would talk as you say this one does.

Dimple, Collinsville, Ills.—Brushing the eyebrows with a soft brush is good for them. I know of no cure for a red nose except care in your eating and drinking. Any reputable druggist can supply you with the best dentifrices. As to those young men, you will have to work out that problem yourself, unless they will help you.

Miss lack Frack Friview Ind.—There is no need.

Miss Jack Frost, Fairview, Ind.—There is no need to worry about eyes that do not match in color. One of the prettiest girls I ever saw had a blue eye and a brown one. (2) December 25th, 1882, fell on Monday.

Pearl Dew, Oak Grove, Ind.—Zerubbabel is a Bible word meaning "scattered in Babylon". (2) You may do as you please about shaking hands when introductions are made. It is pleasant to do

Lily and Belle, Cumberland, R. I.—Be frank with the young men and tell them you cannot accept their attentions.

Hyacinth, Roscommon, Mich.—There is no truth in fortune telling with cards.

in fortune telling with cards.

Apple Blossom, North Hope, Pa.—A girl of twenty-two ought to know pretty well which of two men to choose, but as you say you do not, my advice is for you to wait until you are sure.

Pansie, Berkshire, Vt.—You will have to consult the astrologers. The full meaning of Good By is God be with you. (2) Blue is true, Yellow is forsaken, green is jealousy, white is purity.

Olive, St. Louis, Mo.—Ask him to wait until you are twenty-four. If he truly loves you he will.

Ivanhoe, Greencastle, Ind.—Some latitude is allowed engaged couples, but do not be too free. (2) I should say a lady of forty was rather old for a part of thirty-fire, but all ages are the same to

Ivanhoe, Greencastle, Ind.—Some latitude is allowed engaged couples, but do not be too free. (2) I should say a lady of forty was rather old for a man of thirty-five, but all ages are the same to Love.

Wild Rose, Garfield, Iowa.—Your mother is quite right about girls of your age and beaus. Consult her always on that subject and believe her. (2) The President has not yet completed his cabinet.
Blue Belle, Ravenna, Neb.—I think it will be all right for the young man to take you to town on Sunday night, but why should he "rest his arm on the back of the buggy seat?" Is his arm tired?

Sweet Sixteen, Macon, Ga.—Yes, marriage is a failure when girls of your youth and flippancy become wives. Wait until you are older and more serious.

Duchess, Hyde, La.—If the young man does not care, or choose, to answer your letter, don't give it a second thought. (2) It isn't very nice to send such a doll as a Christmas present.

Pansy and Rose, Scatterwood Crossing, S. D.—Yes, and not desirous of a change.

Rae and Mae, Topeka, Kans.—The style that prevails in Topeka. (2) With the consent of your parents, only. (3) Any color that is not loud will match your hair and complexion. (4) If your parents do not care.

Queen, Ontario, Can.—Yes, you might take your sister's place in both cases you mention. (2) Ignore the young man and do not accept the attentions he proffers.

Blonde, Benham, Tex.—I believe the correct thing to do in recognizing a serenade is to put a light in the window. If you are prepared, it is pleasant to invite the serenaders in to refreshments, but this is not usual. (2) Keep all married men at a distance.

Bess, Weir, Kans.—Your druggist can tell you better than I. Ask him.

There, my dears, all your questions are answered lirectly or indirectly, and I hope you will be profit-

There, my dears, all your questions are answered lirectly or indirectly, and I hope you will be profited as much as I am pleased to answer them. By, by until the winds of March do blow.

COUSIN MARION.

1 2 See 3 1 ....

ABSENT-MINDED HESEKI' SHAW.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

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The heedlessest critter that I ever saw.
As numb-skulled as tophet, was Heseki' Shaw.
Was always forgettin' what he was about!
We people 'round town kind o' thought he was
"out".

He always was doin' some back-ended trick: One time when he wanted to break off a stick,
He laid it right over the mouth of the well
And jumped on the middle; it broke and he fell!
'Twas lucky that some of the neighbors were
'round

Or the tom-swatted fool would 'a' sartin been drowned

drowned.

Walked out of a second floor window on air,

—Was intendin' to build a pi-azzy roof there—
Forgot till he flammed on the ground nearly kilt
That the roof was jest notion and hadn't been built,
Was mendin' a stall in the linter one day
And was poundin' and bangin' and nailin' away,
When all of a sudden the fust thing he knew
Whang-bang, through the side of the tie-up he
flew.

He somehow or other was tryin' to nail To the wall of the linter a cow's wigglin' tail. Said later he thought 'twas a battening strip, But he knowed that it wa'n't when she fetched him

that clip.

A feller was down on the road haulin' freight
And he came across Shaw who had held up to bait.
That critter was thinkin' and munchin' away.
His eyes off on space and his mouth full of hay,
While the hosses stood droolin' as hungry as

crows, With doughnuts and biskits spread under their

With doughnuts and biskits spread under their nose.

Wal, that was the style of the dough-head, I swan!

—Absentest mindedest sort of a man!

Never staid 'round with the gang at the store,
'D ruther set off by himself; and he'd more

Thund'rin' old papers and tinker-sculch 'round
Than a hoss with a windlass could h'ist off the
ground.

So he doddered 'round home till he wore his folks
out:

out: But I guess they'd 'a' kept him his life time, 'thout doubt,

doubt,
If, once when the minister called at the house,
He hadn't stirred up such a terrible touse.
His father'n the elder were waitin' for tea
And were talkin' away jest as busy's could be,
Hesekiah stubbed in with a light in his hand
That his mother had told him to set down on the

while the minister out, and he ran for a mile
With his whiskers burned off and his clothes drip-

While the minister out, and he ran for a mile With his whiskers burned off and his clothes drippin' ile.

The dad—wal, he rose and he set Heseki' Right up in the boot-trade and kicked him so high That he wasn't seen 'round when the hoorah cooled down,

Jest dropped out of sight—disappeared from the town.

town.
The critters that always have over such clack
Said He's got to goin'—forgot to come back!
Ever heard of him since? Say, you see that 'ere
hall,
That great handsome buildin'? Wal, stranger, they
call

That buildin' "The Shaw". 'Twas a gift to the Hase the control of the form of the state of

Gave the thing to the town and it carries his name;

—He's the one of the Shaws that has got all the fame.

It was this way, you see: Heseki' all them years

While he stubbed around daffy was thinkin' up gears

And patent contraptions so handy and slick

That later the mill-man grabbed onto them quick.

But Ase was the feller! You see, Heseki'

Stubbed 'er up to the city, looked 'round, made a try.

Got the mill-folks excited and then of course he Went to schemin' and plannin' as hard as could be. —Walked 'round in a trance wusser'n ever, 'twas said,
With those gears and contrivances jammed in his head,
Then he blowed out the gas at the tavern, died there,

there,
And was taken back home in a box marked "With Care".
Then Ase took them patents—went at it in style,
And slick as a whistle he cleaned up his pile.
And the most of the world never heard of nor saw
The real chap who done it—that Heseki' Shaw.
For Ase scooped the name and the fame and the tin.

That's the way of the world, ye know, time, time

a'gin.

I was in at a seance soon after Hes died

And the meejum got word of him. Said he had

tried To squeeze past St. Peter-he couldn't, though

To save his blamed soul couldn't tell who he was.

Meejum said he was sittin' there outside the gate
—And he's sittin' there yet—got to loaf 'round and
wait

Till some one from this way, who's knowin' the

same, Comes past so's to tell him his town and his name.

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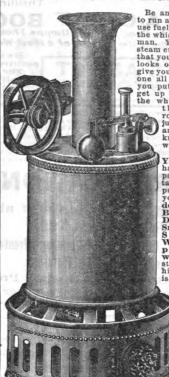
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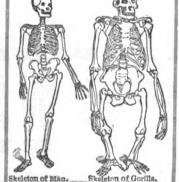
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minutely and in the

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Esquimaux is different from the South Sea Islander, or the citizen of New York
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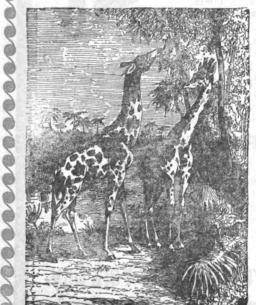
Why pay out your money to take the whole family to the circus when you can
they colon and the colon and the put house and instructive the young, but they will
absorb the attention and pass away many ad ull hour for the old and world-worn
reader; while every teacher in the land should provide herself or himself with
the means The plcture of the attractive gentleman holding the above book

Are you descended from a monkey? Whether or not you believe in the theory
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who would seem to you to be descended either from a monkey or that more
humble domestic animal popularly known as the mule. Before you decide this
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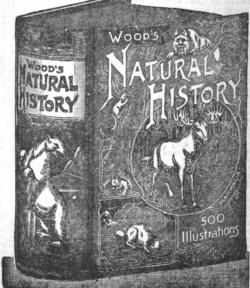
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CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.



HE Sun touches the first point of the celestial sign Aries this year at about 9 minutes past 8 o'clock in the morning of the 21st of March, Washington Mean Time, when a new Astrological year begins. A figure of the heavens erected for that moment of time shows Satured in the heavens erected for that moment of time shows Satured in the 10th house. Satured in the 10th house in the 10th house, only a few degrees removed from the great benefic Jupiter which is also powerfully placed in the 10th house. Mercury is in the 11th house; Herschel is in the 8th; the Moon in the 5th; and Neptune in the 2nd house. At the moment the Sun crosses the line it will be just upon the cusp of the 12th house and nearly conjoined with the fiery Mars.

Venus being ruler of the scheme and placed in the 10th house, indicates, as the Astrological authorities tell us, that "Men shall be in a happy and prosperous condition; that the year shall be successful and plentiful; that joy and gladness will be occasioned by the ruler and superiors; that the year will be successful and advantageous unto women who shall be free generally from infirmities and mischances; and that the people shall delight themselves in recreations, sports and feastings."

One element of mischief is observable in the figure's indications. Saturn's closeness to the meri-

ties and mischances; and that the people shall delight themselves in recreations, sports and feastings."

One element of mischief is observable in the figure's indications. Saturn's closeness to the meridian together with the near conjunction of Mars to the Sun on the 12th cusp, cautions the Chief Executive of the Nation against treacherous machinations of pretended political friends and invites unusual care in the handling of fire-arms and in all indulgencies in sports and pastimes. True, the presence of both the benefics in the 10th house contests the mischief and may prevent serious harm, but it will be wise to exercise prudence and caution in the particulars pointed out.

It is apprehended that the fiery Mars will cause some bad fires in the latter days of March and June, this year, in some hotel, school, or place of entertainment or amusement. The fire losses in the city of Philadelphia are likely to be greater or more disastrous than usual and the fire authorities there should be more than usually vigilant. At the time of this Ingress, seven of the heavenly bodies will be above the earth and the figure is a strong one in promises of general advancement of the country's interests and the welfare of the whole nation.

CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR MARCH, 1902. MARCH I—Naturday. The month opens with an excellent day for the transaction of all honorable business. Use the middle hours of the day for replenishing thy stock in trade and for dealings with bankers, brokers, judges, ecclesiastics and persons of wealth and means; seek money accommodations, make collections, and adjust accounts.

2-Sunday. Be master of thy tongue during the middle hours of this day or quarrels and unpleasantness come; the time is excitable and hasty words and acts should be avoided; let no offence be given to persons in authority in any walk in life; the evening is the best part of the day, particularly for social conversations and polite religious entertainment.

on the day, particularly for social conversations and politic religious entertainment.

3-Monday. Actively pursue all engagements relating to the world of letters; deal with printers, booksellers, mathematicians, accountants, lecturers, auctioneers, lawyers, commercial travellers and clerks in trade; do important correspondence and attend to all educational enterprises; hire servants and travel.

4-Tuesday. Deal with public officers and persons in places of trust and confidence; seek favors from thine employer or from persons in authority.

5-Wednesday. The first half of this day contributes unusual energy and enterprise and invites activity in all the walks of life, but especially for the machinist, engineer, manufacturer and trader in machinery and mechanical and chemical appliances of all kinds; deal in metals, cattle, hardware, fire-arms and chemicals and drugs; but as the afternoon advances baffing conditions prevail likely to hinder the progress of enterprise or deny satisfactory results in new matters then begun; have no transactions relating to houses or lands or their improvement.

6-Thursday. The first two-thirds of the day are

6—Thursday. The first two-thirds of the day are not to be depended upon for gain or progress in the general affairs of life, being likely to present features of controversy or opposition in efforts then put forth; the late afternoon and evening are, however, highly commended and promise favorable results to all honorable undertakings; attend to money matters and solicit financial advantages as the day draws to its close.

7—Friday. A superior day for all the literary under-

7-Friday. A superior day for all the literary undertakings and the elegant pursuits; poetical, musical and dramatical works are favored; social affairs and all entertainments that please have happy results at this time; favorable for copyrights, trademarks, patents, printing, and correspondence; write letters to public officers and government employees and generally crowd all mental efforts especially those pertaining to the politic arts and the decorative works of life.

9—Sunday. The mind will be inclined towards the elegant in literature and the imagination will be active; there are but few conditions, however, which conduce to religious fervor or excitement.

religious fervor or excitement.

10—Monday. Disputes are likely to mar the events of the morning and forenoon unless the tongue be held well under control, particularly in the lives of persons born about the 18th of March or June, or the 14th of September or December, of past years. Such persons are likely to be in some considerable excitement, with disagreement or controversies in their affairs, or to be affected in matters of health, according to the part of the day in which born. All such will be wise to be patient under existing difficulties, practicing moderation and prudence under all circumstances; the noon hours of this day are to be preferred over the others for attending to any business concerned with houses or lands or mines or mining rights.

or mining rights.

11—Tuesday. Actively pursue thy several avocations during all of this day, giving preference to the forencon for the transaction of business with banks or wealthy persons and for purchases of goods to be sold again; mental efforts are not likely to be very satisfactory or the literary labors as effective during the forencon; the afterncon and evening encourage all the artistic works and promise happy results for all social gatherings and general amusement.

gatherings and general amusement.

12—Wednesday. The noon hours are rather baffling and disappointing and forbid the bargaining for houses or lands or any agricultural products or advantages; the morning hours should be used for urging correspondence and all literary work of consequence. The time is quite unfavorable for persons born as indicated in the 10th paragraph and they are invited to exercise unusual caution in all their undertakings; they should not now sever business connections nor enter upon any new enterprise at this time in their life; married ladies, so born, are likely to be now suffering from the misfortune or misconduct of their marital partners or from their male relatives and they are cautioned to be very discreet and prudent in all they do or say or more than usual unhappiness will result; influences will disrupt many betrothal bonds and cause sadness and regret unless great care is exercised.

13—Thursday. Do not choose this day for buying goods to sell again; speculators should refrain from ventures if they would avoid losses; begin nothing of importance; make no contracts especially about houses and lands: be careful of drawing thy purse-strings and attach but little significance to verbal promises to pay.

attach but little significance to verbal promises to pay.

14—Friday. An excellent day for the general undertakings of life, though the literary avocations and contract-writing are adversely affected; postpone engagements with artists, mathematicians, press-writers and scholars; bargain for lands and houses; make arrangements for improvement of real estate, and deal with aged persons, the agricultural classes and manufacturers and mechanics; surgical operations and chemical experiments will in general succeed; consult thy dentist; trade in cattle, machinery, hardware and cutlery.

15—Saturday. Very favorable for the major enter-prises of life in the forenoon of this day; make pur-chases for trade and speculate in stocks and securities, although in this extraordinary method of money getting the nativity should be more directly relied upon; and seek favors and money accommodations.

16—Sunday. Avoid the society of eccentric persons and do not engage the mind in metaphysical discussions or antiquarian researches; peculiarity of sentiment and oddness of expression will mark the pulpit discourse of the day, especially where the utterances are extemporaneous in character.

aneous in character.

17—Monday. This day improves as it advances; urge all important matters pertaining to houses, lands, mines, or their products and to agriculture during the middle hours of the day; purchase lumber, coal, wood, farm products and farming implements, and crowd all the routine matters in life.

18—Tuesday. Defer thy correspondence of the morning until the middle hours of the day; but have care in all thou shalt do in the afternoon and evening when baffling circumstances arise that defeat success or give disappointment.

give disappointment.

19—Wednesday. During the forenoon let every energy be given to the prosecution of business with manufacturers, mechanics and all in charge of great public works of construction; consult thy dentist; engage in surgery, experiment in chemistry, trade in cattle or metals; seek favor from executive authorities in city, state or nation; keep a firm hold upon the purse strings as the afternoon advances making purchases only to meet peremptory demands and refusing to obligate thyself in money matters.

20—Thursday. On this day the patience is shortend

self in money matters.

20—Thursday. On this day the patience is short and the combative principle in man is peculiarly active and disputes and contention easily arise; seek no favor from public officers nor from persons having authority over thee; the afternoon and evening are poor for musical and artistic matters and do not encourage the purchase of dress or fancy goods or articles of decoration; the evening is peculiarly unfavorable for musical and artistic conversations or executions; avoid the fair sex and beware of unusual indulgencies of palate or appetite.

21—Friday. Hyperthing

21-Friday. Urge thine engagements of this day most vigorously during the forenoon, but merchants should transact business very cautiously during the afternoon; avoiding if possible the signing of any contract, note or other important writing and postponing correspondence concerning matters of magnitude; it will be well for all, in the absence of more definite information, to exercise the greatest care during these coming two or three weeks, and especially on the particular days hereinafter indicated for the avoidance of bad firer, explosions and accidents from the brute creation and from machinery and chemicals, as conditions conspire to increase inflammation, excitement, combustion and chemical activity, and more than usual physical harm and property loss is threatened.

22-Saturday. This day invites the prosecution of artistic and musical labors and promises pleasure and enjoyment from social gatherings and from musical and dramatical entertainments.

dramatical entertainments.

"3-Sunday. There is but little promise of good from this day, especially of assistance to the clergy, those connected with the church or from matters generally of an ecclesiastical nature; fires in churches should be carefully watched. The noon of this day inaugurates a very malevolent train of influences covering 24 hours in which fires and explosions will be more frequent than usual and are likely to be very destructive and attended with unusual money losses; let all have care in this respect.

with unusual money losses; let all have care in this respect.

24—Monday. The morning is treacherous and excitable but as the noon is passed, conditions invite full activity in business matters; make purchases for trade and push dealings with banks and persons of means and prominence; urge collections and seek money favors and accommodations; keep out of disputes in the morning, nor be in haste to enter into new engagements.

25—Tuesday. This day favors all manner of engagements in connection with strange and uncommon subjects, promoting metaphysical discourse and antiquarian researches; the first two-thirds of the day promotes success in the elegant avocations and encourages all engagements connected with the fine arts; consult thy tailor, dressmaker, milliner and all whose avocations aim at pleasing or gratifying mankind; the evening is unfortunate and cautions against making any kind of a contract concerning real estate or building.

26—Wednesday. Diligently use the first part of this day for the most important duties, particularly those connected with literary enterprises or with persons engaged in educational matters or in any of the literary walks in life; look carefully to the purse in the afternoon; loan no money and gauge thine expenditures by thine actual needs; do not make purchases of stock for trade nor bind thyself as surety for others.

trade nor bind thyself as surety for others.

27—Thursday. Urge all general routine matters and pursuits during the forenoon, but apply not for favor to thy superior in employment nor to persons in official stations in the latter part of the day when conditions are likewise adverse for paying court to the fair sex of for seeking pleasure in social or dramatic circles; cautionary signals are due here for the evening and night hours.

28—Friday. An excellent day for pursuits in connection with agriculture and for engaging with landlords and in all matters pertaining to lands and houses; deal in such commodities as coal, iron, petroleum, wood, lumber, lead, wool and grain and, with discretion, in mining and railway stocks, if thy nativity likewise favor; make contracts for building and repairing and deal with machinists, engineers, miners, and also persons in all fiduciary capacities.

29—Saturday. Be early astir, for the morning

fiduciary capacities.

29—Saturday. Be early astir, for the morning hours are golden especially for commercial men, woolendealers, clergymen. and bankers; choose the very early forenoon for buying merchandise for trade and transacting business with chemists, surgeons, bakers, iron and brass workers and carpenters; do no important correspondence nor hire or purchase lands or houses in the afternoon or evening, when no papers of consequence should be executed; mental labors are less effective and literary productions less satisfactory during the last half of this day.

S-Saturday. Urge all honorable pursuits to the utmost during the forenoon hours, as the afternoon is less promising of good results.

S-Saturday. Rather a contentious Sabbath day, likely to invite aggressive pulpit discourse and theological debate and controversy also quarrels and disnatanong persons in the same promise of t likely to invite aggressive pulpit discourse and theological debate and controversy also quarrels and fisputes among persons in the mechanical trades; let all be quarded in the handling or care of fire, hot liquids, and chemicals and avoid accidents from such sources as well as from steam and electricity. These suggestions are particularly appropriate for persons born on or about the 12th or 30th of March, 1st of July, 14th of September, 3rd of October, or 29th of December, of past years; for such persons are now likely to be physically and mentally feverish and excitable; oversensitive in feeling; in the midst of controversy or contention; peculiarly rash in thought, deed, or act; and should especially avoid travel or otherwise placing themselves in the way of harm or loss from accident or of danger from eruptive and inflammatory troubles; all excitement should be shunned particularly by such of these as recognize themselves to be constitutionally liable to apoplectic troubles.

31-Monday. A passive day in which local condi-

31-Monday. A passive day in which local condi-tions contribute little impulse; improve vigorously the benevolent indications of thy nativity; the suggestions for the 30th instant apply with considerable force for the latter hours of this day and the beginning of the next.

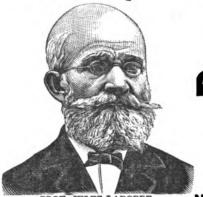
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of men who suffered from sexual diseases and enfeebling nervous maladies have been restored to
health and the virile powers of perfect manhood.

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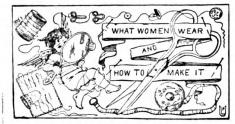


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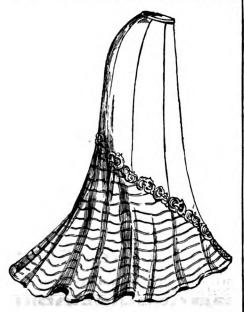


WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



it succeeds in doing, until the flounce is a succession of ripples beautiful to behold. Sometimes these gussets are hidden by tiny ruching or fibbon or braid, especially when the material makes it likely to show the seams. The stitched skirt is one of the newest and smartest models for silk or light weight wools which lend easily to the small corded tucks in the flounce. The nine gored skirt is a novelty and is popular too, inasmuch as the flare is so easily obtained by means of its many seams. Each seam is deeply laid, and left unfastened a certain distance from the foot, usually lengthening toward the back, producing the effect of ening toward the back, producing the effect of a high flounce at the back.

All skirts, no matter how they are cut, or



how they may terminate at the foot, are fitted tight as possible over the hips and down to the flounce, or to within an equal distance of the

Skirts of black silk to be worn with dainty

Skirts of black silk to be worn with dainty bodices of any color, are made up in all sorts of elaborate styles, among which I noted one of black Lodisine having open-worked bands threaded with black velvet ribbon. Another of taffeta is trimmed with velvet ribbon in strap and lattice effect. Still another of taffeta, has tucks, clusters of shining, black velvet ribbon, and panels of plaited mousseline de soie.

Ties, collars, and belts are important items of the tailor suits, and good ones are expensive; as a great variety is not necessary, however, it is wiser to get the best. Gloves and hats make or mar a suit. A handsome, stylish hat is a necessary adjunct to any toilette if one wishes it to be a success. Too fanciful a hat is not good form with a tailor gown. Rather heavy, well-cut gloves, can be bought for one



dollar, if one looks out for bargains, and are the correct thing to wear with the strictly tail-

The shirt-waist, with the tie and belt, is an selves.





STOPS NEURALGIC PAINS INSTANTLY.

Neuralgia is caused by the blood being impure, resulting in the impairment of the nervous system. The lack of nerve force brings a contraction of the nerve centers which is certain to cause the most intense pain. Unless the blood is at once purified and the system placed in a healthy condition it invariably terminates in a complete break-down of the whole nervous system and often means years of terrible suffering. "5-DROPS" will give quick relief and effect a permanent cure of this dreadful malady. It cleanses the blood, starts perfect circulation, stops the pain, and in a remarkably short time restores the nerves to a normal condition. No other remedy in the world will revitalize the nerve centers or give such instant relief to the sufferer.

SURE CURE FOR RHEUMATISM.

If never falls to cure Rheumatism in any of its forms or stages of development. It makes no difference whether you are suffering from Inflammatory, Nervous, Muscular or Articular Rheumatism. "5-DROPS" if used as directed will give instant relief and effect a permanent cure.

C. Joseph, Zanesville, Ohio, writes: "I sent for a large bottle of '5-DROPS' and I must say it was the best investment I ever made. I and my wife both took of it and the bottle is not all gone yet. We both feel that we are cured of our Rheumetism, and I have told my neighbors and friends what it has done for me and my wife. I have taken quite a number of Rheumatic cures with little orno benefit, but I will say your '5-DROPS' is all to me that you claim it to be. I am nearly 68 years of age, and suffered with Rheumatism for 35 years, and I feel there is no need of anyone suffering with Rheumatism when your cure can be obtained at such reasonable rates as you offer it."

T. D. TRUETY Et. Dedge Lowe writes: "I had Sciatica for over 30.

T. D. TRUSTY, Ft. Dodge, Iowa, writes: "I had Sciatica for over 30 years, and could get no relief. I would be laid up for a month or six weeks at a time, For six months I went on crutches. I began taking your '5-DROPS' and since then have not had another attack, I am now 75 years old and can walk better now than I did 30 years ago, for at that time the pain had drawn my hips out of shape."

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important part of the tailor suit and, like it, must be up-to-date, both in color and cut, and, above all, must be correctly put on. The clever woman always ransacks the bargain counters for last year's goods, which if finely made and of good material, are often perfectly up-to-date and can be had for half their value. Shirt waists can be made at home so easily, and so much cheaper than they can be had at however great a bargain, one can possess a dozen for the same money one would expend for two or three good ones in a smart shop.

of the same color or with the color prevailing in the embroidery, making an elaborate piece of work. Sometimes the material falls straight to the wrist, where the fullness is laid in little plaits an inch and a half or two inches long, and are silk feather stituted that before they plaits an inch and a half or two inches long, and are silk feather-stitched flat before they



BREEDER of Belgian hares BREEDER of Belgian hares gives some interesting facts in regard to them. When the young are born they are entirely furless, and in order to provide them with a warm covering, the mother pulls from her own body, which she mixes with hay and covers her young yer. Gradually as the young

with at hick layer. Gradually, as the young become covered with fur she removes the artificial covering a little at a time until the young hares are fully clothed in their own warm little jackets, and are able to care for them-

#### Our Great Serial Frontier Detective Story.

HE story of "Ned Todd, the Oklahoma Detective," the opening chapters of which are published in this issue of COMFORT, is an intensely interesting narrative of scenes and incidents which came under the author's observation long before the territory was owned to long before the territory was opened to

In selecting material never buy a pronounce of style for your waist will soon be out of date. Anything conspicuous is soon cut of date and so to be avoided.

Exquisite shirt-waists for house wear are made of pongee, on which is appliqued the silk embroidery cut from India linen scarfs. The embroidery is in beautiful solid forms, and can be transferred without great difficulty. It may be put on in various ways to simulate a bolero, in yoke form, or across the front, where the slight fullness is gathered into the yoke. Strips of the lovely needlework are used to make the collar and to trim the sleeves. Sometimes the entire sleeves are made of strips of needlework herring-boned together with silk of the same color or with the color prevailing in the embroidery making avoided. ers. The name is Indian, and means "beautiful land." Prior to 1889, when it was opened to settlement, it was the central portion of the Indian Territory. The Cherokees, Iowas, Kickapoos, Pottawatomies, Cheyennes, Arrapahoes, Creeks and Seminoles, the aborigines of that part of the United States, were the inhabitants. The Indian Territory had been set apart by the federal government as permanent reservation for peaceful Indians. Colorado and Kansas is on the north; Missouri and Arkansas on the east; and Texas on the south and west. There were more than 40,000,000 acres in the territory. Then' when the Oklahoma region was taken away from the Indians and opened to settlement, there was trouble. This alleged enroachment upon the treaty rights of the red men was resented by them and wars ensued.

The accomplished author of "Ned Todd," in graphic and vigorous language, tells how the land was first settled, and how the Indians, led by unscrupulous white men, sought to avenge the apparent injustices which they thought had been heaped upon them.

During the past year portions of Indian Territory were opened to settlement by the Government allotment of lots by chance, and the scenes that were enacted in the years gone by, when Oklahoma was the objective point of settlement serving manner. Because of the exciting events that have transpired in Oklahoma and Indian Territory,

events that have attracted the attention of the whole country, the story of "Ned Todd" is presented to our readers in the hope that in-struction and entertainment may be derived struction and entertainment may from the perusal.

#### Bears.

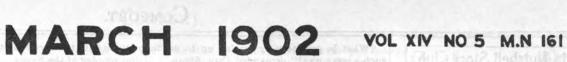
(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

no museum in the world has been able to obtain a satisfactory skin and skull. With all the achievements of recent years in photographing animals in their native haunts no man has ever been able to obtain a "snapshot"

Prior to the discoveries lately made all the nears on the American continent were classed in three general groups, embracing the black bears, grizzlies and Polar bears. Dr Herriam, as a result of the study of over thirty-five skulls of the huge bears of the Alaska coast region, has come to the conclusion that four strongly marked species must be added to our fauna. In view of these discoveries the authorities on the subject have decided it is preserved.

marked species must be added to our launa. It view of these discoveries the authorities on the subject have decided it is necessary to rearrange the American bears into five well-marked groups of types. These groups comprise the Polar bears, the black bears, grizzlies, the Sitka bear and the Kadiak or Alaska Peninsula bears. All of these Alaska bears so exceed in size any other similar animals that they are arousing tremendous interest in the scientific world. The greatest interest centres in the Kadiak bear. This king of animal life in the northland is not only the largest living bear, but differs markedly from all other American specie. It closely resembles the great brown bear of Kamschatka, but exceeds it in size. It is known that these bears subsist largely on berries which grow in abundance on Kadiak Islard and on the fish which they can claw out of the shallow streams literally overcrowded with finny inhabitants.

The natives of Alaska are deathly afraid of the heavy lumbering brong a light of the marked provided with finny linkaping brong all ac-



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THE KEY TO A MILLION AND A QUARTER HOMES Devoted to Art, Eiterature, Science, and the Home Circle.

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The following conditions govern the arrarding of cash prices for Nutshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have complied with all these requirements will receive consideration.

priess for Nutshell Stores, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have complied with all these requirements will receive consideration.

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The Publishers of "Comfort" reserve the right to purchase at their established rate, any stories submitted under the foregoing offer, which failed to secure a price.

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#### PRIZE WINNERS FOR MARCH.

Holman F. Day, First Prize. M. B. Thrasher, Second Prize. Geo. H. Smith, Third Prize. Herman Gray, Fourth Prize. Elizabeth Orr Williams, Fifth Prize.

#### Cupid and Cap. Gregg.

The Episode of Love's Ambassador. Being Enjande Number 2.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

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[Capt. Skote Gregg, skipper of a coasting packet drops into Newport Harbor on one of his trips and visits his cousins. During the evening he meets one of their neighbors, a fascinating widow, who seems considerably impressed by the honest mariner. The skipper is a bachelor, but he has been engaged for more than thirty years to a spinster down at his home, a patient woman who has resolved that she will care for her old parents so long as they live, and will not marry. Several months after meeting the widow the skipper stops again at Newport and shows the amiable woman so much attention that his cousin's wife—staunchly devoted to the carlier attachment of the skipper—vows that she will write home and teil all about his foolishness if he doesn't remember his vows. But the skipper is smitten hard and on his next trip determines to stop at Newport and see t'e widow by stealth, even though she lives next door to his cousin. The crew and cook of the schooner—all comprised in one boy—is much offended at this decision of the skipper who hints that he may remain several days. The "crew" is impatient to get home to his own love, and the notion of delay tortures him. He rebels when the skipper dorders him on shore to do an errand, but by threats the captain obliges him to do his bidding. They lower the yawl over the side and the "crew" rows the love-sick skipper to the Newport dock.]



EVENING sky was purple and a paring of moon hung in the west. Skipper Skote Gregg leaned back in the yawl's stern, straddling his legs so that the swashing bilge water wouldn't wet his Sunday best trousers. He looked up at the moon and at the stars thrusting through the mellow haze and felt romantic. People usually feel romantic when they are at Newport.

"Beautiful ev'nin', hain't it, Seth?" murmured the skipper.

"Good enough," growled Seth, who was rowing stolidly. He was thinking how this evenem if he were dow in Hobbs Harbor, looking out across the trail of the moon on the sea and then looking into the Sims girl's bright eyes. He gritted his teeth at the reflection.

"How long do ye p'tend ye're goin' to stay here this trip?" asked Seth, finding it difficult to speak to the skipper without swearing at him. The captain pushed the pasteboard frame of his made-up bow more firmly up under his collar and said calmly:

"It sort of depends, Seth."

"I should think ye'd be in some hurry to git this cargo back home," urged Seth. "You know when we sailed for York, Burkett said he was most out of flour and bran middlin's."

"Wal, flour and bran middlin's hain't the only thing there is in this world, Seth," remarked the skipper dreamily.

"And the Susan P. Gregg won't be the only packet on between Hobbs Harbor and New York unless we git round some time 'ruther with the things people are waitin' for." Seth's tone was distinctly indignant.

"Look here, ye freckled young shrimp," roared the skipper, "are ye tryin' to boss me 'round? I'll throw ye overboord in about ha'f jiffy."

Seth pulled at his oars and made no reply.

"What do you mean by bracin' up to me in such a sassy way?" demanded Capt. Skote.

"I was only sayin' what I thought," said the boy. "It's more for your good than mine. Longer ye be on the way the more pay I git. But 'tain't the same way with the folks who are waitin' for goods."

"Yas, I know about who it is that's waiting for goods 't you're thinkin' about," said the skipper drily. "There's a bale of live yeal that's consigned to the Sims girl that ye're thinkin' about mostly. That veal will reach her in damaged condition if ye hain't more careful about how ye talk back to me."

There was silence. Seth had no reply. The skipper after a little pause went on.

"I see ye are pretty ugly and set about this matter, Seth and perhaps ye are thinkin' that when ye git back to Hobbs Harbor ye will blow the thing out of revenge. Are ye thinkin' that, Seth?"

"I hain't thought nothin' about it," replied Seth sullenly.

"I know ye've got it in your mind," said the skipper, "and ye're mad enough to shoot your mouth off-I know that. I've offered to help you along in your matter all friendly like and I'll do it, Seth. But if ye play me dirty I'll do the same for you and when I start in ye'll wish ye hadn't."

They ran the yawl far up a dock between long wharves and scrambled to the plank walk that led to the street. They walked far up town in silence. The dark had come down and the skipper dodged the patches of light thrown by the street arc lamps. Finally Capt. Gregg halted by the corner of a shrubbery-bordered lawn. "Her house is the second one up that first street to the right," he explained to Seth. "I'm goin' to wait here.

"Now for your sailin' orders! Ye understand, Seth, that if my cousin's folks know I'm in the place or am callin' on the widder thev'll make a lot of trouble. They're messy folks, that's what they are. They want to run things in Hobbs Harbor jest the same's though they lived there yet.

"Now I want you to lay 'longside the widder's door and give her a hail for me. Find out if the coast's clear and if it is and she hain't got company from round the neighborhood that would be li'ble to blow on me, jest tell her that Cap'n Gregg will do himself the honor of callin' to pass the time of day. There! How's that sound?"

Seth started away without response. His face in the faint light from a distant lamp hung at the jaws as sulky as a bull-pup's visage.

"Hold on a minute," ordered the skipper. "In case it happens that any one else comes to the door and you can't see the widder don't let on who sent ye. There might have something happened in four months so that she hain't to home or somethin' else, ye never can tell what. I'll wait for ye at the end of this street, for I'll keep movin' so's not to attract suspicion."

Seth shambled away. "Now mind," cautioned the skipper huskily, "don't give away nothin' to any one except the widder."

He watched the youth until he had turned into the street he had indicated. He saw him turn up the path toward the house and then Cap. Gregg went scuffing down the dark street, at the head of which he had been standing. He was determined to observe all caution. Five minutes passed. His nerves were in a quiver of expectation that was almost apprehension. Who could tell what might have happened to the widow in four months?

She might be receiving attentions from some other man! The thought made his heart drop like the plummet lead. He blamed himself now because he had conducted his wooing so leisurely and in such an indefinite manner. He realized that a man who has been engaged to be married for thirty years is not likely to realize that Cupid has wings. He takes too much for granted. He has looked on woman as a landmark, always there every time the sun rises. That was the way with Sophy, his affianced who lived down in Hobbs Harbor. But a pretty widow living in a city full of young men was far from being Sophy Maxwell, whom all the bachelors of Hobbs Harbor tacitly avoided as one already disposed of. Furthermore, the widow had of course been told by that meddlesome cousin's wife that he was engaged and he had never hinted to the charming Belle in any way that his inclinations were drifting in another direction.

On all these things and others as harassing did the skipper ponder while he stood there in the shadows waiting for the return of his am-

All at once there was the rapid tchicktchick-tchick of running feet on the gravel of the walk. The skipper faced about and out of the gloom burst Seth fleeing like a rabbit.

"Run," he gasped and away he went. The skipper, sudden fear clutching his heart, coursed along behind. Occasionally he spurted up abreast Seth and hissed: "What is it?" But Seth only put on more speed and gasped again, "Run!"

In this way they made the dock, running in the dark places, jogging along in a trot when there were people to observe them. They tumbled into the yawl and Seth, floundering with the oars, cuffing gobs of sea-water up on-

pull out into the harbor and head away for the dim smudge of the Susan.

At regular intervals the skipper still hissed his query at Seth. "What's the trouble?" But Seth had not deigned to reply. Now when they were half way out to the schooner the youth let out a mighty blurt of breath and crossing his oars under one arm wiped his forehead with a shaking forefinger.

"Woof!" he panted, "I'm plumb beat out." "What in sanup's the matter, Seth?" croak-

ed the skipper.

"Hah-h-h!" puffed Seth. "That was the closest squeak I ever had in all my life." He stared back over the water behind them. "Ye don't hear anything as though any one was afollowin' us, do ye?" he said to the captain.

"I don't hear anything," replied the skipper looking around apprehensively. "But what's the matter with ye, anyway?"

"Ye see I went up to the door," Seth commenced.

"Yes-yes-go on!"

"I rung the bell." "Yes!"

"A man came to the door!"

"A man!"

"Yas, that's it-a man."

"'What's wanted?" says he.

"'I want to speak to the Widder Belle Foster," savs I.

"'Hain't no sech woman here,' says he. Then he grinned-say, he looked seven feet high, that man did-and he had a red face and his voice sounded like a coffee mill. Wal, he smiled and says he. 'She hain't Widder Foster now-she's my wife. If ye want to see her step in.'

"'No thank ye,' says I, 'I've got to be goin'. I guess there hain't no need to see her.'

"Married!" gurgled the skipper, "married!" "That's it!" Seth replied cheerfully.

"What a blasted fool a man is to put his dependence on a woman," groaned the skipper.

Seth resumed. "Wal, that man he says, 'I guess not-!' he says after me. 'What did ye come here after, anyway?' 'Nothin',' says I. 'Ye lie,' says he. 'Nothin' much,' says I. Aw, say, he was the biggest man I ever see. He grabbed me by the neck and he jammed me right down on the door steps. 'Own up,' says he, 'who sent ye? If you don't I'll-'and he gritted his teeth at me.

"Did ye-did-" the skipper stammered, aghast.

"It sort of come right out of me before I thought," moaned Seth. "I couldn't help it." The skipper raised a loose boat seat and glared at Seth as he brandished the weapon. "I'm a good mind to kill ye," roared Gregg.

"He scart me so I couldn't help it-ye hadn't ought to have sent me," Seth whined. "I hain't good at bluffin', and ye know it. Wal, when I said who sent me and that he was down the street, the big man dropped me and started into the house for his hat and revolver, so he said. And I run. When I turned the corner he was jest comin' out on the jump. He was after you. He knows who you be. I shouldn't wonder if he come out here to the schooner." Again Seth bent to the oars.

The skipper seemed to think that Newport harbor wasn't safe for him. As soon as they were aboard he ordered Seth to the windlass. The anchor was tripped and ten minutes later the Susan was drifting down with the tide.

All the next day and the next and the next the skipper stood at the wheel and varied his sulphurous comments on Seth's "dum foolishness," with laments on the fickleness of woman. Now that the widow was gone from him he seemed to have the idea that somehow or other she had been promised to him and was his property-such is the unreasonableness of a man in love. Seth maintained silence.

When the Susan drew near the home port the skipper, softened by thoughts of home, seemed to forget his rancor at the manner in which Seth had betrayed him to the new husband. He admitted to Seth that perhaps he had done the best he knew how. Then he made up for the concession by launching into new invective against the widow.

They had sighted the Nubble lighthouse and were well in toward Hobbs Harbor one afternoon when Seth interrupted the skipper's monotonous oration on the subject of false woman. Gregg had finally reached a point where he declared the unalterable opinion that a man couldn't trust any woman. For his part, he said, he was glad that the widow had got married because now he was safe from her deceit. He had found her out in time.

"She would probably have fooled you latter on, anyway," suggested Seth.

"Them kind of women is bound to," said the skipper.

"Hain't ye a bit sorry ye've got red of her?"

"No, sir," cried the skipper. "I consider it an act of Providence that I didn't git tangled up with her. I kind of lost my head there for

a little but I'm over it now."

"Ye never'll be sorry ye didn't git her?" persisted Seth.

"Never," said the skipper, "and so ye don't want to ever say anything round here about the matter, nohow."

"You bet I won't," agreed Seth. "I hain't that kind. But say, Cap. Gregg, I'm awful to the skipper in his excitement, managed to glad to hear you say that ye're glad ye hain't



the idea that city women wasn't fit for wives. I reckoned ye'd be sorry some time. Now I'll claim the credit of gittin' ye out of the scrape."

"Ye will, hey?" demanded the skipper, looking at Seth with wonder in his eyes.

"Huh huh!" smiled Seth, jerking his clin down.

"What do ye mean?"

"Now that ye say ye're glad it's over and you are out of the trap that woman set for ye, I'll own up. There wa'n't any man there that night!"

"What!!"

"Naw, wa'n't no man there. I didn't knock on the door at all."

"How did ye happen not to?" asked the skipper with strange quiet in his tones.

"When ye said ye hadn't heard from her for four months it put an idea into my head."confessed Seth. "I jest made it all up. So I claim the credit of gittin' ye out of the scrape." He looked at the skipper for applause.

The skipper made the wheel of the Susan fast with two half hitches. Then he rolled his sleeves above his elbows, grabbed a knotted piece of painter rope and advanced toward Seth with a menace in his white face that the cook and crew had never seen there before.

"Wuh-wuh-what ye goin' to do?" gasped

"I'm goin to kill ye right here in sight of home," grated the skipper.

"But ye said ye was glad ye was out of it," blubbered Seth.

"Jim swat your hide to tophet," roared the skipper, "you'll drive me ravin', distracted. Jest as soon's I've killed ye I shall give myself up to the authorities. They'll acquit me after I tell 'em my story—I hain't a feard of that."

He dashed on the youth. But Seth with a yell of terror leaped into the mainmast shrouds and clambered up the ratlines. The skipper pursued him to the trees. But the nimbler and younger man shinned the topmast until he was out of reach. There he clung turnings frightened face at the skipper raving below. But the Susan's head began to pay off and the





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captain was obliged to scurry back to the wheel to prevent the old craft from bowling into the Nubble Ledge. From there on into the harbor the exigencies of navigation were such that Gregg had no opportunity to attempt the capture of Seth. The latter sat disconsolately on the cross trees listening to the reviling threats of the skipper who yelled a new proposition for punishment at him every time the wneel was twirled.

When the Susan hove to off the wharf the loungers noted with surprise that the skipper dropped his own anchor and let run the sheets and braces himself while the crew, the cook and the first mate dangled his feet from the cross-trees.

The rumor of this singular spectacle spread up into the village and while the skipper was engaged in furling sails the folks commenced to saunter down the wharf to discover what was the trouble on board the Susan P. Gregg just in port from York city.

[EDITOR'S NOTE:—The third episode in the love career of Capt. Skote Gregg will deal with certain exciting events on shore at Hobbs Harbor.]

#### The First Soprano.

A Story of Easter.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY M. B. THRASHER.

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murmur of talk which filled the church gallery while the members of the choir waited for the Easter rehearsal to begin suddenly hushed.

Annette Harbor ough had just entered the church below, and was coming toward the stairs that led up into the gallerv.

Each person in the choir looked at somebody else, and wondered what would

happen when Annette reached the gallery and found Gertrude Wright sitting in the first soprano's seat. Even the organist, running over the accompaniment to an anthem, lost her place and played two notes wrong.

For the last two years the church in Center Applefield had been twisted and torn by dissensions in its choir, just as one of the trees for which the town was named might have been twisted and torn by a hurricane.

The minister, good man, to whom fortunately both factions declared themselves devotedly attached, had gone to bed more than once made sick at heart and body by the quarrel. "They'll be the death of me yet, I really do believe," he sighed one day as his wife bound hot cloths around his aching head.

"It's a pity," she answered, giving utterance in the privacy of their bedroom to feelings long repressed in public, "that they can't get up their voices as easy as they do their backs. We'd have wonderful singing if they did."

Annette Harborough had been the church's first soprano for years. So many years, in fact, that if she had been a less well-to-do woman folks would have called her an old maid. Being that she was the richest woman in town they said, "Annette's getting along in years."

The choir in Center Applefield of course was an unsalaried one. People sang in it from love of the church-some of them. Others sang for honor, and the opportunity which sitting up in the high old-fashioned gallery gave them to look down on their less distinguished relations sitting in the news below. Probably Annette Harborough would have said that the first of these was the consideration that influenced her, and would have been honestly unconscious how much the latter entered into the matter. To the childless, unconsciously lonely woman, living in the big old Harborough house, her music-especially her church music -had come to be her chief interest in life, an interest deeper and more intense than even her most intimate friends-or she herself, for that matter-realized. Her voice, not particularly strong, but singularly pure and high, had dominated the other voices in the choir just as her will and wishes had overruled those of the other singers. Through all these years she had set in the front seat at the right hand of the middle of the gallery, the dividing line between the sopranos, and, between them, the basses and the tenors.

Until two years before that she had never had a suggestion of a rival, and then the rival had come from a quarter in which she would never have looked for one, for to women of thirty-or older, some said-girls of seventeen are only little girls.

Gertrude Wright had been a pretty little girl with a fresh, childish voice. Annette herself had suggested that she be taken into the choir. Looking back, now, she felt this fact to be an added grievance. At seventeen, Gertrude was a beautiful woman, with a voice stronger than Annette's, if not so sweet and high.

There were some, too, who said that the hoir's leader did not always sing true, now. Only that Sunday morning they had been talking of that in the choir, with reference to an earlier rehearsal of the Easter music.

"Where the soprano goes up, there, on 'Christ the Lord is risen on high,' she certainly did flat," the organist said, playing over the strain as she spoke. "She sang that 'high,' half a note too low."

"Probably she wanted to play high, low, -" began John Amidon, who sang bass; but the organist, who was a woman with a strong sense of the propriety of things, cut him off short with-

"John Amidon! You stop! Don't you know you are in the meeting house?"

John Amidon was a young man. What was more, he was very much in love with Gertrude Wright, and did not care who knew it.

What made the trouble so serious for the church was that Deacon Wright, Gertrude's father, was the richest man in town, just as Annette was the richest woman. The two together paid a good half of all the church expenses, and the rest of the society realized that if either became hopelessly estranged it meant that they themselves must go down into their own pockets to make up the loss. Deacon Wright openly asserted that his daughter, now nineteen and radiant in all the glory of young womanhood's strength and vitality, was the best singer in the choir, and ought to have the first place. "Annette Harborough's too old to sing," he declared.

More than one church meeting called for other purposes had ended by dividing over this question. So far the Harborough faction had kept control of the music committee of the society, but at a meeting held the night before this rehearsal they had been, for the first time. outvoted. At this meeting the chairman of the committee had been instructed to notify Miss Wright that she was the choir leader and as such was to take the leading soprano's seat, and when the Sunday morning rehearsal came he had done so.

The gallery door opened and Annette stood in the doorway. The singers in their seats tried to think of something to talk about, and failed, and were dumb. Only the organist, who suddenly had found the notes before her so difficult that she was obliged to bend forward to read them, broke the silence with the organ's sound.

The gaze of the woman in the doorway traveled past the singers to her seat, and to the woman sitting in it. The place next it, the second place, was vacant.

"What does this mean?" she asked, facing the situation promptly. Her clear, high voice made every word distinctly heard above the organ.

The chairman of the music committee-one of the tenor singers-coughed and rose in his

The organist stopped playing.

"I have been instructed," the man said, getting the words out with difficulty, "to inform you, Miss Harborough, that the music committee of the society has voted that after this Miss Wright will be the leading soprano. A majority of the committee," he hastened to

The man sat down. "She never answered a word," he told his wife afterward, when he got home that day, "but she looked like death; and she just turned 'round and went down stairs, and out."

The choir watched the woman cross the church below them in silence. Folks in the congregation said the singing went lame that day, and those that did not know what had happened, wondered if Annette Harborough was sick that she was not there.

Long past midnight, one night, some weeks after Easter, people in Center Applefield, sleeping soundly, stirred in bed, sleepily wondered what was the matter, and then sprang wide awake to know that some one in the road outside was shouting "Fire!" and that the church bell was being rung furiously. Streaming out into the village, half dressed men and bareheaded women, they found that it was the church itself that was on fire, and that the bell clanging in the tower was ringing its own

There had been a church supper in the vestry that evening, and the fire had taken from the kitchen.

"Serves them just right," said an aged deacon's wife, as she brought out an armful of hymnbooks and laid them down on the pew cushions that her husband had brought out before her. "I've always said they'd no business to hitch a kitchen on to a meeting house.'

The bell had ceased. The rope had burned off, and the flames already were wrapping around the spire. The bell itself might fall at any minute. Everything movable had been brought out of the church, and the people could only stand about in the glare of the flames now and watch the building go. More than one was crying, for the old house of worship had grown fast into the lives of many there. Some were thinking of weddings and funerals which had taken place there, which had meant much to them.

Suddenly a woman screamed and pointed upward to the gallery window, from which the sash had been torn out.

Annette Harborough stood in the open space, grasping the window frame with one hand.

"Jump!" cried half a dozen men, running forward to stand beneath the window.

But while they were still too far away to have caught her if she had done as they had bid, the woman in the window fainted, let go her hold on the window frame, and sank back into the gallery of the burning building.

"Gertrude! Shall I go?"

In time, the interval that passed between the question and its answer could have been measured only by seconds, but it was long enough for John Amidon and the girl beside him to see again in memory the face of the woman that Sunday, as she had stood in the doorway of the gallery.

"Yes, John. Go."

Pulling the shawl from her shoulders she wrapped it around his head, bending forward as she did so to kiss him, regardless of who might see her.

A dozen voices shouted to the man to come back, and when he did not heed them, were hushed as their owners watched breathlessly to see if he came out again from the burning building into which he had rushed.

The entire structure was on fire now. At any moment the bell might fall, bringing down the spire with it; and the gallery was just beneath.

But the bell did not fall. At least not until after the young man had come back into the open air, bringing the senseless woman with him, and had laid her down upon a pile of cushions.

Afterward, when they were building the new church, and Annette Harborough gave three thousand dollars toward the expense, folks said the money must be a thank offering.

"She seems to have forgotten all about the trouble in the choir," they said, "and she sings again in meeting now just as hearty as anybody can." While the new church was being built the society held services in the town hall, and as there was no gallery there they had congregational singing.

In the fall the women of the society frequently gathered in the unfinished building to ew carpets, make pew cushions, and help the work along in similar feminine ways. One day Annette and Gertrude found themselves working side by side, and, for a moment, left alone in the vestry. They had never spoken since that spring day so long before.

The older woman looked hastily around to ee that no one could hear.

"You saved my life," she said, breathing short and quick. "I want to tell you that I wasn't worthy of it. I set the church on fire myself. I meant to burn up in it, I was so miserable, but at the last minute my courage failed me. I felt I was too wicked to die. Then after all, I would, wicked or not, if it hadn't been for you. I was crazy, I guess. Only you, who are young and have everything, didn't know what it meant for me to give up my singing. It was all I had in the world."

"I didn't then," the younger woman said, 'not at first. But when I saw you standing in the window that night, somehow I knew."

Then, just as she had kissed John Amidon that night in the fire's glare, she bent forward and kissed the woman working beside her.

They had meant to get into the new church for Christmas, but the furnaces were late in coming, and when they did come, Curt Aldrich, the only man in town who could set them, broke his leg, and what with one hindrance and another, the building was so long in being completed that the first service held in it was to be on Easter Sunday.

"Who'll sing the solo in the anthem?" asked the organist, when the subject of Easter music was brought up at a sewing circle.

"Annette," said Gertrude Wright promptly, Miss Harborough herself not being present.

"Is Annette going to sing again?" somebody

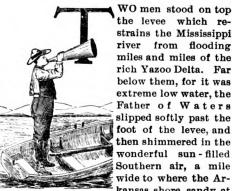
"Yes," said Gertrude, and then, blushing

beautifully, she added, "she's promised to sing at my wedding, Easter week."

#### The Pilot.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY GEO. H. SMITH.

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the levee which restrains the Mississippi river from flooding miles and miles of the rich Yazoo Delta. Far below them, for it was extreme low water, the Father of Waters slipped softly past the foot of the levee, and then shimmered in the wonderful sun-filled Southern air, a mile wide to where the Arkansas shore, sandy at

the water's edge looked green and cool beneath the trees which grew farther up the bank.

Around a bend in this green wall, up stream,

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write me a postal to learn what I can do?

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Simply state which book Roo 1 on Dyspepsia, Book No. 2 on the Heart, Book No. 3 on the Kidneys, Book No. 4 for Women, Book No. 5 for Men (scaled,) Book No. 6 on Rheumatism.

Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

something came in sight that looked like a big summer hotel floating down the river.

"What's that coming there?" one of the men

"I reckon that all's Jim Remshaw's show boat," was the answer.

"What's a show boat?" the first speaker asked again.

The man of whom he had asked the question turned to look at him curiously. He, himself, was evidently a riverman. Tall, spare, broadshouldered and straight, the rich brown tan on his face from his coal black hair down to where the loose collar of his blue flannel shirt rolled back from his strong neck showed that he had lived in the open air beneath a South-

ern sky. "You all must be a stranger here," he said. "Yes," said the other man. "I never was here before. I never saw the Mississippi river

"I am a Northern man," he added, "a doctor by profession. I am taking a few weeks' rest, and am on my way to Mexico. I came around this way to visit a college friend of mine who is practicing in ——"naming a town in the center of the state. "I found I had to wait here nearly half a day for a train so I am trying to see what I can of the place.
"Now I have answered your question," he



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went on, turning, with the shadow of a smile to the man beside him, "suppose you answer mine. Will you smoke?" handing out a cigar

mine. Will you smoke?" handing out a cigar case.

"Don't care if I do," his companion said, accepting the proffered favor. "You asked about that boat. A show boat's a sort of floating theatre. You'll see what they're like when this one gets down here. She'll tie up to the bank right about where we are, I reckon. There's quite a lot of them on the river. Some of them run up the Red River. They're really two boats, you'll see. The one behind furnishes the power, and is a sort of hotel in which the performers and all the rest of them live. The boat on ahead is the theatre, with a stage in one end, and seats—two tiers of them. This one coming will seat a thousand persons. She's one of the biggest on the river. It's an opera company she carries, good folks, too, some of them. Jim Remshaw's owned her only a couple of years. He bought her when old man Syms, who has been in the business for years, and the business tray wheel behind the rear boat.

died."

The floating theater was near the town now, and the huge stern wheel behind the rear boat churned the yellow water into foam as it answered the signals of the man in the pilot house who was laboring to get the unwieldy craft up to the shore. The sound—one could hardly call it music—of a vociferous steam calliope on board which served to announce the show's arrival, called a good share of the town's population, white and black, to the top of the levee.

"James Y. Remshaw." The name was paint-

"James Y. Remshaw." The name was painted along the side of the forward boat, the big black letters standing out distinct against the

black letters standing out distinct against the boat's white side.

"Do you know that man—Remshaw?" the doctor asked of his companion.

"Some," was the laconic answer.

"Is he a native of these parts, do you know, or where did he come from?"

"He wasn't raised in these parts. I don't know where he came from," the river man answered; and then added a moment later with a sudden, repressed fury which made the man at his side, turn to look closely at him, "straight from hell, I reckon.

"You're a stranger to me," he said fiercely, as if in answer to the question in the other man's face, "but you're a doctor, and I never saw a good doctor yet that couldn't be trusted with other folks' troubles. I'm jest dead with the misery that's in me. There's a woman on board that boat—a good woman, too—that I love better than my life itself; and she used to love me until that man came between us. I believe she loves me yet in her heart only she love better than my life itself; and she used to love me until that man came between us. I believe she loves me yet, in her heart, only she don't know it when he's 'round, he's got such a hold on her. She's acting and singing in one of the plays they give and he lets her think she's going to make a strike that way, but she isn't. She's no genius. I know that if I do love her. She's just a handsome woman, and a good woman, yet—God knows how long, though, if she can't be made to see what he is. Her home is in a river town not more than fifty Her home is in a river town not more than fifty miles above here. That was my home, too. We were going to be married. I've got a good bit of money saved up. I'm a river pilot. Then this show boat stopped there and Remshaw saw her. After that he never let up, every time he was there, until she joined his troop. That was a week ago.

was a week ago.

"What made you ask about him?" he said suddenly. "Do you know anything about

him?"
"If he is the man I think he is," the doctor answered, "I know he has a wife in New York, whom he deserted three years ago, when she was sick in a hospital there."
The blood left the riverman's bronzed face, until it seemed as if the coat of tan upon it was painted over dead white marble.
"Stranger," he said, "if you have a wife, or a sweetheart, for the sake of the love you bear to them, help me save this woman. If she

a sweetheart, for the sake of the love you bear to them, help me save this woman. If she knows what you know, I reckon she'll give him up, but if I just tell her she'll think I made up the story."

"It won't mean missing more than one train for you," he went on, "and it means missing my whole life if I lose her. I know it isn't an easy job I'm asking of you. If all the stories told about Jim Remshaw are true, he has killed a man for less than this."

"If this is the man I knew." said the doctor.

"If this is the man I knew," said the doctor, "he had no love for me when he last saw me, but I doubt if he would know me now, meeting me here. Tell me what you want me to do."

The two men talked earnestly for a few min

The two men talked earnestly for a few minutes, screened, as they supposed, by the sound of the calliope from any danger of the people near them hearing what they were saying.

"Will you do it?" the pilot asked, at last.

"Yes," said the doctor.

The two men climbed down from the levee and walked away in the direction of the town.

The auditorium of the floating theater was well filled at that night's performance. The doctor sat well back in the audience, and near the wall. The heavily bearded man who sat beside him would never have been identified with the man who had been with him on the levee that day, so well had his disguise been planned. Along in the middle of the first act a young woman came on the stage in a minor part.

part.
"That's her," the riverman whispered hoarse

"That's her," the riverman whispered hoarsely. What he had said of her was true. She was beautiful, but sing or act she could not. "There!" he added suddenly. "That's Remshaw at the side of the stage there, looking at her. Is he the man you know?"

"Yes," said his companion. "That is the

At the end of the first act the two men left the boat. Half an hour later they parted at the door of one of the saloons in the city, in which the pilot of the show boat was enjoying his lay off from duty. The man with the beard entered the saloon, and in no long time the two rivermen were drinking together.

At midnight, that night, Remshaw came up the gangplank on to the boat on which the troupe lived. He carried a small handbag with him. The show was over, the theater dark, and the actors gone to their rooms.

"Has Rast"—the pilot— "come on board yet?" Remshaw asked of a watchman who sat smoking at the head of the plank.

"No," said the man.

The owner of the showboat swore roundly.

"No," said the man.

The owner of the showboat swore roundly.

"He's drunk," he said. "I heard on shore he was 'most paralyzed in a saloon there an hour ago, and then went out. I've been looking for him but I can't find him." He sat down near the man, putting the bag down carefully beside him as he did so.

"Don't kick that bag," he said. "There's dynamite in it. The paper says the river's going to keep falling for the next few days anyway. If it gets much lower we'll likely have to blow out a snag or two somewhere, to



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clear the channel."
From out a group of loiterers at the bank, a bearded man came up the plank.
"Did I hear you all say you was short a pilot?" he asked.
"Looks like it. Why?"
"I'd like a job."
"Can you take these boats down the river in this water?"
"Yes, sir."
The man talked for a few minutes, and a trade was struck that the new-comer should go if the old pilot did not show up.
"What time do you want to start?" he asked.
"As soon as it is light enough for you to see to steer."

"What time do you want to start?" he asked.
"As soon as it is light enough for you to see to steer."

"All right, sir, I'll be ready."

A few minutes later the new man came back up the plank, and another man with him—the doctor. "This here is a friend of mine," he said, "going to sit and smoke while we wait to see if your man comes."

"All right."

The two men sat down not far away. An hour later, Remshaw, still swearing at the pilot, gave up watching for him, and locking the bag of dynamite safely into a cupboard in his own stateroom, turned in.

"Where did you leave the pilot?" the doctor asked, when the two men were alone.

"Behind an empty house on the further side of the town. I had to drag him the last part of the way to get him there. The powder you gave me for him certainly did its work all right. He won't come out of it, you say, before noon, and he can't get any train down the river after that until the next morning. I reckon his place will be vacant for him again by that time," he added grimly.

Dawn came, and then daylight, and then sunrise. The show boat had been on her way down the river for two hours. Except for the men in the engine room and the pilot house, every one on board slept. Not every one, though, for the pilot had bribed a black woman hired to watch while the members of the troupe were asleep, to rouse the woman whom he loved and bring her to him. Stripped of his disguise, honest and manly, and in the fresh sunlight looking as handsome as a bronze statue, he pleaded his cause with her—pleaded, and won.

"He'll shoot you, Will," she faltered, "shoot we be the probaging and the room and the probaging and the probaging the probagin

"He'll shoot you, Will," she faltered, "shoot us both, perhaps, just as soon as he sees you on board."

"He won't see me on board," was the answer. "See that place down there where the water ripples just a bit," pointing down the river. "That's the place I've been watching for ever since supply."

"That's the place I've been watching for ever since sun-up.
"You two slip down quietly on this side the boat to where a row boat is dragging, and get into the boat, and wait for me. Take this with you, doctor," handing the latter the pilot's megaphone. "You'll find a loaded rifle in the boat. I put it there last night, when I let the other boat go adrift."

Five minutes later the pilot joined the man and women in the skiff, and casting the boat adrift pushed her out into the current just as the forward one of the two big boats drove full speed upon a sand bar in the middle of the

speed upon a sand bar in the middle of the river.

The woman lay down in the bottom of the boat. There were two pairs of oars. The two men pulled silently and with all their strength. Almost instantly there was an uproar on Almost instantly there was an uproar on board the show boat. Men rushed on deck, and woman looked out from hastily opened stateroom windows. Slowly but steadily the two boats turned in the current until both lay

across the river, fast aground.

The skiff, pulled steadily down stream, put more and more distance between her and the

more and more distance between her and the boats she had left, but yet not enough so but when a revolver rang out on deck, its bullet struck the water dangerously near.

"Keep on rowing, doctor," the pilot said, as he dropped his own oars and reached for the megaphone on one side of him and for the rifle on the other.

on the other.

megaphone on one side of him and for the rine on the other.

"Take a care, there, Jim Remshaw," his voice rang out through the megaphone. "If you fire again I'll put a bullet from this rifle plumb through the side of your boat into that cupboard where you keep your dynamite."

The coatless, vestless, hatless man who had fired the revolver disappeared suddenly from the deck of the show boat.

"He's gone to move his dynamite to some other place," the riverman chuckled. "He'll find the cupboard locked. The key's in my pocket. He won't be likely to break the door open by force very carelessly. By the time he gets back, I reckon we'll be out of range.

"I hope they've got some good swimmers on board," he added a moment later. "They never'll get word on shore in any other way, for there isn't a settlement in sight here. I reckon it's safe for me to take the oars again now."

The little skiff swent swiftly down streem.

now."

The little skiff swept swiftly down stream, and presently a bend in the river hid it from

Miss Trundy-"Ha'nt."

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HERMAN GRAY.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTER. Squire Todd, widower for a number of years, decides to marry Widow Jetts. Miss Trundy, who has been the squire's housekeeper since his wife's death, is notified and volunteers to leave. The squire tells her he shall give her five hundred dollars, but she says she doesn't need it and will not take it.



ARRANGED, a few days before the wedding Miss Trundy bade good bye to the old house where she had labored so many years and moved her possessions to a cozy little cottage down the street.

She was really happy after she was well settled. No longer had she the care of a family on her mind. She was free to go and come as she liked.

There was no worry about her modest future. On their part the Squire and his bride seemed to be as well satisfied and settled. Such all 'round happiness was too much for the village. The matter was discussed in its various phases at the regular meeting of the Current Events club, and the English Literature club stood Browning off at one side for the day while they paid due attention to the mean way old Ben Todd had used Maria Trundy who had slaved and toiled for him and his all her life long, only to be turned out of her home at last.

The next day several women in the village dropped around to call on Miss Trundy. They sounded her cautiously on her feelings in regard to the Squire's marriage. She expressed her entire happiness and deep content in her

her entire happiness and deep content in her new home.

"She's awful sly about it,"the callers reported to inquiring friends, "but you can see that she is just eatin' her heart out."

At last Mrs. Johnson, the wife of the lawyer who was the Squire's rival in the village, went around to call on Miss Trundy. "I think something ought to be done to inform that poor lone woman about her rights," declared Mrs. Johnson. "My husband says that no woman ever had a better chance to sue for breach of promise than Maria Trundy and fur's we're concerned we're willin' to help her."

But it required a week of constant argument on the part of Mrs. Johnson to convince Miss Trundy that she had been used ill. At last she admitted that—yes, at one time she had hoped, -well, just imagined that perhaps the Squire might ask her to take the head of his house-

might ask her to take the head of his household as his wife.
"Of course you thought so—of course you did," declared Mrs. Johnson. "He led you to believe so right along. You didn't calculate on bein' an old maid, did you? Of course not. But I know of lots of good men who would have shined up to you if they hadn't thought you were promised to the Squire. He has just gone to work and spoiled your whole life for you, and then when you are old he has turned

you were promised to the squire. He has just gone to work and spoiled your whole life for you, and then when you are old he has turned you out for a younger woman. He ought to be rid on a rail out of town. The folks in the village here are just as mad as they can stick. They're all your friends!"

Miss Trundy had nothing to do except ponder on the matter that had been suggested to her by Mrs. Johnson. With that lady at her elbow pretty constantly to put into her mind things that she couldn't think of on her own account, Miss Trundy came at last to look on herself as a very unfortunate woman. She commenced to pity herself for her lonely state. From that stage to developing resentment against the one to whom she ascribed her single blessedness was an easy step. She finally agreed with Mrs. Johnson that the squire had

feel toward the Squire she didn't want to hurt the feelings of the new Mrs. Todd. "She has always used me just as nice as one woman could use another," she avowed, "and I hain't goin' to root up a scandal and drag her into it."

goin' to root up a scandal and drag her into it."

Two days later Mrs. Johnson told her that Mrs. Todd had said to a party from whom it came straight, that Maria Trundy "had figured every way she knew how to catch the Squire and had even made eyes at him before his first wife died." That shaft hurt. Miss Trundy vowed that she did not believe a word of it and yet she lay awake half the night and thought the matter over. In the morning she decided that probably Mrs. Todd really did say it.

Mrs. Johnson came around after breakfast. "What are you goin' to do about that matter, Miss Trundy?" she inquired. "The whole village is watchin' you and waitin' for you to take some action to stop their mouths. And if you've got any spunk at all you'll do it."

"I've thought it over," said Maria with her mouth quivering, "and I hain't goin' to say a word to either of 'em. The Squire knows how hard I worked for his interests. I believe that today he has horror of conscience because he turned me out to make room for another woman."

"Well, what are you goin' to do?" persisted Mrs. Johnson.

"I'm goin' to ha'nt the both of them." de-

"Well, what are you goin' to do?" persisted Mrs. Johnson.

"I'm goin' to ha'nt the both of them," declared Maria solemnly.

"You're goin' to what—t—t?" cried the lawyer's wife.

"The Good Book says to treat well them as do despitefully use you," said Miss Trundy. "I hain't goin' to work and try to hurt the Squire and his wife with the law. That wouldn't be Christian. But I mean to hold the errors of their ways before them both in this life and in the life to come. As long as I stay on earth I shall ha'nt them and when I am laid away in the cold ground my spirit will still ha'nt them. I shall be an uncomplaining martyr. And I know that God will touch their hard hearts through me." through me.

"Well of all things!" ejaculated Mrs. Johnson. "What do you mean to do?"
"What do I mean to do?" echoed the spinster.

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single blessedness was an easy step. She finally agreed with Mrs. Johnson that the squire had used her just as mean as a man could use a woman.

But at one thing Miss Trundy stuck. She wouldn't bring suit on the ground of breach of promise. Even Lawyer Johnson's arguments could not bring her over to that resolve. It was disappointing to Mrs. Johnson and the rest of the villagers but Miss Trundy stood firm. She declared that however she might

"Maria acted queer for some weeks before she left our house," said the Squire to his as-tonished spouse. "I wouldn't be surprised if she is touched just a leetle. Old maids get that way." that way.

But that particular old maid grew troublesome before the week was over. Every time the Squire and his wife ventured out of doors the Squire and his wife ventured out of doors she was at their heels. And as she refused to hold any converse with the angry old man he couldn't understand what it all meant. Miss Trundy had left his house in the best spirits and with a perfect understanding existing between them. She knew that she was mentioned in his will. Yet here she was chasing behind like a Hecate. She ambled at their heels when they went to church, to lodge, to the store or for a stroll. All the people were at the doors as they passed in singular procesthe doors as they passed in singular proces

At last the Squire's wife came home from every trip through the village, sobbing with hysterical indignation. She demanded that the hysterical indignation. She demanded that the Squire lock up this madwoman who was making existence a burden. But the Squire, remembering the years of past service, was not willing to treat Maria harshly. He made careful inquiries. He studied the causes leading up to this obsession that was haunting him.

And then he sprung the biggest sensation the village had ever known. For he stood right up in church at the conclusion of the sermon one Sunday and commenced to talk.

sermon one Sunday and commenced to talk.
Grim and stiff and uncompromising, Maria
had sat just behind him during the service. She as well as all the rest of the people present gasped when the Squire commenced his little oration. And all the folks were there, for congregations had been large since the "ha'nt"

ad commenced.

The Squire told the story of the influences that had been brought to bear on an inoffen-sive woman to induce her to turn against her best friends and make herself and them ridiculous before the eyes of a gaping village. He described the manner in which that woman had cared for his home and had been a mother to

cared for his home and had been a mother to his orphan children.

As he talked, Maria's angular stiffness doubled forward. When he paid tribute to her unselfishness and honor before she had been misled by busybodies in the village—and he gave the names of those persons—Maria crept around the end of the Squire's pew and sat down in its further end. In another minute she had her head in the lap of the Squire's wife and was sobbing.

ute she had her head in the lap of the Squire's wite and was sobbing.

The Squire changed his topic then and paid his respects to the meddlers who had ruined the peace of a good woman, and those present do say that fiercer invective never rolled from his lips even in the big murder trial of the county. A half dozen whom he especially assailed bowed their heads and sneaked from the church. No one tried to stop him. The talk around town next day was that it proved the most helpful sermon on neighborliness that was ever preached in the old church.

When the Squire went home to dinner he had his wife on one arm and Maria on the other.

other.
"You'll live with us after this Mari'" said
he. "If I've got to be ha'nted I'd rather have
the ghost right on the premises, for that's the

the ghost right on the premises, for that's the regular way for family ghosts to settle."

Maria gave a half sob.

"Don't twit, Squire, after it's all been settled," remonstrated his wife.

"Oh, I forgot," said the old gentleman. "The ghost has been laid. And," he concluded with a grim smile, "I guess that those who started the ghost in business have been laid out. And it's given me a prime appetite for dinner."

#### "No Sugar."

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ELIZABETH ORR WILLIAMS.

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came around with molasses candy to sell. In this way he earned his slim livelihood. Some-times when the day was warm and he was tired he would wheel his little cart under the shade of a tree on some more retired street, and take a nap; but each time on waking he would find the greater part of his candy gone. He could not see a person round, and he wondered what had become of it. This had happened several

Finally he concluded to change his route; he would wheel over to Hillside where there were more people, and he would not go to sleep, or, if he did, he could wheel in behind some hedge on one of the large estates, and get his nap, for Urban walked and pulled his cart long distanc-

on one of the large estates, and get his hap, for Urban walked and pulled his cart long distances, and got very weary.

One day he found himself in a cosy, retired place in a hedge corner and concluded to stay there all night, and after dark he took up his abode. "Surely there was no one around," he thought, and he would have one good night's sleep unmolested; but when morning came he found the same old experience had occurred. He was a trifle disheartened, but he turned his pockets inside out, counted his pennies, and decided to leave the town. He could not trace anybody or anything. He would try some other place. He had pennies enough to buy a breakfast, a new supply of candy, and pay his toll over the river to Leesdale.

He had been two days in Leesdale when he met with the same loss, in the same mysterious way. Then he decided to get out of the town if not out of the state, and so he went away, but he did not go far.

At Marvale, the next town to Leesdale, the summer cottages were open and the occupants were come for the season, and among them

summer cottages were open and the occupants were come for the season, and among them were Mr. and Mrs. Headly, a daughter, a cook, a butler, a coachman, two horses, a pony and

One evening some friends came to welcome them to Marvale. They chatted of things past and present and things to come.

"Did Moll Pitcher come, too?" asked Mrs.

Ballard.

"Oh, yes, we could not leave the parrot at home alone," replied Mrs. Headly.

Katie Headly came in just then, flushed from a ride on her "precious Cradle" as she called her steed. More conversation followed, and then the Ballards took their leave.

then the Ballards took their leave.

The next morning the bowl of loaf sugar was empty. This had happened several times at the breakfast table. Mrs. Headly felt annoyed, breakfast table the meach a lump of sugar. Kaiser dropped his tail and with kindly admonished the butter that this must not happen again. He vindicated himsus that headly solve the mill bell rang twelve o'clock, the mill bell rang twelve o'clock, the mill hands came rushing out, and among them were some Portuguese young women and girls, some of whom were quite handsome with their olive complexions and their velvety eyes.

Nearly every day at this hour, Urban Vetchy the candy-man, who asked for a drink of water. The cook sent him to the stable and rink of water. The cook sent him to the stable where the stable boy gave him a drink of the circle water. The cook sent him to the stable and ranks. Headly called the dogs and offered them each a lump of sugar. Kaiser dropped his tail and burn of sugar. Kaiser dropped his tail and with five headly called the dogs and offered them each a lump of sugar. Kaiser dropped his tail and with five headly called the dogs and offered them each a lump of sugar. Kaiser dropped his tail and with form the deadly called the dogs and offered them each a lump of sugar. At the breakfast-table the next morning Mr. Headly called the dogs and offered them each a lump of sugar. Kaiser dropped his tail and with form the disappearance of the sugar. At leadly called the dogs and offered them each a lump of sugar. Kaiser dropped his tail and with form the disappearance of the sugar. At leadly called the dogs and offered them each a lump of sugar. At the breakfast-table the next morning Mr. Headly salled the dogs and offered them each a lump of sugar. Kaiser dropped his tail a then the Ballards took their leave.

The next morning the bowl of loaf sugar was empty. This had happened several times at the breakfast table. Mrs. Headly felt annoyed, but kindly admonished the butler that this must not happen again. He vindicated himself very well, but several breakfasts more found the sugar-bowl empty until the Headlys began to feel very curious. The servants had been with them for many years, certainly they had no hand in the disappearance of the sugar-

water; but before he went he wheeled his cart in among the shrubbery and under the shade of a tall bush to keep the sun from it.

When he returned from the stable he found

half of his candy gone. He did not know what to do but to complain to the cook, who told him that there was no one on the premises who

half of his candy gone. He did not know what to do but to complain to the cook, who told him that there was no one on the premises who would even think of such a thing as taking his candy. So he left thinking that his poor and mysterious luck had started up again.

The family determined to solve the mystery, the disappearance of the loaf sugar, for the ground sugar never was missed. So the butler was instructed to fix up a place in one corner of the dining-room to lie down, and to pass the night there.

Bertan drank strong coffee and kept awake until half past one o'clock when he fell asleep. When he awoke it was daylight. He got up and found the sugar-bowl empty. He felt that he was beaten, and felt ashamed of himself for falling asleep. He would sit up all night next time. At breakfast Bertan confessed that he fell asleep. "No sugar" became a by-word. The weather being fine Mr. and Mrs. Headly went on a twenty-mile drive, returning in the early evening. It had been a very warm day, and they had dined at a country hotel on the way. Mrs. Headly retired for the night feeling very weary and in the night she was taken suddenly ill. Mr. Headly got up at once and went quietly down the side stairs and entered a small passage-way which led into the dining-room, to get some wine in the sideboard.

It was a bright moonlight night and what did he see but Lilyput, the little black and tan dog on the sideboard with her nose in the sugar-bowl. She jumped down with a lump in her mouth and ran into the hall. Mr. Headly kept quiet, and in came Lilyput again, jumped up into the chair beside the sideboard and from there to the sugar-bowl, took out a lump of sugar and went into the hall. This

and from there to the sugar-bowl, took out a lump of sugar and went into the hall. This she did three times and each time Mr. Headly could hear a growl from Kaiser the mastiff. On her fourth trip Mr. Headly followed her into the hall and saw her lay the sugar down before Kaiser who ate it and munched with great satisfaction. Mr. Headly said nothing but was infinitely amused. He took the wine and returned to his wife, and to divert her he told her the secret of the missing sugar, which also amused her. amused her. At the breakfast-table the next morning Mr.

stock-in-trade the other day in the neighbor-hood of my premises. Did you ever find any clue?"
"No sir, never, but it happened a number of

"No sir, never, but it happened a number of times across the river just the same, but I never found any trace," replied Vetchy.

"You bring your candy-cart to my place Vetchy, to-morrow noon, and leave it in the same place, and go to the stable for a drink of water just as you did before," said Mr. Headly.

"I'm afraid I will lose my candy sir," said Vetch.

Vetch.
"I'll make it good to you if you do," replied

Mr. Headly.

In the meantime the culprits had been in the dining-room and had a punishment by Mr. Headly holding up a lump of sugar and shaming them. They left the room in evident dis-

The next day Vetchy was on the spot and did exactly as Mr. Headly had told him to do. There was a vestibule on the rear side of the cottage with colored glass panels in the Anyone could see out plainly but no one could

At the appointed time the family with the butler stationed themselves in the vestibule. After Vetchy had gone to the stable, the mastiff came out from a thick shrubbery and at once helped himself to the candy, crunching it as he would a bone, and seemed to enjoy it very much. very much.

Mr. Headly surprised him and Kaiser crawled Mr. Headly surprised him and Kaiser crawled quickly away through the shrubbery on the other side of the house. When Vettchy returned to his cart of course some of his candy was gone. Mr. Headly then explained matters. Vetchy said that he had seen a large dog but he had not thought anything of it. He never petted strange dogs. "Well," said Mr. Headly, "no doubt my dog Kaiser is the guilty one all through these losses, and I will gladly pay for it all."

"You are very kind, sir," said Vetchy.

"You are very kind, sir," said Vetchy.
"It is only just. I little dreamed that Kaiser was a thief," said Mr. Headly.
"Don't beat him sir, he never harmed me, and he could have torn me into pieces," said

"No, we won't beat him, but you bring your candy here twice a week and I will buy it all each time, and turn Kaiser loose with it, and see if he can get enough of it," said Mr. Head-

ly.

The Headlys talked over their discovery of the candy-man's trials the missing sugar and the candy-man's trials with some amusement and seriousness withal. When Urban Vetchy came the next time Mr.

Headly called Kaiser and offered him some of the candy, but the dog would not touch it. Then Mr. Headly had it all turned out on the ground under a shrub and told Kaiser to eat it; but Kaiser would not look at it, nor did the

sugar ever disappear again.
Who says that an intelligent dog has no

A T fourteen years of age Franklin engaged with another boy on "the propriety of educating the female sex in learning, and their ability for study," Franklin arguing that women were capable of all culture, while his opponent took the opposite side. We have always understood that Franklin was a wise man. a wise man.



## PORTRAITS OF POPULAR PUBLIC WORLD-WIDE FAME.





































#### Senator and Mrs. Chauncey Depew.

1. U. S. Senator Chauncey M. Depew, of New York, the best known American citizen, after the President, and notwithstanding heis past his three-score and ten years, he sailed over to Europe not long ago and married a young lady in Nice, Italy, who is about half his age. She was an American lady, Miss Palmer. The

picture was taken as they came from the church in Nice, after the wedding.

#### Florizel Reuter.

2. Usually the famous musicians who play or sing in this country are foreigners, but Florizel Reuter is an American born boy, only ten years old, and his playing of the violin promises that when he has become a man grown he will be one of the greatest violinists of the

#### William C. Whitney.

3. Americans are always so busy making money that they never seem to have time to quit, but William C. Whitney, ex-Secretary of the Navy, and one of the most active millionaires in the United States, has announced that he will retire from business and rest for the balance of his life. Mr. Whitney is sixty years

#### Isaac Brock.

4. The oldest man in the United States is said to be Isaac Brock of Valley Mills, Texas. He was born in Buncombe County, North Carolina, March 8, 1788, and is now one hundred and fourteen years old, which is vouched for by records. He was hale and hearty at last accounts. He has seen twenty-two presidents

#### Mrs. Daniel S. Lamont.

5. The women of the United States, who go abroad, have become so wrought up over the treatment they receive from the hands of customs officials when they return to this country that they have organized a crusade for reform. Among those well known is Mrs. Daniel S. Lamont, wife of Col. Daniel S. Lamont, former Secretary of War under President Cleveland, and now Vice-President of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Mrs. Lamont lives in New York

### Thomas B. Reed.

6. A few years ago the newspapers were full of Speaker Read of Congress, known as "Czar" Reed, because of his arbitrary rulings. Lately Mr. Reed has lived quietly in New York City as a lawyer, and his name came up recently as a possible selection by President Roosevelt for a cabinet position, but the places are all filled now and Mr. Reed is still in private life.

#### William Shakespeare.

William Shakespeare.

7. Just at present literary circles in England are discussing the great question of who wrote Shakespeare's famous plays. For years some have contended that they were written by Francis Bacon, and recently an American woman, Mrs. Sarah Gallup, has been unraveling the "Baconian Cipher" in that country to such an extent that Shakespeare is in danger of losing his glory.

#### Nicholas Murray Butler.

8. One of the greatest colleges in the United States, Columbia, of New York City, lost its President, Seth Low, when he was recently elected Mayor of New York, and Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, who has been connected with the college for twenty-four years, has been named as his successor. President Butler is not yet forty years of age.

#### James B. McCreary.

9. Senator Deboe, the only Republican United States Senator ever elected in Kentucky, is not to be given a second trial, but will be succeeded by ex-Governor McCreary, who was recently elected. Governor McCreary was a member of Congress for many years, after serving as Governor of his state. ing as Governor of his state.

#### Gen. Fred G. Funston.

10. Every reader of Comfort has heard of Gen Funston of Kansas, who is the "fightin"-est" man in the Philippines. He has been home on furlough for some weeks and has undergone a successful operation for appendicitis, and like a brave soldier is going back to fight some more if need be.

#### The King of Spain.

The King of Spain.

11, 12. Alfonso XIII., the young King of Spain, born 1886, is to be crowned at Madrid, in May, a month before the coronation of King Edward of Great Britain. He is a bright and ambitious boy, but not robust, and he is fond of the army. The United States will be represented at the coronation by Dr. J. L. M. Curry, U. S. Minister at Madrid when Alfonso was

#### Lewis Nixon and Richard Croker.

13, 14. Lewis Nixon, better known as a naval constructor, and for designing the famous battleship Oregon, has recently come into particular prominence as the successor of Richard Croker, the leader of the great democratic organization in New York City, known as Tammany. Mr. Nixon was born in Virginia, and is not yet forty. Mr. Croker announces that he will retire to his horse farm at Wantage, England, but it is believed he will return when the fight begins against the reform administration which went into office January 1st, 1902. January 1st, 1902.

#### The English Coronation.

The English Coronation.

15, 16, 17. King Edward VII. of Great Britain, whom Americans have known so long as the Prince of Wales, is to be crowned in June, and the occasion will be one of the notable events of history. The United States will be represented by Hon. Whitelaw Reid, editor of the New York Tribune, as Special Ambassador, Gen. James H. Wilson, U. S. A. representing the Army, and Captain Charles E. Clark, who brought the warship Oregon almost round the world to fight in Cuban waters, representing the Navy.

#### Oscar S. Straus.

18. One of the recent great events was the meeting in New York City of the National Civic Federation at which representatives of capital and of labor discussed for several days capital and of labor discussed for several days the questions at issue between them. Hon. Oscar Straus of New York City presided, and one result was the appointment of a standing committee of thirty-six members to settle disputes and prevent strikes. Mr. Straus was appointed minister to Turkey by President Cleveland and again by President McKinley. He is a Hebrew, and represented a Christian government at a Mohammedan Court.

#### King Edward.

19. The new British coinage bears on one side, the head of King Edward, and this picture shows fairly well the appearance of the coin with a good portrait of the King.

President of Switzerland.

20. The little republic of Switzerland, set down in the midst of kings and thrones, goes right onward with its republican ideas and government, and recently elected a new President, Dr. Zemp, whose portrait shows him to be a "well favored" man.

#### Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler.

21. Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, known to religious people all over the world, recently celebrated his eightieth birthday. It is said over two hundred million copies of his sermons have been printed, and that over four thousand articles from his pen have appeared in religious periodicals.

### Mrs. Croly.

22. For many years the writings of Mrs. Croly, better known as "Jennie June," have been read and enjoyed by people in all parts of this country and the world, but her pen is stilled and she will write no more. She died recently at the age of seventy-two.

#### Thomas Estrada Palma.

Thomas Estrada Palma.

23. The first president of the Republic of Cuba is Thomas Estrada Palma who for a long time was the agent of Cuba in the United States and the most active person in keeping alive the spirit of independence. For eighteen years he lived in Orange county, N. Y. and had a school for Spanish-American children. Five of his six children were born there. He is sixty years of age. He received the vote of fifty-five electors as against eight for his opponent, Gen. Bartolome Maso.

#### Signor Guglielmo Marconi.

Signor Guglielmo Marconi.

24, 25. For months the world has been talking about Marconi and his wireless telegraph, by which he sends messages without the aid of wires, as is done by the ordinary telegraph. But recently the world has stopped talking about that, to talk about the breaking of his engagement to be married to Miss Josephine Bowen Holman of Indianapolis, Ind. No one knows why it was broken, but gossips say it was because Signor Marconi learned that Miss Holman was a poor girl instead of the millionairess he thought her to be. Signor Marconi is only twenty-seven years old.

#### Prince Henry of Germany.

26. The American people do not often have an opportunity to hobnob with Princes, as the saying is, but lately they have been showing Prince Henry, brother to Emperor William of Prince Henry, brother to Emperor William of Germany, a great deal of attention. The Prince came over to represent his brother at the launching of the Emperor's yacht at Shooter Island, near New York. The building of this yacht was a great tribute to the skill of the American yacht builders. Prince Henry is thirty-nine years old and has a wife and three obliders.

#### Herbert Putnam.

27. One of the greatest libraries in the world, and which is housed in the finest library building ever erected, is the Congressional Library at Washington, D. C. The building cost over six million of dollars and it contains hundreds of thousands of books. The Librarian of Congress, is Mr. Herbert Putnam, formerly of the great Boston Free Library.

#### The Philippine Commission.

The Philippine Commission.

28, 29, 30. The Philippine Commission, with Governor Taft at the head is rendering valuable service in treating with the various problems growing out of the control of the Philippines by the United States, and the three native, or Filipino, members, are men who are worthy of the highest praise. They are Senor Beneto Legardo, Dr. T. H. Pardo de Tavera, and Senor Jose Ruiz de Luzuriaga. These men have recently written a series of valuable opinions on the relations between the Islands and the United States and they are no less loyal to their country than they are to the United States.

#### Earl of Minto.

Earl of Minto.

31, 32. The nearest representative of royalty to the United States is the Governor-General of Canada, who is at present, the Earl of Minto, and a very popular man. He is an athlete and a fine horseman, and he has had military experience in France during the Commune riots at Paris, in the Russo-Turkish war, under Lord Roberts in India and in South Africa, and later in Egypt. In 1883 he was military secretary to the Marquis of Lorne, then Governor-General of Canada. His wife, the Countess of Minto, is as popular as her husband and she has done much in harmonizing the conflicting conditions which exist among the different peoples and religions of Canada. She is a descendant of the famous Indian Princess, Pocahontas, and is in that far an American.

#### Mr. and Mrs. Payne Whitney.

Mr. and Mrs. Payne Whitney.

33, 34. All the world loves a lover, they say, and at least all the fashionable and official world seemed to be particularly fond of Mr. Payne Whitney, the son of ex-Secretary of the Navy Whitney, and Miss Helen Hay, the daughter of Hon. John Hay, Secretary of State, whose wedding in Washington last month was one of the most notable events socially that has occurred in recent years. Both the young people are the children of very wealthy parents, and as their friends are among those people, their wedding presents represented many thousand of dollars. Mr. Whitney is a popular young man, and his wife, as Helen Hay, has made quite a name for herself as a writer.

#### Cornelius Vanderbilt.

Cornelius Vanderbilt.

35. It is not often that the multi-millionaire, especially when he is young and wants to have all the enjoyments of life, takes to work and politics but young Cornelius Vanderbilt of New York is an exception. He went to work as a railroad machinist with the New York Central Railroad, controlled by his family, and last year invented a new tender for locomotives which has been adopted by many leading roads. He is in the offices of the great road, but with the incoming of the reform administration of the city of New York he accepted the position of Civil Service Commissioner tendered him by Mayor Seth Low, and already has shown that he is well fitted for his new duties. It may be said of the Vanderbilts that they are about the best types of our rich people. Mr. Vanderbilt has thirty patents pending for improvements in locomotives, and he is about thirty years old.

#### The Italian Ambassador.

The Italian Ambassador.

36. For a great many years Italy's representative to the United States, Baron Fava, was noted for his penuriousness, and evident lack of desire to take any part in the duties of his post, further than those he could not avoid. At present Italy has as its Ambassador to this country a man who stands high in the diplomatic world, Signor Edmondo Mayor des Planches. He was a friend of Bismarck and of Crispi, and they taught him. He is fifty years of age.

Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.

#### Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.

President Roosevelt and family, and the country at large, were much agitated early in February, by the illness with pneumonia of Theodore, Jr., a bright youngster of fourteen years, who is at school at Groton, Mass. Theodore is fond of athletics, and he is one of the few who can keep up with the President on the long walks he takes.

#### Admiral von Tirpitz.

38. One of the royal party accompanying Prince Henry on his visit to this country was Admiral von Tirpitz, who besides being an Admiral in the German navy is the imperial secretary of the Navy. As his picture shows he is a fine specimen of the Teutonic race.

M. De Witte.

39. The name of M. de Witte is of almost daily appearance in the newspapers when Russia is referred to, and he is one of the greatest financiers of the world. He is a self-made man and was Director of Railroads preceding his appointment as Minister of Finance. Russia is one of our best friends, if not the best, in Europe, and her progress in the past few years has been almost equal to our own, notwithstanding it is an absolute monarchy.

#### Marshall Field.

Marshall Field.

40. Probably the greatest merchant in the world today is Marshall Field of Chicago, who by legitimate business methods has risen from a poor boy in Conway, Mass., where he was born sixty-six years ago, to be worth over one hundred millions of dollars. His great store in Chicago does a business of fifty millions a year, and he is interested in dozens of business ventures being the controlling spirit in most of ventures being the controlling spirit in most of them. He is less heard of in public affairs than any other rich man in the country. Mr. Field's charities amount to millions. He is a widower





























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scribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one year.

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John J.—The judges of the Federal Courts are not elected: they are appointed by the President and hold their office for life. The Judges of the Circuit Courts of the United States receive a salary of \$6,000 a year; those of the United States District Courts receive \$5,000

Stratton.—Under a recent decision of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, certain forms of endowment and tontine life insurance policies having what is known as a "cash-surrender value," even though payable to the wife of the insured, as beneficiary, are liable to seizure by creditors in case of the bankruptcy of the insured.

H. G. W.—A separate acknowledgment by a wife of a deed to real estate is required in the following states: Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. It is not necessary in Vermont.

Tennessee, and Texas. It is not necessary in Vermont.

B. S.—There is no law to prevent a person from making his or her own will, though as a rule it is a dangerous practice owing to technicalities which no one but a law-yer would understand. If you should write your own, be sure to have it properly witnessed by at least three disinterested persons signing their names to it in your presence and in the presence of each other. You must definitely state to them that the document which they are about to sign is your last will and testament and request that they sign their names as witnesses thereto.

N. F. A marriage between an uncle and a niece would be within the prohibited degrees of consanguinity and therefore absolutely void under the laws of nearly every civilized community in the entire world. Legally, the children of such a union would be illegitimate.

A. J. M. Under the laws of Colorado, the summons in case need not be served on you in person. If it is left tyour known place of residence with a member of your cousehold of lawful age, the notice of the action would be legal and binding on you.

be legal and binding on you.

Debtor.—Bankruptcy proceedings discharge a party from all his indebtedness, except such as were fraudulently or dishonestly contracted. To obtain such a discharge an action must be begun in the District Court of the United States in which the debtor lives. This can only be done through a local lawyer.

N. P.—A father is compelled by law to provide his minor children with the necessaries of life for their maintenance and support. What would be considered as "necessaries" depends entirely upon the station in life of the parties concerned.

F. P. G.—Many of the states have of late.

of the parties concerned.

F. P. G.—Many of the states have of late passed laws making it a criminal offense to use the U. S. flag for advertising purposes. In a very recent decision, the Supreme Court of Illinois decided that such a law was unconstitutional. It does not follow, however, that a similar interpretation of the law would be handed down by the Courts of last resort of other states. The Illinois Supreme Court can only interpret the laws of its own jurisdiction.

jurisdiction.

St. Louis.—The coming World's Fair in your city was authorized by an Act of Congress to provide for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the purchase of the Louisiana territory by the United States during the administration of Thomas Jefferson. Five million (\$5,000,000) dollars was appropriated for this purpose and in addition thereto, the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand (\$250,000) dollars for a suitable government building.

"Lincoln."—Lincoln's birthday (Feb. 12th) is a legal holiday in the following states—Connecticut, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Washington and Wyoming. Washington's birthday (Feb. 22nd) is a legal holiday in every State in the Union, excepting Mississippi, where it is observed in the public schools only.

M. L.—The 12th Census of the United States was taken under an Act of Congress passed March 3rd, 1899 and covers population, agriculture, mortality and manufactures. The reports are not yet completed but the law provides that they must be fully published prior to July 1st, 1902.

F. A. S.—A marshal or constable has no right to break outer doors or forcibly enter a dwelling place. However, having once entered, he is at liberty to break inner doors in the proper performance of his duties such as an en-deavor to levy on personal property, execute a search warrant, or other like matters.

warrant, or other like matters.

F. W.—In a criminal proceeding for felony, such as you mention, a justice of the peace can sit only as a committing magistrate and not as a trial judge. He has no power, as a rule, to determine the actual guilt or innocence of the accused. His sole purpose is to ascertain whether there is probable cause to hold the accused for trial. In case no probable cause is shown by the evidence adduced, the accused should be discharged. A felony is an offense punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary.

A. B. S.—The statute of limitations varies in different

All the content of th

AUGISTA BUR

# A New Discovery That Cures Consumption

By Special Arrangement with the Doctor, Four Free Preparations (the Slocum System) will be Sent to all Readers of COMFORT for the Asking.

## HERE IS HEALTH



These four remedies represent a New system of treatment and cure for the Weak those suffering from Consumption, wasting away diseases, or inflammatory conditions of Nose, Throat and Lungs.

The treatment is Free. Write for it. By the new system devised by Dr. SLOCUM, the great specialist in pulmonary and kindred diseases, all the requirements of the sick body are supplied by the FOUR remedies constituting his Special Treatment known as The Slocum System.

Whatever your disease, **one** or **more** of these four preparations will be of wonderful

benefit to you.

According to the needs of your case, fully explained in the treatise given free with the free remedies, you may take one, or any two, or three, or all four, in combination. A cure is certain.

The remedies are especially adapted for rough skin. those who suffer from weak lung coughs sore throat, Catarrh, Consumption and other pulmonary troubles.

But they are also of wonderful efficacy to the building up of weak systems, in purifying the blood, making flesh and restoring to weak, sallow people rich and healthy consti-

cate children are speedily relieved.

The basis of the entire system is a fleshbuilding, nerve and tissue renewing food.

Every invalid and sick person needs

strength. This food gives it.

Many people get the complete system for the sake of the Perfected Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil combined with Guaiacol, which they themselves need, and give away the other three preparations to their friends.

The second article is Psychine **Tonic.** It is good for weak, thin, dyspeptic, nervous people. For those who have no appetite, who need bracing up.

The third preparation is a medicinal healing **Ozojell** Cure for Catarrh, in a patent Ozojell nasal tube. It cures catarrh. It heals all irritation of the nose, throat and mucuous membranes. It gives immediate relief. It is also a splendid application for sore lips and

The fourth article is Coltsfoote's Expectorant and Cough and Cold cure. The only expectorant that can positively be relied upon. Is absolutely safe for children. Goes to the very root of the trouble, and not merely alleviates, but cures.

ttions.

The four remedies form a panoply of strength against disease in whatever shape it may attack you. Sold by all druggists.

#### FREE TRIAL THE

To obtain these four Free preparations, illustrated above, please mention reading this in COMFORT, and write to

#### DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 98 Pine St., New York,

giving full address. The four Free remedies will then be sent you, direct from the laboratories, in the hope that if they do you good you will recommend them to your friends. When writing the Doctor please tell him you read this in COTIFORT, and give address in full, postoffice and express, and greatly oblige.

HITES, Allegheny Co., Pa., DR. T. A. SLOCUM, Oct. 26, 1901.

DEAR SIR:-I wish to recommend your medicine in the very highest terms for curing me of Consumption, when the doctors all gave me

> Yours respectfully, C. A. CHRISTIE.

CATONSVILLE, (Sta. A.), Baltimore, Md., DR. T. A. SLOCUM, Oct. 28, 1901.

DEAR SIR:-I received your samples of medicine, took them, bought more of a druggist and am now cured of my complaint. Thanking you for your kindness, I am,

Yours truly, ROY A. MOLESWORTH.



(So many inquiries are made by "Comfort" readers concerning real estate (country and city) farms and locations for homes that this column has become a necessity and here

we shall be glad to answer all questions.)

Any paid subscriber who desires to make a change in their present situation or are in any way uncomfortable in their abode and want information about any particular location in any State in the Union can address "The Comfort Home Finder,"Augusta, Maine, and we will try and serve them.

H. A. D. Hope, Idaho.—There are thousand of acres of land in Virginia which may be had for the taxes. In some instances this makes the land worth even less than homestead prices in the West. Much of this Virginia land is old and poor, but it answers readily to fertilizing and care, and the climate is greatly in its favor. Schools and churches abound and there is a welcome awaiting any good citizen who comes from the North or elsewhere. A land circular has been sent to you with details.

Mrs. H. G., Nashville, Tenn.—Land in Blue Grass Kentucky is worth from \$50 to \$150 an acre, but if you are now living on a farm near Nashville, you are in very nearly as fine a country as the Blue Grass section is. Unless you can get a very good price, indeed, for your place, we advise you to remain where you are.

Inquirer, Akron, Ohio.—The so-called abandoned farms of Massachusetts are pretty generally distributed about the state, and their prices are remarkably low, many farms being offered for less than the houses on them cost. Some of these abandoned farms have proved to be good investments, and very few of them are not worth their price, provided an active, progressive farmer gets hold of one. You can get all the information you need, short of personal acquaintance, by writing to the Secretary of Agriculture, Boston, Mass.

Indio, Sunbury, Pa.—Steubenville is the county seat of Jefferson county, Ohio, with a population of about 15,000, paved streets, trolley lines, fine public buildings, numerous churches and schools, and a cultivated, Christian and hospitable people, whose thrift is seen all over their progressive city. Politically the town is republican. A good home may be bought for from \$1,500 to \$8,000 and rents are from twelve dollars and a half, per month, up, for such as you describe.

K. L. G., Haverhill, Mass.—We would not advise your removal to the Pacific coast on Puget Sound until you had thoroughly informed yourself of the country. The climate is very mild, never hot or cold, but it is very damp, and as yet farming is in its infancy, and will never get much beyond that stage, except in the raising of certain kinds of fruits, dairy products, poultry and eggs. Clearing the ground is very expensive as the timber is of enormous growth and the soil is filled with roots. It is also too wet for any of the grain crops. East of the Cascade Range, however, all these conditions are changed, and no finer wheat and fruit crops are raised in the world than here. Yes, the official you mention is perfectly reliable, and you may believe what he tells you.

Tired Out, Rockville, Vt.—Your story of the hard

what he tells you.

Tired Out, Rockville, Vt.—Your story of the hard times you have had for ten years on "Rocky Farm," is interesting, and if you gave it up and went down into the Eastern Shore of Maryland with the five thousand dollars you could raise, you could buy a very fine place and still have a little to put in the bank. The metropolis of the Eastern Shore is Easton or Oxford, and land in that vicinity is worth from \$30 to \$60 an acre, and good land, too. The wheat and fruit are particularly fine, and rail and water transportation are ample. Washington, D. C. is only about two hours away and Baltimore, about three. The climate is mild all the year, as it is tempered by the sea. But Vermont is further from the Eastern Shore than the map shows and as you have lived all your life in the Green Mountain state, you would better try the South awhile before pulling up stakes in the North.

J. W. E., Whitewater, Wis.—We do not know who

J. W. E.. Whitewater, Wis.—We do not know who has informed you that land in the mountain portion of Kentucky is valuable for farming purposes, but whoever it is is evidently trying to obtain your money under false pretenses. Some farms, along the tributaries of the Kentucky, Big Sandy and Cumberland rivers, make a living for their owners, but that is about all. Back from the water-courses the land may have some timber or mineral value, or may not. If not, you can buy all you want for twenty-five cents an acre, or less.

N. Y. T. Cairo, Ills.—You cannot do much in

N. Y. T., Cairo, Ills.—You cannot do much in raising sugar in Louisiana unless you have some capital. Better try something more suitable to small farming.

G. M., Terra Alta, W. Va.—Write to Col. T. G. Stuart, Winchester, Ky.

Stuart, Winchester, Ky.

J. O. McD., Warrenton, Mo.—A turpentine orchard of four or five thousand trees, covering, say, about 200 acres may be rented in North Carolina at \$50 a crop, or year, and the profit is from a dollar to a dollar and a quarter an acre. It is customary to have about twenty orchards to the plant, which requires a capital of about \$5,000. Your family would not find it desirable to live in the immediate neighborhood of the orchards, but there are towns with excellent society and all advantages at no great distance where you could at least spend your Sundays at home.

Miss D. Austin, Mich.—Such a home as you

Sundays at home.

Miss D. Austin, Mich.—Such a home as you desire in Hartford, Conn. could not be purchased for less than \$10,000, if it could be secured at all. Hartford is a home town of very well-to-do people, and those who have pleasant homes do not want to sell, unless—which is the Yankee in them—they can get every cent the place is worth, and have another in view that they can get at a bargain.

Two Young Men, Ozark, Ark.—Don't try farming in Cuba unless you have a good deal more than one thousand dollars each. Cuba is all right for development by people from the United States, but the developers must have plenty of money and know what they are going to do before they begin. If you have two thousand dollars between you, and are tired of farming in Arkansas, why not go into some sort of small manufacturing for local consumption?



HE latest novelty in the omnipresent nickel-in-the-slot machine is said to be an automatic device for blacking boots. The customer drops the necessary coin that starts the machine in motion, and then thrusts his foot into one compart ment where his shoe is brushed. In another compartment the shoe is covered with blacking, and in the third it is polished, the whole operation taking about a minute and a half. The progress of the operation is indicated upon a dial.



CONDUCTED BY AUNT SARAH.



HE request having come from one of our readers for a recipe for white fruit cake, we give a recipe herewith, and illustrate it as a birthday cake.

WHITE FRUIT CAKE. Cream one-half cup Cream one-half cup butter. Add one cup sugar, half a pound blanched almonds, shredded, three-fourths pound of citron cut fine, and three-fourths pound of fresh cocoanut, grated. Beat the whites of five eggs until dry, add part to the cake mixture, then almond extract, one

the cake mixture, then add one-half teaspoon almond extract, one and three-fourth cups flour sifted with one teaspoon baking powder and the remainder of the beaten whites of eggs. Bake in an angel pie tin, cover with boiled frosting flavored with lemon and mixed with grated cocoanut.

An ingenious woman has found a way to fix candles on the top of birthday cakes. In the flame of a candle she heats the eye end of a needle, pushing it while warm into the lower end of each small candle. The needle point pressed through the icing makes the tiniest puncture, permitting, too, the closer use of the candle, often desirable for a birthday count. If desired, tiny stars or circles may be cut from gilt or colored paper, the needle slipped through so that the paper forms a little mat on which the candle rests.

the candle rests.

We have been asked for a new recipe for cake to be baked in small scalloped tins, and think the following will be about what is desired.

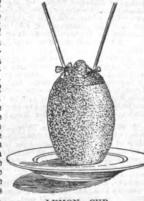
GENOESE CAKE

The weight of three eggs in sugar, butter and flour, one-fourth teaspoon salt, one table-spoon brandy, one-half cup blanched and finely-chopped almonds, one-fourth cup finely-chopped citron and an additional egg yolk. Cream the butter, add sugar gradually and eggs one at a time without first beating them. Beat three minutes between the addition of the eggs, then add remaining ingredients. Bake in small scalloped tims.

NUT LAYER CAKE.

Cream one-half cup butter. Add gradually one cup and a half of sugar, then half a cup of

one cup and a hal milk, one teas poon ful of vanilla extract, two and one-fourth cups of flour, sifted with one-fourth teaspoonful of soda and three-fourths teaspoonful of cream of tartar. cream of tartar. Lastly beat in the whites of five eggs. Spread in two layer-cake pans. Press halves of English walnuts into the top of one of the layers, to make lengthwise rows of nut-meats. Sprinkle the



LEMON CUP.

whole with white sugar, and bake about twenty minutes. Put the layers together with

Boil one cup of sugar and half a cup of water, until it threads when tried with a spoon. Pour in a fine stream, beating constantly, onto the beaten yolks of two eggs. Then pour this mixture onto a square of melted chocolate, add the chopped meats remaining from a pound of unshelled nuts, and half a teaspoonful of vanilla extract, and beat until cold enough to spread. cold enough to spread.
Someone wants to know how to make

PEPPERMINT DROPS.

Boil together five minutes two cups of sugar and one-half cup boiling water. Take from stove and add a pinch of cream of tartar. Stir well. Add seven drops oil of peppermint, beat well until mixture whitens. Drop quickly on

buttered paper.

At a small dinner party, the souvenirs were small beer steins, in which was served the ice.



CREAM A LA STEIN.

the steins, giving the appearance of the foam on beer. The guests were quite pleased with the idea, as well as with the souve-

nir. A unique way of serving grape juice, at a luncheon for warm weather, is in-side of a lemon. A small slice is cut from one end of the lemon to allow it to stand

securely on a plate. Then the top is cut off to form a cover. The inside is carefully removed

from both lemon and cover, and the shell is filled with cool grape juice. The cover is then put on, two small round holes are punctured in the cover, two straws inserted, and where they disappear through the hole dainty bows of ribbon of the color scheme of the luncheon are tied. The slight flavor of the lemon is a pleasant addition to the grape juice flavor.

Sometime ago a reader living in Bullocks Corners, Ontario, Canada, wrote us for a recipe for Molasses Pie. We regret that we are unable to find a recipe. Should be glad to have



BIRTHDAY CAKE.

any of our readers send us such a recipe, then we will print it for the benefit of our correspondent.



Salt and vinegar, applied to the fingers, will remove ink stains.

Add a little borax to flour paste to increase its adhesive qualities about one half. Yellow dock, root or leaves, steeped in vinegar will cure the worst case of ringworm.

Dried tansy leaves are said to be good to drive away ants if placed where they congregate.

A spoonful of vinegar added to the water in poaching eggs will keep them from spreading. The white of an egg brushed over a slight burn will ex-clude the air and check the smart at once.

Two drops of essence of peppermint in an ounce of water make an excellent wash for the eyes.

water make an excellent wash for the eyes.

To make a linseed poultice gradually sprinkle four ounces of linseed into a half pint of hot water.

Flat irons should never be allowed to become red hot, as they afterwards never retain the heat properly.

Sixty grains of parafine wax, two ounces of chloroform and three drops of oil of rose is good for a finger nail woulsh

Small lumps of charcoal scattered about the corners of cellars and closets will absorb much of the dampness and bad odors.

Skimmed milk is better for washing oil cloth or linoleum than water is as it makes it fresher and brightens its polish.

When whalebone is too bent for use soak it for several hours in warm water, and dry on a flat surface. It will then be as straight as new.

Bread, cakes or pie should never be put away in a closed safe, or box, until perfectly cold; otherwise they will become soggy and heavy.

A strong solution of lye, applied with a stiff brush on a long handle to protect the hands, will be found excellent in removing stains from floors.

in removing stains from floors.

One part yellow wax and two and a half parts of turpentine make a simple floor wax. Apply with a brush, and pollsh with a woolen cloth.

Put a metal spoon or fork in a glass or china dish before pouring hot water into it. The metal conducts the heat away and the dish will not crack so readily.

Hands that begin to show the effects of being long in hot water may be softened and freshened by washing them in a mixture of equal parts of lemon juice and alcohol.

A better way to dry wet shoes than to set them by the fire is to fill them with hot bran or grain. This draws the moisture out more evenly and maintains the shape of the shoes.

Millions in Missouri Mines.

Millions in Missouri Mines.

If women who want spending money would put \$5.00 or \$10.00 in the new Fortuna Mining Company, that is being organized by W. H. Graffis, of the "Sentinel," at Sedalia, Mo., they would in a few short weeks have a permanent and handsome income. The original Fortuna mine, only opened last October, is already making \$1,000 a day, clear money.

AGENTS, credit, Flavor Powders, etc. Big Profits, Ex. Pd. Terms Free. Martens Co., Box 40, Sta. L, New York. Belgian Hares Money in them. Booklet for stamp. \$5.00 per 1000 paid to distribute circulars. Contract for 4 stamps. Dist'b's Guarantee Co., Chicago.

\$8 Paid Per 100 for Distributing Samples of Washing fluid. Send 6c. stamp. A. W. SCOTT, Cohoes, N. Y.

WED MANY FIG. WANT TO CTUE S PER ... WISELY

AGENTS in every county to sell "Family WANTED AGENTS in every count, to see work Memorials;" good profits and steady work Address, CAMPBELL & CO., 10 Plum St., Elgin, Ill.

CONSUMERS and agents send for big list solely con-trolled household articles, novelties, etc Something for everybody. Patent Devices Co. B38 Chicago.

WANTED Young men to learn telegraphy. Situations soon as qualified. F. WHITEMAN, Chatham, N. Y.

Rods For locating gold and silver. Positively guaranteed. From \$5 up. Catalogue and testimonials free. A. L. BRYANT, Box 10, R Dallas, Tex. WATCH FREE FOR selling 20 Packages Flower Seeds at 10 cents. We trust you. WORLD SEED CO., BOSTON, MASS.

**DETECTIVE** Shrewd, reliable man wanted in every conceded. American Detective Ass'n, Indianapolis, Ind.

RUPTURE CURED while you work. You pay \$4 when cured. No cure, no pay. ALEX. SPEIRS, Box 830, WESTBROOK, MAINE.

ASTHMA Instant relief & positive Gure. Sample mailed free to any sufferer. "Physician" Box 36, Augusta, Maine.



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world. Write for free catalogue No. CENTURY MFG. CO., EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.



It brings health, comfort, attractiveness, wholly external. Worn with or without corsets. Simple, comfortable, adjustable to fit any figure. Invaluable to the prospective mother. We receive from 10,000 to 20,000 letters every year like the following:

Rushville, H. Y., June 2, 1901.

I had been alling for fifteen years from back-ache, headache, constipation and prolapsus. I had been treated by some of the best specialists in the country without avail. Your brace cured me. The organs have gone back to proper position and remain there.

Mrs. G. C. Shuman.

Free trial for 30 days. Particulars and illustrated book, mailed free in plain, sealed envelope. Write today to

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RUPTURE CURED!

WORN DAY and NIGHT
With comfort. Holds the worst
ripture during most violent exercise. Perfect comfort. Radical
cure. Only Elastic Truss protected
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STEADY HOME WORK for ladies. No canvass-no worthless outfit to buy. Send stamped envelope to Dickey Mfg. Co., Dickey Building, Chicago, Ills. TAPE-WORK EXPELLED WITE BEAD, GUARANTEED, BOOKLET PARE. BYRON FIELD & CO., DEPT. D.D. 182 STATE ST., CRICAGO,

ADIES WANTED to do writing at home. Good wages. No canreply. Miss ModeLLE MILLER, New Carlisle, Ind.
Please mention Comfort when you write.

Spanish Needles, Rods, Goldometors for locat-ing Gold, Silver and hidden treasures, Our instruments are the best. Catalogue 2 cents. B. G. Stauffer, Dept.C, Harrisburg, Pa.

FORMULAS for sale for making flavoring extracts, Vanilla, Lemon, Strawberry, etc. Send 2-cent stamp for particulars. Box 314, Braddock, Pa. I ASTONISH by my revelations. DO YOU WISH to be successful BUSINESS, LOVE and MARRIAGE. DO YOU WISH to be successful BUSINESS. LOVE and MARRIAGE. DO YOU WISH to KEY to make your life a SUCCESS?

THE WORLD WISH the KEY to make your life a SUCCESS?

THE WORLD If so, send me your age and sex with 10e and 1 will perform the send you accomplete seather of your future. Address PROF. BONDURANT, L. B. 1909, BOSTON. MASS.





MONEY C. S. A. \$5 bill sent to any address detect it. FRANK O. SHILLING, Navarre, O Galifornia's Oil Boom. New Plan. No w. dends. "It's your turn." Big breadwinner. Real Essecurity. You can't lose. Write for particulars agency. Krause & Stowe, "IK," Rea Bidg., San Jose,

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IF SICK OR AILING send for my FREE book, on "MEDI-CULTURE," the grandest success of the age for the cure of all chronic diseases. If

you will name name, exact age, sex and a few leading symptoms, 4c. postage, I will tell you just what really all you noutline a course of treatment that will cure you. Address DR.J.C.BATDORF, Box A, Grand Rapids, Mich. I wish every person in the U S. suffering with FITS, EPILEPSY or FALL-

ING SICKNESS to send for one of my large-sized 16-ounce bottles FREE.

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NATIONAL SPECIAL venent. Ladies or Gents WARRANTED 20 YEARS. Gold plate hunting case, elegengraved. Fit for a king. No b watch made. Must be seen to breciated. Special Offer for ne as this may not appear again. NAT'L MFG. & IMPORTING CO. Dearborn St., B 318, Chicago, III.



us. Write to-day. King Mfg.Co., Dept.516, St.Louis, M



80 LEES BLDG., CHICAGO. THIS BEAUTIFUL WATER SET High-Grade Baking Powder.

Introduce for us 20 cans among your friends and neighbors and offer each, FREE, a 7-piece Water Set with each can. For your trouble, you will receive a handsome 67-piece, gold lined, Decorated China Dinner Set, or 25 per cent commission in cash. We pay all freight and give you time to deliver. Write at Once for Full Set of Plans.

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## Sudden Dea

If you have heart disease you are in grave danger. You may die any minute-anywhere. Heart troubles, You may die any minute—anywhere. Heart troubles, dangerous as they are, can be instantly recognized by all. No doctor can tell better than you if your heart is out of order. If you have any of the following symptoms, don't waste any time. Get my Heart Tablets at once. Fluttering, palpitation, or skipping beats (always due to weak or diseased heart); shortness of breath from

going upstairs, walking, etc.; tenderness, numbness or pain in left side, arm or under shoulder blade; fainting spells, dizziness, hungry or weak spells; spots before the eyes; sudden starting in sleep, dreaming, nightmare;

#### ieart Disease

choking sensation in throat; oppressed feeling in chest; cold hands and feet; painful to lie on left side; dropsy; swelling of the feet or ankles (one of the surest signs); neuralgia around the heart; sudden deaths rarely result from other causes.

They will restore you to health and strength as they have hundreds of other men and women.

FREE To prove how absolutely I believe in them, to prove that they will do exactly what I say, I will send a box free to any name and address sent me. One trial will do more to convince you than any amount of talk, I th will cost you nothing, and may save your life. Send for a trial box and enclose stamp for postage.

DR. F. G. KINSMAN, Box 962 AUGUSTA, MAINE.





Veracious Records of the Doin's in the Cobb Corner Postoffice, "Writ out" by the Boy Behind the Counter.

[EDITOR'S NOTE. The quaint philosophers, the dry wags, the shrewd dickerers and the eminent yarn-spinners of the countryside make a forum of the country postofice when there is room at the rear around the big stove. The stories and incidents on which some of the most successful human interest novels of the day are constructed come from the quaint loungers around the stores in Yankee communities. These official records of "Jeth's Crowd" are to be taken down month by month for the readers of "Comfort," Ind we hope that as you become acquainted with the members of the "Congress" your interest in their discourse and stories will deepen.

In the April number of "Comfort" the "Cobb's Corner Congress" will continue sessions.



Postmaster came out of his "pen" after he had finished distributing the mail. He is the only man in Cobb's Corner who takes a daily paper—and his copy is sent to him free. Every forenoon after the mail is in the boxes he comes out and stands before the assembled members of the cracker-barrel the cracker-barrel Congress and reads aloud whatever is especially striking in the news field.

He tucked the paper

under his arm as he walked forward, so as to leave his hands free. He stuffed two

to leave his hands free. He stuffed two more big sticks into the barrel stove.

"Reckon you old sanups would set right there on your haunches like woodchucks and let the fire go plum out," he snorted.

"Haint none of us been 'specially delegated to feed your stove for ye yet," Uncle Wack Spofford replied. "If we sh'd go to jammin' the wood in ye would be growlin' jest as bad out of the other side of your mouth. So thereye be!"

The Postmaster grunted. Then he unfolded the paper and settled his spees on the end of his nose. "There hain't no gittin' along with ye anyway," he snapped, flinging one more shaft at them. "But listen while I read ye something." something."

In a high-pitched, cracked voice, interrupted every now and then by a vigorous snuff The

Postmaster read:

"Bide Durfee was arrested yistiddy by Con-stable Benner and brought to the county jail in this place. Bide is admitted to be the biggest

in this place. Bide is admitted to be the biggest thief that ever operated in these parts. He has spent half his life in jail but he cannot be broken of his practices.

"Two weeks ago the store of Jason Beals was closed by an attachment and a seal put on the door. It now transpires that for a week Durfee has been engaged at the back door carting off the goods. He had cleaned out the store entire of everything and if it had not been for his greed he might have escaped undetected. But he made such a disturbance one night in getting the safe out that he was apnight in getting the safe out that he was apprehended by our vigilant constable and will answer to his misdeeds at the next term of

"Hain't that the jim-rammdedest stealin' ye ever heered tell of?" demanded The Post-

'I don't see much chance to brag on that for steal-in'", declared Teed Strout. "Prob'ly the constable is a numb-head anyway and a numb-head anyway and wouldn't know any one was stealin' in the neighborhood unless the safe had dropped right square on his head. An then ag'in the critter got arrested, didn't he? 'Twa'n't no kind of a job, that wa'n't.' Teed rapped out the ashes from his pipe and got starte

the thing figgered out and got the watch back

ag'in.
"Them things and a few others sort of give "Them things and a few others sort of give Perk's fam'ly the idee that p'raps he would steal if ye'd give him the chance. Later on his folks become sure of it. I shouldn't git done 'fore chore time if I tried to tell ye all the things the critter done. I can only give yea sample or tew and it's more'n likely I'm forgettin' the best ones.

gettin' the best ones.

"Perk used to like to steal things where he could show some science. Most anybody can hook a di'mond ring and snoop away with it. But Perk liked to steal lo'ds of hay and a bin of pertaters out of a suller and sheep and all them things. One time his brother-in-law's fam'ly was away to a grove meetin' and Perk went down to their place, burst into the house, dressed himself up in his brother-in-law's wedding suit, even to the tall hat, put a halter on a cow, loaded a rack with hay, hitched the cow on behind and started for the next town. He peddled the stuff, includin' some butter and He peddled the stuff, includin' some butter and eggs he got in the suller, and was jest dickerin' off the weddin' suit when the brother-in-law

off the weddin' suit when the brother-in-law overhauled him.
"Perk had an uncle out West that was a reg'lar old sassige machine on legs. Ugliest man ever heard tell of. Folks thought they would send Perk out to live with him a while. Perk's father said he had licked him enough to thrash a barn full of oats and he reckoned his arm would be paralyzed 'less he got red of him for a while. him for a while.

him for a while.

"Wal, that uncle out West was lookin' for jest that kind of exercise. He run a ranch and he used to lick Perk night and mornin' 'stead of usin' the dumb bells. Said his health kept improvin' right along. But Perk done suthin' a little later on that sort of give him a relapse. Uncle had jest got his fall drove in shape to sell. There was a couple hundred head. Drover come along and offered a price. Uncle haggled and they couldn't settle. So drover went along. That night Perk snooped out, rounded the herd and set off with it after the drover. Came up with him about mornin'. out, rounded the herd and set off with it after the drover. Came up with him about mornin'. Perk told drover that his uncle had changed his mind and would let the cattle go for the price that had been offered. Drover remembered to have seen Perk at the place the day before and so he reckoned that ev'rything was right. He took the cattle and paid over the money to

and paid over the money to Perk. Perk took it and hopped aboard a train and enj'yed a tour of the coun-try. They like to never caught him and when they

caught him and when they did, why, most of the money was gone. But it was sort of in the fam'ly and they couldn't seem to do much. Perk said that at the rate of a dollar a lickin' to improve his uncle's health—reg'lar doctor fee—he had only got about ha'f his pay and he guessed the old man better shet up. better shet up.
"Perk settled down at home for a while.

Things kept comin' his way. People around town done the best they could to balk him but

town done the best they could to balk him but farmers can't afford to put time locks on ev'rything around the premises.

"But fin'ly the thing did git pritty sassy. The people in our place seemed perfectly willin't odivvy with Perk but consarn him, they wouldn't stand for him to take the whole thing. So it was talked over and the sheriff was called on to see if suthin' couldn't be done to discourage Perk's souvenir craze. He said he reckoned there could if the court she knew herself and he thunk she did. So he arrested Perk, and as they didn't have no lock-up in the place they put him in the school house and picked a dozen men to guard him. All the men had shot guns and powder horns and they allowed to Perk that now they had him they

men had shot guns and powder horns and they allowed to Perk that now they had him they proposed to keep him if they had to chip in and buy a cemetery lot to do it.

"They didn't have any light in the school house. The twelve men set around on the desks and talked about one thing and another. It got to be midnight. Perk had strolled around more or less for he didn't seem to be tryin' to git away. He talked with one man after the other and was real sociable. But as he talked with the men he used his science and he emptied the powder out of every horn, one after the other, into his own pocket. Then while he whistled and sa'ntered 'round he let he emptied the powder out of every horn, one after the other, into his own pocket. Then while he whistled and sa'ntered 'round he let that powder dribble out in a train around the room, up one isle and down another.

"Then when ev'rything was ready Perk commenced to talk to 'em in a low, boogerish tone about devils and spooks and all sech like.

"Fellers,' says he, 'I'll tell ye suthin', now that I'm goin' to jail and my career is o'er. I'm under the control of the devil himself and I can't help doin' what I've done. Hear him howlin' for me outside?'

"There was a screech owl down in the woods

'There was a screech owl down in the woods yarkin' away, but the men were so scart that they couldn't have told a screech owl from a saw mill.

"They shivered and Perk went on. 'Course you understand,' said he, 'that I've done enough for the devil so that he is willin' to help me any time. Ye understand,' says he, 'I can call on him right this minit,' says he, 'and

will come and take me off in a cloud of fire. Would it scare you? he says.

"'Don't ye try none of them shines,' says one of the men, shiverin'. 'We don't want to have no truck with the devil no way, shape, or man-

kind of a job, that wa'n't."
Teed rapped out the ashes
from his pipe and go; started before The Postmaster could interrupt.

"Let me tell ye suthin' about stealin' as was
stealin'. Ever hear tell of Perk Situtivant'
Never did? Seem's is though some of ye older
men here ought to remember him. Tail, red
whiskered feller with eyes that had to tell
whiskered feller with eyes that had to tell
whiskered feller with eyes that had to tell
once. Wat, he alius was Don't ye forget that.
That critter wa'n't ever arrested. When I
remember what Perk Situtivant used to do,
that stealin' that ye read about there in the
paper seems like boy's play.

"Perk used to steal the pins out of his mother's hair when she was nussin' him. They
didn't think nothin' of that for they reckined
he might be playin'.

"But it was more serious one day when he
stole the specs off her head while she was
nappin' with him in her arms. He wa'n't
hardly old enough to set up and take notice
but he jammed them specs down in a hole in
the back of the rockin' chair and it was
more'n a week 'fore they could find 'em.
"Still they din't think that the little tyke
really meant to steal anything. But it was
some diffrent when the doctor come to vaedinnate him. While the doc was scratchin
Perk's little arm and hushabyin' him, Perk
earinly stole his watch off the chair and oppore
that guess they wouldn't have can dat keep on the will come and the set fire to the trail of
outlandish stuff and he set fire to the trail of
outlandish stuff and he set fire to the trail
of owder. Whush-h-h! How it did fizzle and
flash. The men all gave a yell nadous, and
flash the men who dover we have a set of the
outlandish stuff and he set fire to the trail
of owder. Whush-h-h! How it did fizzle and
flash the men who down when he
some diffrent when the doctor come to vaeun. Then he abould broke for
outlandish stuff and he set fire to the trail
of owder. Whush-h-h! How it did fizzle and
flash the court have a precent and the way
more'n a week 'fore they could find 'em.

"Stil

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#### SOME SAMPLES OF RECENT TESTIMONIALS.

New Jersey Sale for a Massachusetts Client. We have received the check in full payment for our New Jersey property. Your success in making its cash sale in a short time is proof to us that you are the only agent who ever made a real effort to dispose of it. Ma. & Mrs. O. C. Whittemore, Athol, Mass

A California Sale for a New York Client. By placing some California property I had for sale in your hands, I found you could sell real estate no matter where located, Chas. B. Parent, Birchton, N. Y.

In reply to your communication of recent date, I take pleasure in saying that you made the sale of my Maryland property as promptly as could be expected and the deal was closed up in a thoroughly satisfactory manner.

GEO. W. BILLINGS, 37 Case Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

y manner.
GEO. W. BILLINGS, 37 Case Ave., Cleveland, Onio.
A Florida Sale for a Connecticut Client.
was more than pleased to receive check for the lee of my house and let in DeSota county, Florida, d I want to commend the skill and promptness with the won have handled the transaction. and I want to commend the transaction, which you have handled the transaction.

Mrs. Emily L. Perkins, Terryville

1471 North American Bld'g., Philadelphia, Pa.

A Maryland Sale for an Ohio Client.

# M. OSTRANDER,

1328

W. Take

3 400

ty that had no sech repertation as Perk Stuttivant. Ev'ry one kind of admired the critter. If he'd only knowed a leetle more we'd sent him to Con-

gress to steal for his district.
"Wal, s'r, we all set there in the court room waitin' for the prisoner to be brought in. All to once the sheriff ducked into the room through the door leadin' to the jail and hollered gruff-like, 'The prisoner has es-caped!' Then off he ske-dadled. He hopped into his team that was tied in front of the court house and tore down the street. All the folks that had teams there chased along behind through the door leadin' to there chased along behind

lickity-split.
"Now what do ye think had happened? We "Now what do ye think had happened? We all knew that 'ere jail was too strong to be broke out of and we wondered how Perk had got away. Durin' the time the critter had been tied up in his cell he had frayed out a gray blanket and made himself a set of grey whisk-ers jest like the sheriff's. When the sheriff had gone to the cell that day of the trial to bring Perk to the court room, Perk had dragged him into the cell, gagged him, put on the sheriff's co't and hat and the whiskers and scooted into the court room and hollered what I've told. That give him a chance to ride off whoopity-larrup lookin' for the prisoner, and it took all the people's attention away from the jail for a while. "But the sheriff didn't have nothin' extry for a hoss. So Perk found that they were crawlin'

a hoss. So Perk found that they were crawlin' up on him rayther fast. If they overtook him then they were bound to see that he wasn't the

"Perk licked up for a last spurt and turned a corner in the ro'd some ways ahead of the push. He run the horse in behind some bushes, throwed off his co't and vest, hopped into a field and when the crowd came whoopin' along he was bent over book-to building we rive

waggins and towed the whole bunch over into the next county where he dickered 'en away as a consignment of western hosses that he was auctionin' and then he got away 'fore they

as a consignment of western hosses that he was auctionin' and then he got away 'fore they could catch him.

"Now that was a pretty slick operation of Perk's but in my opinion it wa'n't up to what he done the next time they caught him. It was this way. He—"

"Pah-pah," yelled Teed Sout's youngest in at the door of the postoffice, "mah-mah says come home quick. The old cow has got her horns twisted under the stanchion chain and is chokin' to death." Teed clumped away growling anathemas.

in' to death." Teed clumped away growling anathemas.

"Who is this Perk Stuttivant anyway, what he's tellin' about?" asked Uncle Wack. "I never heered tell of him round in these parts."

"Can't you tell when a man's lyin' to ye?" demanded The Postmaster.

"It's too hard work to figger it out—too brain wearin'," said Wack. "Course in your case we git off easy for you lie all the time." And then The Postmaster was so mad that he ordered them all off the premises in the name of the United States "Govument," by ginger!

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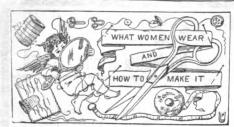


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WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



T is fast becoming a fact that we no longer look to the other side for our fash-ions as in former days, and the extent to which Paris the extent to which Paris styles govern American ideas is daily growing less. French creations are copied to a great degree but they are compelled to undergo modifications before they are acceptable to American taste, which shows that American women are possessed of considerable common sense and not naturalsessed of considerable common sense and not naturally given to running to extremes. In short, French ideas are only followed so far as is consistent with the dictates of good taste.

Some have startled us all by declaring the din front

dictates of good taste.

Some have startled us all by declaring the dip front to be on the wane, but it will doubtless retain its popularity for some time to come, at least through the coming season. Most of the new gown models display this style. There is a modification noticeable however, and some round effects will be seen, but the beloved dip front will be with us for some time to come.

Beaded belts are certainly growing in favor. There are the elastic and the non-elastic belts in all sizes and shapes. Steel is the more popular, but in the high grade belts some remarkably handsome effects are seen in black and gold. Satin, also silk ribbons in narrow widths and in bright colors, ornamented with rows of stitching in the same color are being used as appliques. appliques.

One of the results of the vogue for linen is One of the results of the vogue for linen is the production of a new shade termed Paris ecru, somewhat darker than the shade commonly known by that name. In fact, ivory and Paris ecru are to be prominent among the colors in linen for the coming season.

Black silk embroidery on black cloth tailored gowns is the very latest expression of elegance on models from some of the most prominent houses.

on models from some of the most prominent houses in Paris. Many beautiful patterns are shown in flower work in a variety of colors, the material being all silk and the blossoms having hand-crocheted buttons for centers. Another striking novelty in which flowers figure prominently, has Edelweiss blossoms hand-painted on a white ground with a border in Paris ecru. One of the newest things in spangles is the spangled pendant trimming.

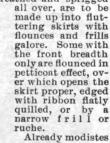
Many of the new skirts made of summery stuffs show a slight indication of fullness across the front and side

show a slight indication of fullness across the front and sides while the back is laid in deep pleats, or shirred. Habit backs obtain largely in cloth gowns, but are seldom seen absolutely plain, being relieved by buttons, or straps, or rows of flat trimming, anything to break up the severe surface.

An odd trimming used on a gown of pale gray broadcloth was as follows. Around the foot of the skirt, and graduating up the front, were large circles cut out of the cloth under which was laid striped silk of black and white, the white predominating. The edges of the circles were cut out irregularly, showing sharply over the silk. The same design decorated bodice and sleeves.

With the advent of summer we are to see the lace mitt and hair net girl in evidence; very

lace mitt and hair net girl in evidence; very new and startling, but altogether swagger. She is the beginning of Le Pompadour in whose wake, so far as dress goes we are so soon to follow. Daintily flowered gauzes, muslins, soft silks and chiffons, wreathed and sprigged



Already modistes are showing us the long, tight bodice with its long, slop-ing shoulders, and open front caught together by flat bows of ribbon, such as Madam Du Barry wore so long ago. Elbow sleeves with frill upon frill at the elbow, met by long lace mitts, the hair a la

chignon, bunched under a jeweled net, and atop of it all, a picturesque hat, galore with plumes, then a lon parasol, and you are complete. long, long handled

We may even wear panniers before the summer wanes; we certainly will see draperies, and

so we move on, in constant evolution.
Summer shirt waists are to be buttoned in the back, and are extremely dainty creations, set full as they are with beautiful laces, and hand needle work.
A novel little Eton is set forth here which is



certain to delight the eye of the artistic woman. It is made of black satin and consists of side pleats set on a flat yoke, well fitted, over which falls a sailor collar of white batiste beautifully embroidered on the edges. The sleeves are also side plaited and bell shape, finished off by double frills of lace to fall over the hand.

#### A Giant Tree.



HE Blue Gum tree of Tas-mania often reaches the height of three hundred feet height of three hundred feet and measures forty feet in diameter. The leaves are a very unusual shape and size and are a bluish green in color. In many places where it is found it is known, we are told, as the Fever Tree, as its leaves emit an odor which serves as a disinfectant, and its roots absorb all water from the surrounding ground, thus making marshes less.

rounding ground, thus making marshes less dangerous as fever traps.

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St Long &

NE of the ablest mem-bers of the United States Senate is Hon. George Frisbie Hoar, George Frisbie Hoar, of Massachusetts. Senator Hoar has been a member of Congress since 1869, serving four terms in the House of Representatives before his election to the high er branch, which occurred in 1877, so that for thirty-three pational legislature. He was born in Concord

years he has served his commonwealth in the national legislature. He was born in Concord, Mass., in 1826, and graduated from Harvard college before he was twenty years of age. The degree of LL. D. has been conferred upon him by four colleges, William and Mary, Amherst, Yale and Harvard. He is not so old by three years as Senator Pettus of Alabama, but he has seen more of congressional life. In 1876 he served as a member of the electoral commission and for more than thirty years he has been a prominent figure in national affairs.

Just now, he is opposed to the retention of the Philippines and is insistent that the government shall relinquish its control over these islands and assist the people thereof in establishing a republic of their own. Senator Hoar is recognized as one of the foremost anti-imperialists of the country although he is a firm supporter of the Republican party.

The Legislature of New Jersey has elected John Fairfield Dryden United Fairfield Dryden United States Senator to succeed the late Senator Sewall. Senator Dryden is of old New England stock. He was born in Farmington, Maine, Aug. 7, 1839, and was educated for the legal profession. He was named for John Fairfield, who was Governor of the State NEW JERSEY. of Maine at the time of his birth. For nearly thirty years he has been prominent in New Jersey business circles and is the president of a leading insurance company.



The Cuban reciprocity question is pending in Congress. The bone of contention is the question of reducing the duty on Cuban Sugar. It is said that the President and the members of the cabinet are in favor of the proposition to reduce the duty about twenty-five per cent.



JUSTICE BREWER.

The speech of David Josiah Brewer, one of the justices of the United States Supreme Court, which was delivered in Philadelphia a short time ago, has attracted national attention. In this speech Justice Brewer advances the pessimistic idea that this country is in a bad way. He says that it is a

this country is in a bad way. He says that it is a mistake to suppose that this republic has already won the battle of life. The battle is still on and it must be waged with all the courage and persistence of the Pilgrim Fathers, or else it may be lost. Justice Brewer has been a member of the Supreme Court since 1839, and is a nephew of the late Justice Stephen J. Field, who for many years was a member of the same high tribunal.

A bill reducing the war revenue taxes \$77,000,000 has been completed by Chairman Payne of the Ways and Means Committee and has passed the House without a dissenting vote.

Signor des Planches is Signor des Planches is the successor of Baron Fava as embassador from Italy to this country. He has only recently arrived in Washington, after having served his country for more than a quarter of a century in the diplomatic service. He comes from an old and distinguished family of Savoy, which,



family of Savoy, which, signor des planches, for more than five cen- italian minister. turies, has occupied a leading and influential place in the diplomatic history of Italy.

The amount of money in circulation in the United States on February 1, not including 2290,259,552 held in the treasury as assets of the government, was \$2,259,951,609, being an increase of \$69,171,486 since one year ago. The circulation per capita, based on an estimated population of 78,560,000, was \$23.77, as against Among the notable men whom Andrew Carnegie has named as trustees of the national university. The amount of mon-



Arthur Pue Gorman has again been elected to the United States Senate from the State of Maryland. Fifty years ago he was appointed a page in the body in which he has already served with conspicuous ability for eighteen years and in which he will take his seat on March 4, 1903. It is not often that a member of the United States Senate returns to that body after an absence of several years caused by the defeat of the party to which he belongs, but in the case of Mr. Gorman such an experience has come to him. Arthur Pue Gorman was born in Maryland in 1839, and during his sixty-three years of life has cut a greater figure in the politics of the nation at united States Commissioner of the Massachusetts Burcau of Labor and since 1835 as United States Commissioner. He holds high rank among the educators of the country.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections has favorably reported the amendment to the constitution changing the day for the inauguration of the President from March 4 to the last Thursday in April. The resolution provides that the change shall take effect in 1866, he held the office of postmaster. He then went back to Maryland

and has been an active politician ever since and has been an active politician ever since. His early experiences in the Senate chamber bred in him an ambition and a determination to become a Senator himself some day, and his youthful dream was realized when he succeeded William Pinckney Whyte and took his seat March 4, 1881, serving until 1899. Mr. Gorman has always been a Democrat and was manager of the Democratic National Campaign in 1884, which resulted in the election of Grover Cleveland to the presidency of the United States His return to the Senate after four years' re-tirement may be regarded as one of the unusual peculiarities of politics.

Dr. Presley Marion Rixey, whom President Roosevelt has made surgeon general of the navy, has been a capable and popular officer of that service since 1874. He is a native Virginian, entered the navy when twenty-four years old and has served in various positions in the medical department

in the medical department DR. RIXEY, U. S. NAVY. of the service. He was a close and warm friend of President McKinley and attended him after he had been shot by the assassin. President McKinley had promised to nominate him for the surveyor generalship. for the surveyor generalship, a promise President Roosevelt has ratified.

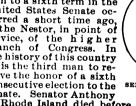
Senator Hoar, from the Committee on Judiciary, has favorably reported a bill for the protection of the President of the United States, the Vice-President and others. It provides that any person who shall, within the limits of the United States or any place subject to its jurisdiction, wilfully kill or cause the death of the President or Vice-President or any officer in line of succession, or who shall wilfully cause the death of the sovereign or chief magistrate of any foreign country, shall be punished with death. An attempt to commit either of the offences mentioned is also punishable by death. The bill also provides twenty years' imprisonment for the person found guilty of advising the killing of the persons named, and five years' imprisonment is provided for persons convicted of uttering, spoken or published, which threaten to kill or advise or instigate any person to kill the person named.



An unusual proceeding marked a recent Presi-dent's reception of the foreign diplomats. The line of notable callers was lied by a woman. Lady Pauncefote it was who had the distinction of filling this unique function. Lord Pauncefote, the British embassador and dean of

the corps, being unavoidably absent, his place was filled by his stately wife, who led the line and was the first to extend her respects to the President.

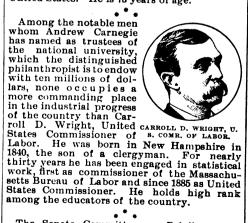
Senator William B. Allison of Iowa, whose re-election to a sixth term in the United States Senate oconted States Senate occurred a short time ago, is the Nestor, in point of service, of the higher branch of Congress. In the history of this country he is the third man to receive the bonor of a sixth ceive the honor of a sixth



ceive the honor of a sixth
consecutive election to the
Senate. Senator Anthony
of Rhode Island died before he began service
in his sixth term, and Senator Morrill of Vermont died a few months after his sixth term

mont died a lew months allow began.

Forty years ago Mr. Allison was elected a member of the lower house of Congress, where he served four terms. In 1873 he became a member of the Senate and will have completed thirty years in that body on March 3, 1903. Judging from his magnificent physique and perfect health, he will probably serve out his sixth term and surpass the record of all his predecessors in the Senate. Mr. Allison is one of the most influential men in either branch of Congress. For many years he has been the of the most innuential men in either branch of Congress. For many years he has been the chairman of the committee on appropriations, a position regarded as the most important in either body. His name has often been mentioned in connection with the presidency, but he has steadfastly refused to become a candi-date for that high office, believing that he could render more service to his country in the position he now occupies then if he were elect





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and members of the House of Representatives shall begin on the last Thursday of April in-stead of March 4, as at present. The commit-tee added the following amendment to the resolution:—

resolution:—
"If the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them before the last Thursday in April next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President."

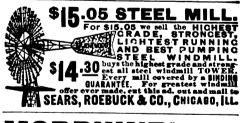
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March and Lent are two combinations that serve to drive all the fashionable sinners to fill the piazzas of Southern hotels or of nearer by resorts. March is the great vacation month for those whose health, conscience and purse will permit them to migrate.

A well-known magazine has recently been printing a series of articles on the remodelling of farmhouses. A long step toward beauty and homelikeness would be made by opening and using the old fireplaces that are bricked up in so many old-time farmhouses. An open fire is today one of the greatest of modern luxuries.

The changes and chances that one year holds has never been more strongly illustrated than by the political results of the year from March 1901 to March 1902. Then it was generally believed that "Teddy's" political enemies heaved a sigh of content as they deposited him upon the quiet shelf of the vice presidency. Now by a great tragedy, Theodore Roosevelt stands at the head of this great nation.

Since 1893, there has been an annual meeting of the historians of the world in international conference. This year the meeting is to be held in the Eternal City. Rome made the history of the world for thousands of years and it is fitting that a conference that has the possibility of shaping events by the manner in which it writes history should meet in this city backwards to which all the roads of history run.

One of the latest inventions for massage is a rubber hand. We have long been in the colloquial habit of considering the term "rubber neck" as a reproach. The rubber hand, however, is expected to be in reality a glad hand for its use is to prevent baldness. The gentle friction of the scalp that it produces is claimed to be more directly beneficial in effect than massage by the fingers. This would seem to kill the theory of the transmission of electric or magnetic force, for rubber is a non-conductor. However, rubber hands, minus a thumb. are in the market and the baldheaded row will soon be ancient history in a different sense from what it is now.

only railroad having a terminal in the city enters, other railroads are announcing the proposed construction of tunnels under both the rivers that hem the city on either side. A trolley company also proposes to tunnel the East River. The city and the river will soon be literally the second story for the new underground railway, and the many proposed tunnels under the rivers will send a large proportion of the travel underground. New Yorkers will be literally where they have so long figur--"out of sight." atively claimed they were-

The peril of those who go down in ships will soon be only a matter of past history. The modern ocean steamship seemed almost to obliterate the dangers of the deep but occasionally an accident like that of the ill-fated Bourgoyne startles the world. The fact that ships have telegraphed by the Marconi system where a distance of one hundred twenty-five miles lay between them furnishes an additional security to ocean travel. In addition to this a mechanical invention has just been perfected by means of which the officer on the bridge can

close the doors of all the waterproof compartments by one motion. They have each been closed separately and it was the failure to do this on the part of the French sailors that led to the awful disaster. In case of collision or striking a rock, the ship can almost instantly be made watertight so that sinking is practically impossible. No recent life saving devices have promised so much as this latest one does.

William H. Maxwell, the head of the public school system for the greatest city of our nation, recently named some books with which every teacher should in his judgment be familiar. The list was remarkable for its brevity. It included the Bible, at least one play of Shakespeare, a translation of the Iliad and of the Odyssey, the Vicar of Wakefield and Idylls of the King. The very conciseness and simplicity of demand of this recommendation finds favor in an age of books without number and of reading lists that appal by length. It is the quality rather than the quantity of this list that makes for culture. If one should beware the man of one book, how much greater should be the respect forced from a mental adversary by the alert intellectual acumen of the man who had mastered and made his own the intellectual potentiality of these few volumes.

Two professors in the University of Chicago have recently made some of the most remarkable discoveries concerning the body. They have demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt, or the possibility of dispute, that nerve force is entirely an electric process. The nerve is a gelatinous substance, the atoms of which contain minute charges of electricity. These charges may be either positive or negative. They expect to demonstrate the true nature of death. In experiments upon sea urchins' eggs they have postponed death indefinitely by the use of potassium cyanide solutions. Under ordinary conditions this is a deadly poison, almost instantaneous in its results. They argue that the cell structure in the human body and in the sea urchin's egg is very similar. So many fountains of perpetual youth have been discovered that the public is slow to accept scientific conclusions concerning experiments in this line of prolonging life. The man who would merely discover a means of prolonging life would hardly be hailed as a general benefactor. If he could prolong youth as he prolonged life he might be hailed as a benefactor in reality.

International coquetting is always of interest to the lookers-on at the great game of nations. When a family "rises in the world" it speedily recognizes the fact that its neighbors have recognized the fact. The sensations of the newly rich must be a mixture of amusement, self admiration and a discreet endeavor to act as though they had always been used to considby Yankee invention and energy and the nations of the world seem to have awakened suddenly to the realization of the fact that the United States has "arrived" as the French say.

Company is throwing smiles and bouquets at would really do a work of far-reaching philaneration. We have made a commercial empire United States has "arrived" as the French say. Germany is throwing smiles and bouquets at the United States. She sends her favorite prince to us and the daughter of our president christens the Imperial yacht that American ship builders are constructing. This is the smile! The bouquet consists in the tacit acknowledgment on the part of Germany of the Monroe Doctrine. Germany intends to collect some debts which Venezuela owes to Germans and if it be necessary force may be employed. and if it be necessary force may be employed. Germany explains with great courtesy to the United States that she has no intention of possessing herself of any of the territory of Venezuela. Thus the Monroe Doctrine is acknowledged by another of the great nations.

The work-a-day world, the world that gets The work-a-day world, the world that gets up at six in the morning, dines from a tin pail and is ready to go to bed at eight, is looking for a millionaire who has a real human streak in him—a millionaire who believes the sentence, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." There are books enough in the world, sermons enough in the world, medicine enough in the world—but not enough innocent amusement. In the cities, one may find almost everything free but fun. It is useless to declare that the love of amusement is a sign of moral decay Scarcely a day now passes that does not reveal some new tunnel scheme for New York.

Just as public opinion is demanding the abolishment of the tunnel through which the the love of amusement is a sign of moral decay

TRICK OF "HARE-LIP" TODD.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

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One of the partners was "Figger-four" Jake,
The other was "Hare-lip" Todd.
They peddled their halibut, haddock and hake,
Mackerel, clams and cod.
"Figger-four" Jake had an angled knee,
And he walked with a bob and hop;
And "Hare-lip" Todd conversed, did he,
With a Scandinavian chop.
But each to the other was complement:
Jake had a fog-horn shout,
He could clamor their wares as on they went
And Todd could hand them out.
But some of the people would sniff and smell
And spitefully then would say,
The cart could speak for itself quite well
For at least a mile away.
Yet "Figger-four" Jake and "Hare-lip" Todd,
Abashed by no flout or jeer,
Still peddled their haddock and hake and cod
To the townsfolk year by year.
Till at last, though no one exactly knew
How the bickering came about,
Their trade relations were knocked askew
And Jake and Todd fell out.
So cach of them furnished a rival cart,
With fish of every kind,
And as soon as "Figger-four" made his start
Old Todd trailed close behind.
Then Jake would bellow with lusty yell,
Riding from door to door.
But Todd would wait for a breathing spell
In the howl of "Figger-four."
"Twas about like this:—"Now here ye go!
For nice fresh hake and cod.
Mackerel, halbut, haddock—yo ho!
Tongues and sounds and scrod."
And right behind with his elbows peaked,
Huddupping on, Todd came;
And through the gap of his hare-lip squeaked,
"H' I h'ah h'ust 'he h'ame!"

In the business world, when a man strikes out

In the business world, when a man strikes out

In the business world, when a man strikes out
In an active, original way,
And by dint of making his dollars shout
Forces his scheme to pay,
There's always the fellow, a drone or afraid,
And grudging his breath or his grit,
Who is ready to pilfer the hustler's trade
When the other has cornered it.
He steals the fruits of the enterprise
When the hustler stops for wind,
For the thoughtless mob not always buys
Of the man who has stoutly dinned.
The trick is hidden with nicer art
In the hurrying city trade,
But you'll notice the scheme of the peddler cart
Whenever success is made.
For often some up-to-date "Figger-four,"
Shouting as best he can,
Discovers a trailer—a man or store—
Stealing his trade or plan.
Whenever a man has won his way
By doing the best he could,
There's always a chap at his heels to say,
Here's something just as good!"
And there's ever a fellow to ape success
Or to echo a well-earned fame,
Som: trickster who squeaks through speech or
press
His greedy "H'ust'he h'ame!"

His greedy "H'ust 'he h'ame!"

pleasure that shall lift the people for a minute out of the world of work and worry into a sun-nier atmosphere. Let some millionaire endow a theatre that shall present good, wholesome a theatre that shall present good, wholesome plays, alternating with popular concerts. Let the purpose be not to instruct but to amuse in an innocent and healthy manner. The question of administration would be a difficult one but it could be done. As it is now, the amusements open to the poorer class are often demoralizing and degrading. One poor theatre can nullify the work of a dozen libraries. There is a mighty power that is given into the hands of irresponsible and careless people, that is the opportunity to amuse the mass of the people. A good laugh is better than a dose of physic. The millionaire who shall erect for himself the Hall of Fame that a people's theatre with the

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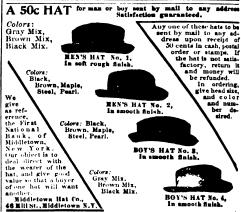
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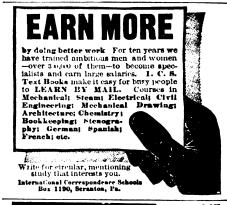
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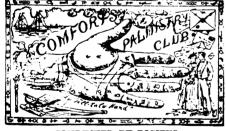
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# YOU CAN ONLY HAVE ONE MOTHER.





CONDUCTED BY DIGITUS.

SUBSCRIBER asks the meaning of a marriage or attachment line with a cross against it. It is a bad sign and the sign of some obstacle in the way of the mar-riage or trouble afterwards, but unless it appears in both hands this does not hold good.

She also says: "A line heavy and deep, with She also says: "A line heavy and deep, with two smaller, short lines accompanying it, starts from the heart line, both hands, (tho' the left is not nearly so deep) rises to the head line and cuts diagonally thro' it, breaking the head line under Saturn; this head line goes on and ends in stars just above the percussion. This line from heart to head is growing longer. What does it signify?" I should call such a line a worry line which would indicate some trouble connected with the heart which causes line a worry line which would indicate some trouble connected with the heart which causes the subject a good deal of anxiety. It may also mean some danger to the life either by accident or murderous design. If the head line, however, ends in a star on Jupiter, this means a great deel of good luck with an honorable marriage. On the contrary, if it is on the other side of the hand on the percussion under the Mount of Mercury, it would mean some strange fatality coming into the life. A star is seldom a fortunate sign.

Again she said: "When the health or fate lines are twisted together near the wrist and

Again she said: "When the heattn or tate lines are twisted together near the wrist and two short, straight lines run from them into the life line at about 60 or 65—what means that—" These marks would mean a very severe illness at that time and possibly death.

"I. S. Grandmother" sends impression of her head for meading this month. She has a peou-

liar hand and one which I should prefer to examine personally on account of the strangeness of some of the lines. As I have often said, it is difficult to judge of a hand by a smoke paper impression as the quality, shape and other things about a hand, which will affect their reading, do not show in any kind of an impression. In fact some of our best palmists refuse to read from impressions at all, although they often take impressions to keep after they have read the hand itself. I. S. has lead or will lead, a rather strange life. She suffered from ill health during her girlhood and was prevented from doing exactly as she chose by those who were her natural guardians. She married young, and happily and I think will marry the second time after she is forty. There was, second time after she is forty. There was, however, some strange circumstance connected with that first marriage which I frankly confess I do not quite make out under these impressions. I think she married some one either by coercion or because of the advice of friends, by coercion or because of the advice of friends, but the happier marriage will come later in life. There was some love affair early in life which caused her a great deal of trouble. One of her marriages, however, and I think the last one will prove very fortunate as she has a star on the Mount of Jupiter which is enough

which is enough in itself to offset a good many bad

signs.
She is an attractive woman tractive woman
to the opposite
sex and will have
several love affairs in her life,
not all of which
will end as she
would like them
to. There is a
strange mixup of
the lines at forty-



I. S. GRANDMOTHER.

the lines at fortyfive or thereabouts and I think she will
have a severe illness about that time but
will live to be old. The greater part of her
wealth will come after she is forty and there
will be considerable money for her after that. hand for reading this month. She has a pecu- Her health will always be rather delicate, how-

ever. She has many natural gifts of person and of mind. She has many friends and her talents are such that she might make a success of the stage if she would choose that as her profession. I would, however, advise her when she was near a good palmist to go and see him and get his reading. I am often asked to tell the exact truth about what I see in a hand but nearly always I am severely blamed if all I read is not favorable. Mr. Heron Allen gives an experience which is common I think to most palmists. On one occasion he was accosted by a crowd of young people who asked him to read their hands. He answered that he would read only one set and picking out a very young girl with a childish face and a lot of fluffy hair, told her that he would read hers but that if there was anything in her life she

young girl with a childish face and a lot of fluffy hair, told her that he would read hers but that if there was anything in her life she did not want her companions to know to say so and he would read someone's else. She denied this and then he looked at her hands for an instant. Again looking up into the laughing, childish face he said:
"You look about nineteen, and as if you had never had a trouble in your life, but you have had the most terrible time of it I have ever seen written on a hand so young as yours. You have been married twice, and this, of all things, strikes me in your hand, that you married your second husband when your first husband was alive. Your first marriage was an affair of pique, an impulse of your foolish head, and was a miserable one; your second was an affair of heart, a love-match, but it was extremely bad for you from a commercial point of view. Even now, whilst you walk here with a smile on your lips and a racquet in your hand, you are undergoing some mental agony: hand, you are undergoing some mental agony: let me congratulate you on being the most astounding—actress, shall I say?—that I have ever come across."

ever come across."

She was silent for a moment, and then said:

"What I am going to tell you no one but my
maid, who is in Chicago now, has ever known,
and I tell it to you as a reward for speaking so
boldly in the face of the magnificent lie I told you just now. I am an American and came here with some people today, and don't know a soul in the place; I am twenty-three (though I don't look it). At eighteen I quarrelled with my people, and in a fit of rage, married, simply to get rid of them. My husband turned out a scoundrel and knocked me about, to speak

plainly, and after a year we were divorced. When I was twenty I fell in love for the first time, and married a man whom I simply worshipped. We were as happy as possible, but after a few months he was struck with a fever that gradually wasted him away, and he died two years ago, leaving me simply a pauper, for during his illness his business in Chicago left him. I came over here with some friends. What you say about my present state of mind is quite true, for I saw my first husband yesterday at the Academy, and have been in a state of terror ever since. Now, if you please, we will go back and lie to the other people about what you have been telling me."

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THE GERMAN EMPEROR'S YACHT.

#### The Emperor's Yacht.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



T Shooters Island, in New York harbor, at this writ-ing, the finishing touches are being put on the schooner yacht being built from A. Cary Smith's design to the order of the Emperor of Germany. By courtesy of his designer, a drawing has been made of her from actual design,

which shows exactly how she will look when

under sail. The new yacht is built of steel, with steel The new yacht is built of steel, with steel deck angle iron for beam and frames. The yacht is built especially strong, as she is to make voyages across the North Sea and German ocean, and to the north. She is of the cruiser type, with channel plates on the outside. She is a clean-cut looking ship and is built to rate first-class in every particular. In every essential she is a New York boat from keel to truck. She was designed and built there, and everything about her rig and sails was made in New York.

She was designed and built there, and everything about her rig and sails was made in New York.

The launching of this magnificent boat is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, and the event will be of international interest. Miss Alice Roosevelt, daughter of the President, will act as sponsor for the vessel. Prince Henry of Prussia, brother to the Emperor, is to be present at the great festivity which, it is confidently expected, will exceed in grandeur any similar event in the world's history. While in America Prince Henry will be entertained by the nation and by several of the leading cities. The royal yacht, Hohenzollern, has already arrived in New York and will participate in the launching program. Admiral Count von Baudissin is in command. Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans is in charge of the naval display in honor of the German prince.

The entire country and even the whole world awaits with intense interest the launching of the American yacht built for the Emperor of Germany, which, however, would pass as an event of no extraordinary interest, had not the Emperor made it an opportune occasion to display to the world the cordial good will existing

event of no extraordinary interest, had not the Emperor made it an opportune occasion to display to the world the cordial good will existing between the German and American governments, and to thus put at rest the rumors of international friction which have disturbed the press and the people of both countries since the outbreak of the Spanish-American war.

The whole thing was suggested and planned by the Emperor as a most delicate and handsome compliment to American people and to their government and President.

When it is remembered that this Prince Henry whom he sends to represent him is the same, who as commander of the German naval squadron at Manila had the misunderstanding with Admiral Dewey, it is almost suggestive of an apology.

with Admiral Dewey, it is almost suggestive of an apology.

The Emperor's invitation for Miss Roosevelt to act the leading part in the ceremony, which the Emperor has sent his brother to take part in, is a public and official recognition that the daughter of a President ranks equally with the princes of the royal blood.

It is to be sincerely hoped that the American people will give the Prince such a reception as the good will which prompted his mission merits.



-- PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA

The following facts about Prince Henry of Prussia will be found of special interest at this

HIS FAMILY.

He is of the Prussian royal family of Hohenzol-

He is of the Prussian royal family of Hohenzollern.

He is the only brother of the reigning German Emperor; son of a German Emperor; grandson of a German Emperor; grandson of a German Emperor; grandson of a long line of Prussian Kings.

He is a nephew of the King of England and grandson of Queen Victoria.

He is a brother-in-law and also own cousin of the Czarına of Russia.

He is intimately connected by blood or marriage with the ruling houses of all the smaller German principalities and kingdoms.

At the time of his birth, his grandfather, William I., was King of Prussia, the empire not having been formed.

In 1871, his grandfather became first Emperor of the modern German Empire.

In 1888, his father, Frederick III., ascended the throne of Germany as second Emperor.

The same year Frederick III. died and was succeeded by his son, Henry's brother, William II., the present Emperor.

William II. has several children, who are now in line for succession to the throne. Prince Henry's chance of ever becoming Emperor is therefore extremely remote.

tremely remote.

HIS PHYSIQUE.

He is six feet and half an inch tall.

He weighs about 182 pounds.

He is always in the pink of physical condition and has not an ounce of fat upon his frame.

He wears a light brown beard and mustache. The mustache he allows to grow naturally, and he will not have barbers playing with it as they do with his imperial brother's.

His beard is trimmed to a point.

His eyes are blue and clear. He does not wear glasses.

His eyes are blue and clear. He does not wear glasses.

He is tireless, physically.
He is extraordinarily full-blooded, for he can stand for hours in a suit of wet clothes in a bitter wind and experience no ill results.

Even in the ball room of the imperial palace at Berlin he walks with the rolling swagger of a sailor. Directions from the Emperor on this point have no effect upon him.

His face is deeply tanned from long years at sea. His hands are coarse and red, and his nails kept short for the same reason.

His conversational tone is clear and hearty.
When singing he has a mellow bass voice.

HIS MORALS.
Unlike the great majority of royalties, he made a love match. Bismarck opposed the princess whom he selected, but he said he would remain a bachelor forever if he were denied. He had his way.

He has been a loving and faithful husband.

bachelor forever if he were defined. He had have way.

He has been a loving and faithful husband. Though the multitudinous temptations incident to a combination of sea life and royalty have been thrown in his way, he has laughed them off. No scandal has ever tainted his name.

He was a dutiful son, the favorite of his father, who left him the bulk of his private fortune.

He is a devoted father, making it an object of his life to lighten the burden of his eldest son, Waldemar, who is deaf and dumb.

He drinks beer, wine and spirits, but never to excess.

excess.

He smokes cigars and pipes, but not cigarettes.

He plays cards for money, but never so heavily as to involve his opponents beyond their immediate means.

He is not extravagant. Not even in his youth, when his allowance was comparatively small, did he run into debt.

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# Rheumatism

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For rheumatism, that horrible plague, I discovered a harmless remedy, and in order that every suffering reader may learn about it, I will gladly mail him a box free. This wonderful remedy which I discovered by a fortunate chance, has cured many cases of 30 and 40 years' standing, among them persons of upwards 90 years of age. No matter what your form of rheumatism is, this remedy will surely cure you. Do not mind if other remedies have failed to cure you, nor mind if doctors say you are incurable. Mind no one but write me at once and by return mail you will receive the box, also the most elaborate illustrated book ever gotten up on the subject of rheumatism absolutely free. It will tell you all about your case. You get this remedy and wonderful book at the same time, both free, so let me hear from you at once. from you at once.

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HIS TEMPERAMENT. He is the only one of the Hohenzollerns who has

sense of humor. In spite of his love for music, he is not of a mel-

a sense of numor.

In spite of his love for music, he is not of a melancholy disposition, nor is he subject to moods.

He is not vain; nor does he relish the frills and furbelows of court life.

Contrarywise, he likes to be at sea, where he knows he is down to the elements. Waves and wind do not flatter.

He has the only democratic nature of all the royalties in Europe. He easily gets on terms of good-fellowship with all whom he meets.

He has a large degree of personal magnetism, which enables him to impress favorably people he meets for the first time.

He despises all men not thoroughly masculine; and women not entirely feminine.

He is fearless, both morally and physically. He has risked his life for common sailors on the ship twice. He talks back to the Emperor when he feels like it, and has been banished two or three times temporarily for less majeste to his brother.

His TITLES.

His rame Albert William Henry Hohenzollern.

His name, Albert William Henry Hohenzollern. His rank, vice-admiral and chief of the first squadron of the German navy. Honorary general of the First Regiment of Foot Guard; of the Ludwig Fusiliers; of the Twenty-fifth Hessian Artillery. Honorary colonel of the Thirty-fifth Prussian Fusiliers, known as "Prince Henry of Prussia's Own;" of the Thirty-third Russian Dragoons, known as "Prince Henry of Prussia's Own." Actual colonel of the Twentieth Austrian Infantry.

Actual colonel of the Twentieth Austrian Infantry.
Honorary vice-admiral of Austrian navy.
Knight of the Order of the Black Eagle, Knight of the Order of the Golden Fleece, Knight of the Order of the Annunciation, Knight of the Order of the Elephant, Knight of the Order of the Elephant, Knight of the Order of the Seraphim, Knight of the Grarter, Knight of the Order of St. Andrew, etc.
Possessor of the Distinguished Service Order of Prussia. Never bestowed honorarily, but solely for acts of gallantry.
His official title, Prince Henry of Prussia.
Form of address, "His Highness."

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DR. JAMES WILLIAM KIDD.

surely discovered the elixir of life That he is able with the aid of a mysterious compound, known only to himself, produced as a result of the years he has spent in searching for this precious life giving boon, to cure any and every disease that is known to the human body. There is no doubt of the doctor's earnestness in making his claim and the remarkable cures that he is daily effecting seems to bear him out very strongly. His theory which he advances is one of reason and based on sound experience in a medical practice of many years. It costs nothing to try his remarkable "Elixir of Life," as he calls it, for he sends it free, to anyone who is a sufferer, in sufficient quantities to convince of its ability to cure, so there is absolutely no risk to run. Some of the cures cited are very remarkable, and but for reliable witnesses would hardly be credited. The lame have thrown away crutches and walked about after two or three trials of the remedy. The sick, given up by home doctors, have been restored to their families and friends in perfect health. Rheumatism, neuralgia, stomach, heart, liver, kidney, blood and skin diseases and bladder troubles disappear as by magic. Headaches, backaches, nervousness, fevers, consumption, coughs, colds, asthma, catarrh, bronchitis and all affections of the throat, lungs or any vital organs are easily

Partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, dropsy, gout, scrofula and piles are quickly and permanently removed. It purifies the entire system, blood and tissues, restores normal nerve power, circulation and a state of perfect health is produced at once. To the doctorall systems are alike and equally affected by this great "Elixir of Life." Send for the remode to do the feet to for the remedy to-day. It is free to every sufferer. State what you want to be cured of and the sure remedy for it will be core it will be sent you free by return mail.

overcome in a space of time that is

simply marvelous.



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Contributors must without exception be regular subscribers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post-office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest, will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them, and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach six hundred and fifty words. Contributors must write on one side of the paper only.

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These cash prizes will be announced monthly in this department.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this prize offer.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in ader this Prize Offer.
All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, are of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

CASH PRIZE WINNERS. Rose Lane Brown, Arthur M. Murphy,

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Two months of 1902 slipped by, and how

much have we accomplished? I am not speaking of the President, laboring to worthily fill the place of our deeply mourned McKinley; or of Congress, now deep in the struggle to better the condition of the country, or of any other of the national problems; but of the private, spiritual betterment of each one of us.

"Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul,
As the swift seasons roll!
Leave thy low-vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler than the last,
Shut thee from Heaven with a dome more vast,
Till thou at length art free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's unresting
sea!"

Our first letter this month takes us to that part of the country where the Arcadians, whose pitiful story is so pathetically told by Longfellow in "Evangeline," ended their wanderings.

story is so pathetically told by Longfellow in "Evangeline," ended their wanderings.

"From busy, bustling Canada to the quiet, dreamy country along the Atchafalaya river, that queer, half-asieep stream that flows out of the great 'Father of Waters'—what a journey and what a contrast in its termini! Such is the trip your correspondent recently took, and over nearly the same route travelled that ancient people, the Arcadians, many years before. Canada, below the forty-fifth parallel, is so lovely in September. Beautiful flowers, rivalling those of the tropics, delighted my astonished eyes; tender, green sward covered the parks, the like of which is possible with us (in Tennessee) only in the early spring. No wonder those poor exiles were heartbroken, many dying on the long, weary journey of pure home-sickness. Longfellow has put into his well-known poem, Evangeline, the sad story of their persecution and wandering, and not the least of the interest attaching to our trip were the associations connecting these diverse scenes with the almost real Evangeline and Gilbert. There, along the shores of Lake Pontchartrain, they wandered, and here, in the parish of Avoyelles, they passed each other without recognition.

"It is in this region we find the pre-historic earthworks of whose origin no one knows anything at all. The time-honored 'oldest inhabitant' can tell you nothing, except that his grandfather could tell him nothing about them, save that from his earliest remembrance they were there, and even then covered by immense trees, most of which were many decades old. Driving along the level, white, sandy roads, shaded by these magnificent trees, many of which are kingly magnolias, draped in the long grey moss, we gave rein to imagination and peopled this weird region with a brawny and fierce race who might have thrown up these mysterious earthworks, which, by the way, are not at all like the so-called Indian mounds found in many of the states, but more nearly resemble the breastworks thrown up during the Civil war.

they are yet a distinct people, and their half, or wholly uneducated French or Italian neighbor will readily point them out as 'Cajuns.' For poet or historian they afford rich material, and the theme has not yet been adequately used, much less ex-hausted." Rose Lane Brown, Athens, Tenn.

From Lake Ponchartrain to Tampa Bay is only a step for the imagination, and we are still in the Sunny South with our next correspondent.

"Half way down the western coast of Florida is Tampa Bay, noted as being the starting point of De Soto on his march across the continent. At the



ing two hundred feet into the air. Inside the hotel is finished and furnished in magnificent style, statues, vases, hangings and furniture having been imported from Europe at great cost for its adornment. Indeed, it seems more like a palace than a hotel. Around it are gardens cared for by a skillful gardener and filled with rare and curious plants and trees. In the grounds are an opera house with a natatorium attached and an exhibition building in which is gathered a collection of Floridian plants, fish, birds, shells and curiosities.

"In 1893 cigar manufacturers from Havana and Key West began moving to Tampa, bringing with them a host of Cuban and Spanish workmen who, being an open-handed race, and earning from sixteen to sixty dollars per week, gave a great impetus to the general business of the city, and in a short time it had street railways, electric lights, and all the other appliances of a modern city. Its older industries have thriven as well, and at this time it is the largest fish market in the South; it ships thousands of boxes of oranges per day during the winter; from the northern portion of the state thousands of carloads of phosphate pass through the city to the deep water at Port Tampa, while nearly as many carloads of vegetables from the southern part pass through, bound northward.

It is the cigar trade, however, that gives Tampa its importance; bringing, as it does, two million dollars into the city in each year. This business also gives it the air of a Spanish city, since out of a population of twenty-five thousand at least twelve thousand are Cuban or Spanish. The Spanish language is heard everywhere, and is a regular branch of study in the city high school. Many Spaniards have business houses here to supply the needs of their countrymen who have settled in the city, and the localities which they inhabit have a very foreign appearance and atmosphere.

"During the Cuban rebellion many refugees settled here and made this point the center of activity

phere.
"During the Cuban rebellion many refugees set "During the Cuban rebellion many refugees set-tled here and made this point the center of activity against the Spanish Government, the cigar makers devoting a part of their wages to the patriot cause and outfitting several filibustering expeditions for Cuba; and finally in 1898, Tampa was, for months, the point where the American army was mobilized for the invasion of Cuba."

ARTHUR M. MURPHY, Andote, Florida.

Evidently our correspondents appreciate the delights of a mild climate at this bleak season of the year for here is another letter from our Southern coast.

coast.

"In the spring of the year, all through the northern belt of the United States, the farmers are at work making maple sugar and syrup from the sap which flows from the maple trees. In the fall the process of sugar making is transferred to the Southern states, and instead of the sap from trees being used it is the juice of the sugar cane which is boiled down to make the sweet product.

"When the sugar cane is growing it looks from a little distance like a field of corn, except that there are no ears upon the stalks. I got myself well laughed at by the planter and his men alike when, in my northernignorance, I asked what time of the year they planted the seed for a cane crop and what the seed was like. It seems that the seed of the cane plant does not mature except under very favorable conditions. The climate must be very moist and hot to have the seed come to maturity. I was told that there is no place in the United States where it matures in the open air. New plants are propagated from shoots. Each fall, when the crop is harvested, as many good vigorous stalks are saved out as the planter thinks he will need for the next year's new crop. These stalks



GRINDING CANE AND BOILING SYRUP

GRINDING CANE AND BOILING SYRUP.

are 'laid down' in long trenches, and covered with earth. In the spring when the ground begins to get warm they are uncovered. The long stalks have many joints, like a stalk of corn, and in almost every one of these joints the bud of a vigorous new shoot will be starting. The stalks are cut up into pieces so as to leave at least one good bud on each piece, and then these are set out in drills as corn is planted. Each bud grows to be a stalk of cane. In many cases, too, the roots of last year's crop are kept alive and another crop raised from them.

"Before the cane is cut the leaves, which are like corn leaves, are stripped off and saved for fodder. The stalks of cane are then cut and drawn to the place where they are to be ground. The stalks are full of rich, sweet juice, so delicious to taste that all through the fall everybody in the South 'chews cane.' One sees the stalks in the fruit shops in town, kept for sale just as fruit or candy is kept. Children going to school carry as much cane with them as they can beg, and men sitting on the fences chew cane and talk. Before the cane can be eaten the outer bark is peeled off with a jackknife, for this bark is hard and tasteless. The joints are next cut out, as these are tough. What is left is a crisp white morsel which looks and tastes like eelery steeped in maple syrup.

"The process called grinding is not grinding at all, but crushing. The stalks of cane are fed between two heavy steel rollers running close together. These squeeze the juice out of the stalks. This juice is boiled in large pans until it forms a thick yellow syrup. On the great plantations of Louisiana the process of sugar making is carried on in large factories with modern machinery. On somewhat smaller plantations the process is as shown in the picture I send. On such a plantation as this there would be raised each year from twenty to fifty acres of cane. A small engine runs the grinding machinery and a permanent brick arch under a shed furnishes conveniences

There, I think that is the end of the letters for this month, so we must say good-by, and separate until the first of April. AUNT MINERVA.

#### CATARRH CAN BE CURED.

TAMPA BAY HOTEL.

head of this bay is the city of the same name, which, up to 1880, was simply a little village; but in that year the Plant system of railways entered its borders, and from that time its growth has been truly American in its rapidity. In 1890 the great Tampa hotel was opened, and the city became a tamous winter resort. This hotel is one of the finest in the United States if not in the world, being built in Moorish style with horse-shoe arches through all its scheme, and gleaming minarets ris-



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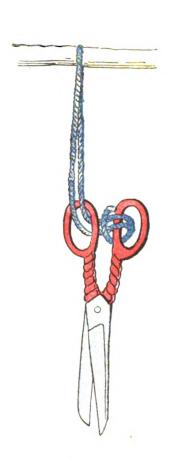
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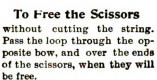
COMFORT, Augusta, TABLE RICH ART COVER

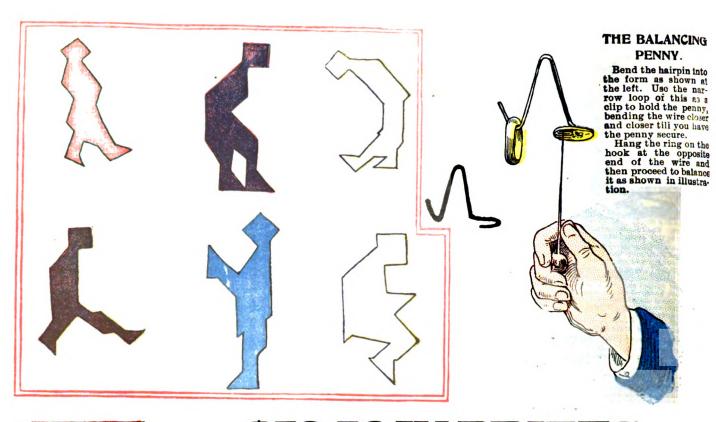
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Read How You May Get this Splendid Japanese Gift for Your Own Home. The most gifted race in the world with the needle are the Orientals. For centuries the rich and varied designs worked by their hands have been the admiration and delight of chinery that would reproduce these rich designs of embossed embroidery and needlework, even to the delicate films of gold-thread work. Still more curious the Japanese obtained plans and made similar machinery, so that they have the addition of "cheap labor" to Yankee machinery. In this way the most delicate Armenian and Turkish needlework is imitated so closely that none but the expert, on close examination, reveals the minor points of imitation.

An Art Table Cover Free. We wish to introduce of and to accomplish this intend to actually give away these rich and ornamental Table Covers to our friends. We shall send a handsome cover, about two feet and a half square, of the richest and most pleasing designs, and being in appearance like the hand-made covers that Armenian experts sell for from \$12 to \$25 each, to one agent in each city or town who will sell for us only two boxes Nazone Salve at 25c. apiece. We send the goods on credit and trust to your honor in returning the moment your 50c. arrives. This is the greatest offer ever made, for, besides receiving this Beautiful Art Gift, which will give a whole room an air of luxury and refinement, you learn of other inducements that are rich with money works.







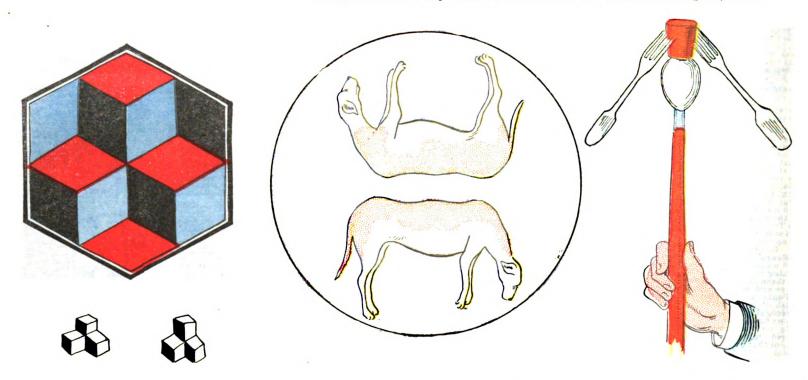
#### **\$59.50 IN PRIZES.** Comfort's Laughable Picture Puzzle.

At the left we print a dissected square of seven pieces in many colors, while above the artist has shown a few of the many cute and grotesque imitations of the human figure which can be made from the various arrangements of these cut up pieces.

Directions. Cut out the several pieces and paste them neatly on light cardboard. Then study the arrangement of them and you will be surprised at the great number of different figures you will be able to make. When you have hit upon what you think the cutest and most grotesque arrangement resembling the human figure (one is enough), paste the pieces on a clean sheet of paper just large enough to go into an envelope as per conditions below and address to Comfort Puzzle Desk, Augusta, Maine.

Conditions. How to Win a Prize. Each contestant for the Prizes must themselves be a paid in advance subscriber to "COMFORT" and secure one 6 months' trial subscriber sending the 10c. for same with their arrangement of the Puzzle.

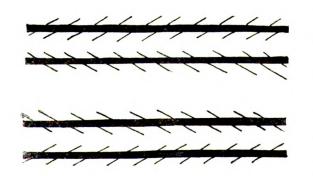
PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED. To the sender of the cutest and most grotesque arrangement we will present a nice \$25.00 Bicycle. To the next \$15.00 Dinner Set, 112 pieces. To the next \$10.00 in cash. To the next \$5.00 in cash. To the next \$10.00 in cash. To the next \$10.00 in cash. Awards will be announced in May "COMFORT. Address COMFORT PUZZLE DESK, Augusta, Maine.



#### THE TUMBLING CUBES.

Gaze steadily at the center when you will see alternately one cube on the top of two cubes, or two cubes on the top of one cube. The cubes, in fact, appear to be continuously turning topsy-turvey as shown in the above small illustrations.

The Misleading Railway Track. se four lines below are exactly parallel though they appear to converge.



THE DEAD DOGS. The two dogs are obviously dead. Required by the addition of four lines to restor them to life again. How is it done? Solution will be given in Comfort next month. Take advantage of Print Offer above and you will receive copy of Comfort containing solution.

To balance an egg on the point of a walking stick. Have the egg boiled hard. Thrust the two forks into the cork, one on each side, so that they shall form an angle of about 60 degrees to each other. Hold the stick ferule upwards firmly between the knees-etc., as in illustration.

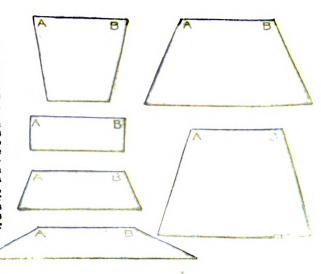
The deceptive Geometrical figures. The sides A to B are all the same length. Measure them.

#### Comfort's Feature Page:

Comfort's Feature Page:

We present this month one of our feature pages, in which the artist has labored to please all our readers, young and old. No part of Comfort was ever more popular than these pages of assorted delight. The people of America are puzzle lovers and in this respect we attempt to please by a selection of novelties which afford much innocent amusement.

This issue of Comfort is well worth your close attention for this as well as hundreds of other features which go to make it the people's paper, the favorite home monthly of America, the one magazine which cheers each month a million and a quarter homes. If you are not a subscriber you can become one, on trial, accepting the \$59.50 Prize Puzzle offer made on this page. Extra copies of this issue will be mailed direct to your friends on receipt of your order and? cents for each copy desired.



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How to Build a Boat.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY H. EDWARD SWIFT.

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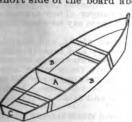


OST boys are looking ahead to the coming of summer and some are even planning what they will do. If a boy has a mechani-cal turn of mind nothing will give him more enjoyment and satisfaction than to build a boat. The following description will give all the in-struction necessary to build a boat twelve ft. long. Take ten or eleven boards not over 7-8 of an inch

thick, 7 inches wide and about 13 feet long.
Also 2 boards 7-8 inch thick, 14 inches wide and 13 ft. long, free from knots. These are for the side boards and should be of good clear stock, of pine or cedar, so they can be bent alike.

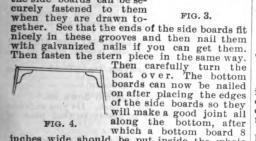
Cut a picce shaped like Fig. 1, the length over all being 4 feet, the width 12 inches, the length on the bottom side 3 feet and 6 inches. This is for a cross board. Make a similar piece of oak, if you can get it, 28 inches long, 10 inches wide, and the length of the bottom edge, 22 inches. This is for the stern piece.

The ends of each side board should be sawed off like the ends of the cross board making the short side of the board about 8 inches shorter than the longer.



than the longer. Beginning 4 feet from the ends of the side boards you wish for the stern end, taper the m back to 10 inches wide, on one side only. Set the side boards B. Fig. 2. wide, on one side only. Set the side boards BB, Fig. 2, on edge parallel with the longer edge uppermost and at about the middle place the cross board and with ropes draw the two ends of the side boards together, the other ends draw to the stern piece c., Fig. 2. Make a stern piece by cutting grooves in a piece of oak 16 inches long as shown in Fig 3.

These grooves should be 7-8 of an inch deep, so that the side boards can be securely fastened to them when they are drawn together. See that the ends of the side boards fit nicely in these grooves and then nail them with galvanized nails if you can get them.



of the side boards so they will make a good joint all along the bottom, after which a bottom board 8 inches wide should be put inside the whole length of the boat to stiffen the bottom. Of course you have to knock out the cross board to do this. It will be well to put brackets where the stern pieces joins the side boards on the top as in Fig 4. Then in the stern about 6 inches from the top edge nail a cleat on each side parallel to the top for a seat 14 inches wide, also put in a seat the same distance from the top edge distance from the top edge

5 feet from the stern and another half-way between this and the bow. Cover the bow of the boat 18 inches back from FIG. 5.

Cover the bow of the boat 18 inches back from the stern as shown in Fig. 5, and then fit two gunwale pieces 2 1-2 inches wide on the sides the whole length of the boat as shown at AA in Fig. 6. B in Fig. 6 shows the seat in place. These should be fitted at the bow as in Fig. 7, so as to give a finished effect to the whole structure. If it is not convenient to get row locks, round holes may be bored in the gunwales about 3 inches apart and 9 inches astern of each seat. The holes should be seveneighths of an inch in diam-

notes should be seven-eighths of an inch in diam-eter and fitted with oak pins 6 inches long, so that when the pins are in place they will project about four inches above the gun-wale.

FIG. 7.

This boat should have a keel of oak seveneighths of an inch thick and two inches wide reaching from stern piece to stern with a wider triangular piece at the stern as shown in Fig 8.

to make the boat row steadier. This can be made into a sail boat by putting in a centerboard box 4ft. long and 10 inches wide as shown in Fig. 9 and then cut a hole lengthwise in the bottom of the boat 3 ft. and 8 inches long through the bottom, keel and inside board (this should be 1 inch

wide) after which securely nail the DOX in place after having covered the bottom edges with white lead or thick paint. The centerboard box should be made to take a seven-eighths inch centerboard easily allowing for swelling. The board can be hinged as shown in Fig. 10 or can be used straight, simply sliding down the required depth. If hinged sliding down the required depth. If hinged

shown in Fig. 10 or can be used straight, simply sliding down the required depth. If hinged as in Fig. 10 fasten a cord A. to the centerboard B. hung on the pin c. to raise and lower the beard as circumstances require. Make a rudder and tiller as in Fig. 11: the rudder should be 17 inches long and 12 inches wide, with a tiller 15 inches long all made of oak seven-eighths of

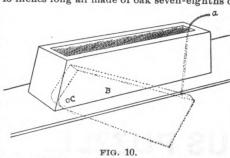


FIG. 10.

an inch thick nicely finished and shellacked. The boat is now ready to paint as the owner may fancy. Cut a hole 4 inches in diameter 12 inches from the bow as shown in Fig. 5 and put a step in the bottom of the boat directly under this to support the mast, which should be about 12 ft. long, 4 inches in diameter at the base, slightly tapered to the top. The sail can be of No. 1 duck and should be cut as in Fig. 12 which will give ample sail for a boat of this style. If you wish to use a sprit, a pole one and one-fourth inches in diameter placed as shown in the cut and secured to the mast

cut and secured to the mast by a loose loop is as easy as any thing to make, or you can use a boom and gaff, in which case the mast could be 18 inches longer and the FIG. 11.

base of the sail 2 ft. longer. The extra length of mast will allow for the hoisting of the sail which should be secured by wooden or iron hoops at intervals of one foot. The whole would probably cost complete about twelve dollars; without the centerboard, rudder mast and sail the boat would cost about six dollars. A good deal will delars. A good deal will depend upon the ability and good judgment of the boy who builds the boat as to what the boat looks like when finished, but if care

FIG. 12.

is used and the foregoing FIG. 12. directions followed closely you will have a good boat and a fast sailer in smooth water.

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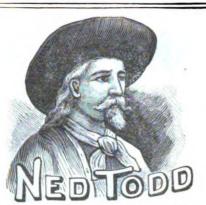
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Thirty Minutes is a short time, but many have earned one of these watches in less time than that. It is one of the very best watches for time ever offered to our readers at no matter what the price asked for it. We know, of course, there are watches that cost more money, because they are in gold or silver cases, but they will not keep any better time, simply because they cannot. This watch keeps not perfect time, we never saw the watch that did, but it keeps as near perfect time as watches usually do. We have such faith in this watch as a timekeeper that we send with every one a guarantee just as binding as that given with any watch, no matter what make. We are willing to give you this watch if you will do us a slight service, which you can easily do in an hour. We wish to increase our subscription list, and we want the assistance of every reader of this paper to that end. We do not want you to do it for nothing, we will reward you for it. You can easily secure this valuable watch if you get four subscribers to this paper, at our special subscription price of 25 cents a year each. Do this, sending us \$1.00, with the names of four subscribers to this paper, and we will send our paper to each subscriber for one year, and we will send you the watch to reward you for your efforts in our behalf. Start out now and see what you can do. Remember we guarantee every watch. If you get five subscribers and send us \$1.25 for the same we will also send you a nice chain. Address



# The Oklahoma Detective,

#### The Strange Cabin in the Wilderness.

#### BY HENRY DALE.

Author of "Boomers and Cattle Kings," "The Cheyenne Outbreak," "Shadowing a Shadow," "Chepita," "Mormonism Unveiled," Etc.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

The opening chapters of this intensely interesting story appeared in February Comfort. Back numbers may be obtained by enclosing three cents to Comfort, Augusta, Me., for each number desired.

During the past year portions of Indian Territory we opened to settlement by the Government altorment of lots chance, and the scenes that were enacted in the years gone twhen Oklahoma was the objective point of settlers from ea and west, north and south, were again presented in a mumore exciting manner. A Kanasi telephone girl tack by scured a lot valued at \$17,000, and others were nearly fortunate.

fortunate.

Because of the exciting events that have transpired in Oklahoma and Indian Territory, events that have attracted the attention of the whole country, the story of "Ned Todd" presented to our readers in the hope that instruction and en tertainment may be derived from its perusal.

#### CHAPTER IV.

#### THE IDIOT'S STRANGE WARNING.

THE IDIOT'S STRANGE WARNING.

Ned Todd and his youthful companion sat with their backs to the window through which the baleful eyes of the Oklahoma bandit gleamed. It was now so dark that it is quite doubtful if they could have seen him, even if they had been looking in his direction.

Supper over, the two men rose from the table and walked to the front room. There lying on the floor kicking and chuckling, was the idiot. The youth paused a moment and gazed upon the wetched creature. Like some animal, he rolled upon the rug, sometimes chuckling and hugging it, as if it were the object of his warmest affections.

"Major, is he not a strange looking man?" asked Archie.

"Yes."

"And so unfortunate."

For a moment both stood and gazed at the idiot, who ceased his giggling and raising his head, gazed about the apartment with more shrewdness than they thought he possessed. Only Ned Todd, the Ranger, and Archie were in sight. On his elbows like a walrus he raised himself, and gazed about him for several moments, at last fixing his eyes on the youth before him. Then all of a sudden he fell down and began to giggle and roll over on his rug, kicking his feet about in every direction.

"Let us take a look at the horses, and see that they do not break through the corral, and stray off," said Todd.

The youth assented, and the two left the house. It was now quite dark. The moon was just beginning to rise, and the sky was cloudless, but there were so many shadows made by the tall forests, that it was even at this time almost dark.

"That is a very singular idiot," said the worth we show walked toward the horses.

almost dark.

"That is a very singular idiot," said the youth, as they walked toward the horses. "Yes he is."

"Did you notice how he looked at me?"
"I did." "Did you see what he did?"
"He looked at you."
"More than that."
"What was it?"
"He winked at me."

"He did?—and what did you do?"
"I winked back."
The border detective was silent for a few moments, and then said:

"Well it may only be the eccentricity of an

"So it may, but I will venture the assertion that that fellow has more sense than he gets credit for."
"There are our horses," said the ranger de-

tective, as they paused near the tired animals. The moon had risen, and to a certain extent the great gloomy old forest was lighted up by

the great gloomy old forest was lighted up by its soft, refulgent rays.

"Don't you think it very strange that we should find people living here?" Archie asked.

"Yes, somewhat," the border detective answered. "Yet there may be a reason for all this seclusion. This man probably thinks that the boomers will ultimately be expelled by the soldiers, and the best thing that he can do is to live apart by himself."

"The soldiers may never find him here."

"It would be an accident if they did."

"It would be an accident if they did."

"It would be an accident if they did."
They turned to retrace their steps to the house. The moon was high enough now to shed a glorious light upon the dark aisles and

narrow paths of the forest.
Suddenly Archie Holland started back and clutched the arm of his companion.
"What is the matter?" Ned asked.

"I saw a form in the woods on our left flit-ting about."
"What was it like?"

"I only caught a glimpse of it, and cannot say exactly what it is like; but I believe it was

Each had instinctively laid his hand upon his revolver, and paused on the defensive. But as there came no sound, not even the crackling

of a twig, the border detective said:
"You were certainly mistaken, Archie. It could not have been a man or we would have

could not have been a man or we would have heard him. It was more likely a bird flying about to find a roosting place."

"I don't know what it was," Archie answered. "But I think after our experience of the day, we had better keep a sharp lookout. Things have a very mysterious appearance here."

here."
"This Oklahoma mystery is deepening,"

Todd answered, and his brow gathered into retroubled knot of cords and wrinkles. As they wended their way to the house, the youth remembering his mission to this wilderness, sighed and mentally ejaculated:

"Oh father, father! where are you now, that I may fly to your side, and release you from bondage."

When they reached the house, they found the idiot asleep on his sheepskin rug, and their old host sat in one corner near the great open fireplace smoking his pipe.

A tallow dip candle burning on the mantel, but dimly lighted the room.

"Set down," growled the sullen host, pointing to a couple of chairs.

The weary travelers complied with his request, and Archie's eyes began to wander restlessly about the apartment. Over the door was a gun rack in which lay a rifle. Over the mantel was another gun rack and another gun. Standing in one corner of the room, leaning against the wall was a double-barreled shot gun. Then there were two or three pistol holsters, from which the butts of revolvers protruded, hanging from pegs on the wall.

"This solitary old man seems very well armed," thought Archie. He was about to speak to the border detective, when that personage turning to their host asked:

"How many sons have you?"

For a moment the old man seemed a little confused, but recovering himself, answered:

"Two."

"Where are they?"

"Down at the Boomers' camp."

"Where are they?"
"Down at the Boomers' camp."

"Down at the Boomers' camp."

There was nothing unreasonable in this, yet being in a land of mystery and danger, it was but natural that the detective should have his suspicions constantly on the alert.

Minutes glided by in silence. The old man sat in the corner smoking his pipe, and the idiot snored on the hearth. At last the host kicked the cripple saving:

kicked the cripple saying:
"Quit that, Snap, make less noise."
The idiot chuckled and kicked his feet out as if he were highly delighted, and the host sank back in his heavy oaken chair and smoked.

border detective."

"Who? Todd?"
"Yes, nobody but Ned Todd."
The old man shrugged his shoulders and cast nervous glances behind him. After a few moments he said:
"Then we'd better wait until they are sound

"Yes."
"Get the entire force here by midnight."
The chief bowed and withdrew. In three or four seconds he had disappeared into the dark, gloomy old forest.
In the meantime Ned Todd and Archie had

been left alone in their room, and to their not pleasant reflections.

"Major," said the youth, thoughtfully, "if we had obtained more complete explanation from Oklahoma Peg, we could have determined on our course with certainty."

The detective who had been busy with his

on our course with certainty."

The detective who had been busy with his thoughts, said:

"It's all a mystery to me. I cannot get heads or tails of it. I wish I could understand it, but I can't."

For some moments all was quiet, and both men were busy thinking. Then the youth yawned and turned his eyes toward the miserable bed in the corner of the room. The detective asked him if he were sleepy.

"Yes, and tired, too," was the answer, "but do you think that we dare to go to sleep?"

"One of us must stay awake," he answered.

"There may be. In this wilderness we may face a thousand perils before we know it."

"You can sleep and I will take the first watch," said Archie.

"You will have to keep your eyes and ears open."

"I know it."

open."
"I know it."

"I know it."

There was a small window in the gable end of the house, from which they could get a partial view of the country and forest beyond. Here Archie took his position as guard. His companion, without removing his clothing, threw himself on the bed, one hand clasping the but of a revolver. the butt of a revolver.

"Let me m and i will tell you," and he chuckled in his old idiotic manner, as if the habit had so fastened itself upon him that he could not get rid of it. With scarcely any perceptible noise, notwithstanding his deformity, he entered the room. "They think me a fool," he said, pausing to press his hand upon his forehead. "Bryce, Burton, and Dyke all think me a fool, but I am not."

This was said in a scarcely audible whisper after the door had been closed. The two men were standing in front of the idiot gazing at him with deep interest. The poor fellow scened to be puzzling himself to gather up his scattered faculties, but after a few moments he again said:

tered faculties, but after a few moments he again said:
"They think me a fool, but they are mistaken, he, he, he, he, I will yet prove too shrewd for them."
"Who do you mean?" the detective asked, the follow had again made a pause Hiller the follow had again made a pause had again made a pause had again made a pause had ag

"Who do you mean?" the detective asked, for the fellow had again made a pause. His manner seemed at once to change.

After a desperate struggle, he gathered up his scattered faculties, and concentrating his mind on the subject of which he intended to speak, he said in a whisper:

"Do you know that you are in danger?"

"I suspect it, but did not really know," answered the detective.

"You are in deadly peril."

"You are in deadly peril."
"From whom?"
For a moment the strange man seemed lost in reflection. He rubbed his scarred, misshapen face with his deformed hand, and "Have you heard of Captain Snell?"

"That's the name he goes by. He is the mys-terious man of Oklahoma."
"Where is he? Is he the man whom we found here?" asked Archie.

here?" asked Archie.
"No, no," the cripple answered, shaking his head. "He has not been in sight, but he will be before morning. This is his stronghold, and if you remain here you will not live to see sunrise. It would be better to lie down and sleep in a den of wolves, than here amid these Oklahoms outlaws." homa outlaws."

#### CHAPTER V.

#### THE TRAVELERS LOSE THEIR HORSES.

The cripple stood for a moment gazing up at the ceiling, as if he were trying to gather his scattered ideas. Beneath his rough, scarred face, shaggy, unkempt hair and beard, the close observer could readily discover the wreck of what were once exceedingly fine features.

Archie was sure there was something familiar about him, but he was at a loss to say what it

Archie was sure there was something familiar about him, but he was at a loss to say what it was. As he was gazing at him, the youth was saying to himself:
"Did I ever meet that unfortunate man before? No, surely not. That face is strange to me, and yet there seems something about it that is familiar."

The cripple, in the meanwhile, realizing the danger of the travelers, said:
"You must go away from here. You must fly for your lives. Every moment that you delay only increases your danger. They are coming to kill you. I heard them say so when they thought me asleep."

The cripple then turned about, and despite his clubbed feet, noiselessly and rapidly created own the narrow, cramped stairway. It seemed impossible for him to move those mis-shapen feet and hands without making some noise, but he did so. When he had gone, Archie turned to his companion and said:
"What does he mean?"

For a moment Ned Todd stood staring at the

"What does he mean?"

For a moment Ned Todd stood staring at the half open door, his whole attention given to the faculty of hearing. There was not a sound to break the calm, and after having assured himself that there was no one to hear him, he said.

"His warning may be only the insane twaddle of an idiot, yet it is sufficient for us to give it some consideration. We will make a careful examination of the premises. What can you see from that window?"

"Nothing but the forest, and moon in the sky."

Todd carefully closed the door.
"The moon shines brightly, and we ought to be able to get a view of something from the window."

"But there is a big hackberry tree growing almost against the house, which cuts off all view in the rear."

"We can utilize that tree," said Todd coming to the window.

to the window.
"How?"

"Make it a ladder to climb down on."
"I had not thought of that. Do you suppose it will be necessary to resort to that plan of escape?"
"Yes."

"Yes."

"Why, there is no sign of danger. There is not a single sound that would alarm any one."

"But it is sometimes most dangerous when there is the least noise," said the border detective. They had brought their repeating rifles with them to their rooms, and their pistols were about their waists, so that they were well armed.

"Had we better look after the horses?" esked "Had we better look after the horses?" asked

the youth.
"Yes, but there may be more danger in that

than we think. I do not feel like running away, for, if this is the rendezvous of a banditti, as the idiot says, it is my duty to ferret them out, and bring them to justice. If it is not, then we have no cause to be running away."
"What would you advise?" asked Archie.
"Go out and reconnoitre."
"Well, I am ready."
"The other can

"Well, I am ready."
"But only one must go. The other can remain here and keep a sort of guard," said the border detective.
"Is it not bad policy to divide our forces?"

"Is it not bad policy to divide our forces asked Archie.
"No, if these are bandits, they will not make their appearance before midnight."
"Who will reconnoitre?"
"I will go," said Ned Todd. "It may require some experience and shrewdness to manage business outside. In here, all that is necessary is courage and coolness, which with you are natural."

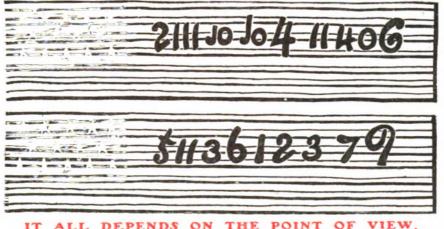
natural."
Going to the window the border detective climbed out upon the branches of the tree.
His movements were so cautious that he scarce made any noise at all. Archie stood within the apartment watching the man as he descended the tree and disappeared from view. When within a few feet from the earth, the border detective dropped silently to the ground and rose and hurried away to the horses.
"The whole country has been so dangerous

"The whole country has been so dangerous to good borses," he thought, "that I am inclined to the opinion our animals are in more danger than Curselves."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20).

# A MYSTERIOUS PUZZLE. Solve the Name of this Distinguished American and His Title.

Money Sometimes Comes to Us from Figures Like a Reflection in a Mirror.



# A pretty girl seldom looks into a glass darkly. The above illustration at first giance will remind y what of the American flag on which are written a few figures. But at second glance the fleures do not seem to be just r

pretty girl seldom looks into a glass darkly. The above illustration at first giance will remind you some of the American flag on which are written a few figures. But at second glance the figures do not seem to be just right an hing is wrong, yet if you looked at the puzzle in the right way you will find the name of a distinguished American and h Who is it and when was he born! you have been smart and used your brain as well as eyes in reading all this advertisement you would have noticed we gave

the mystery send your answer, naming the distinguished American also the high office held.

Your answer may be made on a postal with either ink or pencil.

Remember, this is a free contest and costs you nothing to try the Puzzle and if you find the correct answe us at once. We want to correspond with a few keen, bright, active and brainy people, men, women, boys and girls over lold. This is the first test for you to secure a valuable prize which will be a Reward of Merit for your efort.

We will give Thousands of Dollars in Prendums, Cash and other Prizes during the next few months and vs. 102.00 in Special Cash Prizes on our Great Presidential Puzzle, If you are brainy and smart encourse this mystery you can certainly comply with the slight conditions required to enter for the other competitions.

Is a chance to share in our Cash Rewards worth a Postal?

As soon as you have solved this Puzzle in your own mind write us and if correct you will immediately hear from us, recorded the contractions of the correct of the correct your will immediately hear from us, recorded the correct of the correct your will immediately hear from us, real copy of our Great Presidential Prize Puzzle and se-

SPECIAL PRESENT.

If you also correctly state in your answer the birthdate of this great person, we will also send you free a little book of 12 illustrated Prize Puzzles, Special Prizes being offered to all who solve some of the dozen Pictorial Puzzles clearly illustrated therein.

Address PRESIDENTIAL PUZZLE DEPT., Box 943, Augusta, Maine. \*

"We have had a long, hard day's travel," said the border detective, "can you show us at once to our beds?"
"Umph, hump!" he growled rising and tak-ing a candle from the mantel. "Foller me."
Up a narrow, cramped flight of stairs into an attic chamber the weary travelers were con-ducted.

As they left the room, the idiot giggled and chuckled, rolling over on the floor in apparent delight. At the moment they left the apartment, a dark, sinister face appeared at the narrow window.

"I here 'en now" a voice whispered so

as dead now."

This seemed to amuse the idiot, for he screamed and chuckled until the face had disappeared from the window, when he once more became quiet and settled down to his

The footsteps of the host could be heard descending the stairway. There was a smile on his sinister face, and he shook his great shaggy head as if he were well pleased with what had

been done.
"Tap, tap, tap!" The tapping was at the rear of the building, and so very light was it that the host could scarce believe at first that he heard it at all. He listened a moment to assure himself, but it came again with such distinctness that he knew some one was there awaiting him. He went to the kitchen, and from there to the rear deer which he expended against been done. to the rear door, which he opened, saying:
"Who is there?"

"It's me-

He easily recognized the voice as his chief-

tain's.
"Well, what do you want?" Bryce asked. "Where are they?"
"In the attic bedroom."

Asleep? "Not yet, they have just gone up. Where are the men?"
"Only three are here yet."

"Are they enough?"
"I don't think they are. That fellow is the

An hour passed and the youthful guard sat nodding in the chair by the window. Not a sound which could be called suspicious had as yet fallen on his ears. His eyes grew heavy, and despite himself closed. Before he knew it he was dozing.

At this moment a slight creaking was heard at the head of the stairway and the guard was

at the head of the stairway, and the guard was in an instant wide awake, sitting bolt upright, his revolver cocked. "What was it," began the youth, but a signal from the detective checked further utter-

ances.

There came a faint rapping sound at the door. It was only momentary, and, when it had ceased, the youth looked at his companion for some explanation of it, but by a gesture he enjoined silence and they listened

"Tap, tap, tap," very low and faint came the rapping at the door. In a moment Archie's revolver was aimed at

the door. "No, no, that will not do," whispered the detective. "Suppose it should be a friend come to warn us?" Holding a revolver in one hand and a knife in the other, he crept to the door, where he paused and whispered through the keyhole. keyhole: "Who's there?"

"Who's there?"
He leaped back the moment he had asked the question, as if he expected a bullet from the outside to be his answer. But no shot was fired. A voice, seeming to come from the bottom of the door, whispered:
"A friend."
The ranger was captions yet he could not

"A friend."

The ranger was cautious, yet he could not but believe that it was really a friend. An enemy would not have come to them in this way. He carefully opened the door, so as to get a glimpse of the person without. He was astonished to discover standing before him the idiot cripple. The amazement of both Todd and Archie can be better imagined than described.

The idiot put his crooked, mis-shapen fingers to his lips and whispered:
"Be cautious!"

scribed.

"What do you want?" Todd asked.



An automobile race from Paris to Vienna will be held in July.

To cross the Atlantic ocean in four days is the promise of a new transatlantic line.

Electricity is to be used in lighting the ancient Egyptian temples of Luxor and Karnak.

A machine that can thread thirty thousand needles an hour is in use in Switzerland.

Texas has 244 counties. New York has 61, Pennsylvania 67, and Massachusetts 14-a total of 142

One American maker of farm machinery has shipped Russia more than a million dollars' worth of his goods this year.

A French farmer has made experiments which show that caterpillars avoid black objects, but are attracted in numbers by white.

A new Pacific cable is talked of. The cost for the cable alone has been figured down to one thousand dollars per mile. It used to cost more.

The expenses of the city of London, Eng., this year amount to \$80,000,000, and those of the city of New York, as provided for in the budget, to \$97,000,000.

A French naturalist, Raphael Dubois, asserts that large pearls are nothing but sarcophagi, in the center of which rest the dead bodies of small marine worms.

The number of persons to the section of land is, in Great Britain 342, Japan 300, Italy 276, Germany 270, Austria 225, France 187, Hungary 154, Spain 92, United States 22, Russia 15.

""Syntograph" is suggested as the proper word to cover wireless telegraphy. From this word, which is made up of Greek elements, will naturally follow syntogram and syntography.

During the first week of the month of January, 1902, there were forty-one patents issued by the United States Patent Office, the titles of which clearly indicate that they belong to electricity.

Tests made in Germany have demonstrated that ronze may safely be employed in engine construc-ion for valve seats, pipes, etc., at a temperature of rom 392 degrees to 572 degrees Fahrenheit, but not

According to statistics collected by the census bureau the gross value of the products of manufac-ture in the United States was \$13,003,127,682 in 1900, as compared with \$9,372,437,282 in 1890, an increase of 38.73 per cent.

Carrier pigeons are to be bred and trained by the German military authorities in a large four-storied columbary which has just been erected at Spandau. Great use will be made of the birds in future military manoeuvers.

In the chief cities of the United States the public park area ranks in the following order; New York, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Chicago, Cleveland, San Francisco, Baltimore, Buffalo, Pittsburg, New Orleans and Cincinnati.

The captain and crew of a Maine schooner on a voyage from New York to Africa picked up a mass of pure ambergris weighing one hundred pounds, and supposed to be valued at more than \$20,000. It is used in the manufacture of perfumery.

The father of submarine navigation may be said to be Cornelius Drebble, philosopher and scientific inventor, who, early in the seventeenth century, constructed a submarine vessel that was successfully navigated under the river Thames from Westminster to Greenwich.

The speediest long-distance delivery of mail ever accomplished in the world, was that of the consignment which left Sydney, Australia, Oct. 15, for London, Eng., by the American route. A distance of 15,265 miles was covered in thirty-one days, a saving of four days over the Suez canal route.

The Post Office Department has authorized the experimental establishment in Toledo, Ohio, of an electrical appliance to record collections from street and office mail boxes. The object is to prevent collectors of mail from skipping boxes. The device is so constructed that when a box is opened a record of the opening is signaled to the post office.

The biggest and most powerful locomotive in the world has just been completed in Schenectady, N. Y., for the Sante Fe railroad. It is an American compound and represents the highest achievement in locomotive design. The engine, without the 50-ton tender, weighs one hundred and thirty tons—twenty-one times as much as the historic DeWitt Clinton.

An instrument has been perfected by a man in Jamestown, N. Y., for signalling between trains on the same railroad track. It is based on the wireless telegraph principle, and signals automatically when two trains are within two thousand feet of each other. It also indicates in which direction each of the two are running, or if one of them is standing still on the track.

To disintegrate wood fibre the material is crushed and disintegrated in lime water for some days. It is then treated to alternating current of electricity at a voltage of about forty. The inventor of this new process claims that the alternating current very considerably increases the speed of fermentation in the agglutinants of wood fibre, thus preparing it for lixiviation and bleaching.

A new device for protecting bearings from heating has been patented. An ordinary oil-cup is placed on the bearing to be protected, and has communication through the usual opening. This opening is, however, closed at its lower end by means of a fusible plug that will be melted at a low temperature. Should the shaft or bearing become heated to a sufficient degree, owing to the neglect of the attendant or from any other cause, the plug will be fused or liquified by the heat, thereby releasing the oil.

#### A GIFT OF EMBROIDERY SILK.

Embroidery silk will cost you a lot of money bought at the store. We have a great jobbing-house lot of rich silk bought at wholesale. No high retail price with a lot of middle profits; but we get actual cost price. We want to give the whole benefit to our lady readers. We have prepared a lot of assorted packages containing a liberal supply of bright, rich, new silk in a variety of tones and shades, which would cost a heap of money bought at the stores. We will send our illustrated bargain list and full assorted, large sized silk package for the ridiculously low price of ten cents; or, three packages for twenty cents. Write to-day before the rush. S. W. LANE & Co., Augusta, Maine.

#### Comfort Clubs.

For the benefit of our readers who live in the smaller towns and remote communities, Comfort proposes the organization of Comfort Clubs whose object shall be to add to the comfort of living by bringing people together for their mutual instruction, improvement and amusement.

Knowing that social pleasures are lacking in the smaller places more because people do not know how to organize and what to do that is interesting and pleasing, than because they do not care for such things, Comfort will undertake to suggest ways and means by which the young people, at least, may pass many winter evenings which would otherwise hang heavily.

First: The clubs to be known as Comfort Clubs are

First: The clubs, to be known as Comfort Clubs, are to have their membership from among subscribers to COMFORT, and ten persons or less may constitute a Club. In communities where there are more than ten eligibles, Clubs A, B. C etc., may be organized, the objects of these divisions being to make it possible for sets of persons to make up their own crowds, for such meetings as they may wish to have. But each month there must be a regular meeting of the whole Club at which all members may attend and take part in the exercises.

Second: The monthly meeting should be held in

may attend and take part in the exercises.

Second: The monthly meeting should be held in some large room (church or town hall) and members are to read, recite, sing play on some instrument, or act a short piece, the whole to conclude with some interesting game which COMFORT will present. COMFORT will also provide the program each month for the monthly meeting, so that members need only carry out the program which will be furnished them. Division meetings may be held at private houses of members of the divisions, and once a week if so desired.

Third. The officers of Comfort Clube shell.

Once a week it so desired.

Third: The officers of Comfort Clubs shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, four in all, and to be elected by the Club, once a year. There are to be no fees of any kind, but if at any time the Club wishes to raise money for any charity, small admittance may be charged at the usual monthly meeting. This can only be done by vote of the Club. Every member shall be entitled to invite two persons, not members, to attend any meeting, general or division.

Fourth: Each member shall wear a badge or button indicating membership, Comfort agreeing to furnish appriate badges without cost to members.

priate badges without cost to members.

These general rules, which will be modified and improved as the needs of Clubs develop, are now given as a basis upon which to organize the pioneer Clubs, and Comport will be pleased to hear from our lady readers all over the land concerning their will ingness to undertake the good work. Comport will also be glad to render all the assistance in its power to aid the cause of making life cheerier and brighter and increasing good will and good fellowship among mankind. A special prize will be awarded to the first club organizing and reporting to this office, which organization may take place immediately upon receipt of this notice. Various annual prizes, to be determined later, will be awarded to Clubs for excellence in attendance, numbers, &c.

Address all communications to Comfort Club Editor, Comport, Augusta, Maine.

#### Method of Organization of Clubs.

Method of Organization of Clubs.

Let the person undertaking the organization notify six or more subscribers to Comport at the same postoffice to meet at a designated house, or room, and when they have come together, simply state the object of the organization of the club, as announced in Comport and get the sense of the meeting as to organizing. If a majority favor it, proceed at once to organization by naming two or more persons, male or female as candidates for President, first. Then pass slips of blank paper around for each person to write thereon the name of his or her choice for the office, and the one receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared president. Proceed in the same way for Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Then the person who has called the meeting will retire and the new officers will take charge, the President in the chair, conducting the meeting, and the Secretary acting as clerk making the minutes. The President will announce the program and call off the order of business naming those who are set down as taking individual parts.

The main idea is to have this part of the club's work as

parts.

The main idea is to have this part of the club's work as simple as it can possibly be, so that members will find the duties a pleasure rather than a burden, the object of the club being the greatest comfort to the greatest

#### Comfort Club Program.

- Comfort Club Program.

  1—Meeting called to order by President.

  2—Reading minutes of previous meeting; by Secretary.

  3—Admission of members.

  4—Other business, if any.

  5—Intermission of five minutes—conversation.

  6—Recitation.

  7—Vocal selection—solo or concerted number.

  8—Instrumental selection—any instrument.

  9—Intermission of five minutes—conversation.

  10—Comfort Club Game, for ail present. (See below.)

  11—"Auld Lang Syne," sung by the entire meeting.

  12—Announcements for following month by the Vice resident.
- President.

  13—"The Star Spangled Banner," sung by all present, standing.

  14—Good Night.

#### A Comfort Club Game

A Comfort Club Game.

A lively game as part of the evening's amusements is to see who can thread the greatest number of needles in the least time, the elderly people being allowed to use glasses. Pass around to all in the company pieces of thread about a foot long with a large knot in one end. Then have three or four plates with a paper of needles emptied in each put around the room where they can be conveniently got at by the threaders. At a signal from the President or whoever is master of ceremonies, the threading begins and continues five minutes. The needles on each string are then counted, and the person having threaded the highest number of needles is given some simple prize, whatever it may be. The person having the lowest number gets the "booby" prize, which may be a tin horn or a monkey climbing a stick, or any ridiculous thing. If two or more persons have the same number they are to draw straws to determine who is the winner.

The Tallest and Shortest Couple Game.

or more persons have the same number they are to draw straws to determine who is the winner.

The Tallest and Shortest Couple Game.

As this game is somewhat short another to go with it, and which will cause much sport, is to see who the tallest and the shortest couples in the company. In this game a young lady passes a hat filled with slips of paper numbered from one up to as many as are necessary, among the gentlemen, and a young gentleman passes similar slips among the ladies. Each one takes a number until all are supplied. Then the young man having a certain number say ten, goes around among the ladies until he finds the one having the corresponding ten, and they pair off. All the others do the same as they find their numbers and when all are paired, they go by couples before the President who measures the height of the gentleman and lady, with a yard stick or foot rule, or takes and adds their combined height. This is done with each couple and the tallest couple wins the prize, while the shortest one gets the "booby" prize. This may be varied by weighing the couples, if the grocer will loan the club his scales for the evening. The heaviest couple wins the prize, the lightest getting the booby. This game affords great sport and will easily occupy all the spare time. It may do for a whole evening, if there is a large number of persons in attendance.

A HANDSOME MUSTAOHE

The heaviest Government of the finds the great sport and will easily occupy all the spare time. It may do for a whole evening, if there is a large number of persons in attendance.

A HANDSOME MUSTAOHE

The beard grown on the moothest face or liair on bald heads in the strain of the st

WEALTHY WIDOW Age 28, unencumbered living in penn., would marry and financially aid honorable, capable husband. UNION, 69 Dearborn St., Chicago.

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It was his HEART, you know, it had been troubling him for a year. "How often we hear this story of neglected heart disease! It is increasing! 69 hearts in every hundred are wrong! Yet people won't seem to admit that it really is their heart but go on doctoring for something else when by the well known signs of Nervousness, fluttering, palpitation, skipping beats, choking, nightmare, indigestion, pain in heart and side and many others, the poor heart is saying, "Iam sick. Help me help me!" And how strange that they don't send help when it means life or death to them and when the heart can surely be made right again. Not one case in 500 is incurable. How is your heart? You can tell better perhaps than a doctor, for you know your symptoms better than you can tell him. If you have one of them, or the least suspic ion that your heart is wrong, don't wait! Find out! Even if you know that you have a settled heart disease which nothing has helped, don't give up! there is help!!

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Don't Miss this Opportunity. Address all letters to OXIEN WATCH DEPT., 6, Augusta, Maine. \* \*\*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*



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Address Comport, Augusta, Maine.

#### Ned Todd.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18.)

At this moment a noise like the crackling of a dry stick in a thicket attracted his attention.
On his right was some underbrush so thick that the eye could scarce penetrate three paces into it, even in broad daylight. It was in this thicket that the detective heard the crackling sound.

sound.

He dropped to the earth as silently as falls the snowflake, and, crouching on his hands and knees, he held his ready cocked revolver to defend himself if it became necessary. There could be no mistake about the matter, some one was in the thicket. After a few moments the faint rustling of

bushes came to his ears. Some man or beast was within that thicket, and from the caution exercised, he satisfied himself that it was a

man.

Tramp, tramp, tramp, very faintly yet distinctly came the slow tread of feet, accompanied by the slight rustling of bushes, as of some one parting them with his hands.

There was a tall bunch of grass but a few feet away, and behind this the detective crept, crouching low to the ground, just so he could see around the tuft of grass.

A tall, powerful man, whose face was so completely concealed by a broad-brimmed hat as to render his features invisible, stepped from the thicket not ten paces from where the concealed man lay. He was attired in the usual frontier costume, and carried a rifle in his hand. The newcomer paused a moment to gaze about him.

him.
"That infernal woman will ruin all yet," he

"That infernal woman will ruin all yet," he growled in an undertone.
"What woman is he talking about?" thought Ned Todd. He kept his pistol ready aimed at the stranger's breast, and could at any moment have sent a bullet to his heart, but as yet he had no positive assurance that he was an enemy. Even if he was one of the banditti it would be better to watch him and see what he would do. what he would do.

what he would do.

The stranger waited a few moments as if hesitating which way to go. Perhaps he was never in greater peril in his life. Had he discovered the man crouching upon the ground, and taken a single step toward him, it would have been his last. But after a few moments he turned off at a right angle, and made a circuit of the house.

ne turned on at a right angle, and made a circuit of the house.

"I will have to be careful. The woods are full o' them," said Ned Todd.

He went carefully along the edge of the thicket, until he was in a position to get a view of the old corral where their horses had last been seen. But as he was about to emerge from the thicket there came a low tan tan from thicket, there came a low tap, tap, from

the dark wood.
"That's a signal," thought the detective.
A moment later it was answered, not half a

dozen paces away.

"Hist," said a low, cautious voice.

"Who's that?"

"Dyke."

Ned Todd was near enough to hear both. They met at a spot not ten paces away in full view of the concealed man. "Boydston, where is cap?" asked the man who had called himself Dyke. "Not fur."
"Have they escaped?"

"No."
"D' they suspect us?"
"I guess not; the old house is as silent as the grave. When mornin' comes there'll either be two new mounds or two more bodies in the black hole."
"Have they much?"
"Nothing."
"Then why bother with 'em?"
There was a muttered expression, which the concealed man could not catch, and then he heard his own name pronounced.
"What! is he here?"
"There haint a bit o' doubt o' it."

"There haint a bit o' doubt o' it."

"There haint a bit o' doubt o' it."

"Then we got to get rid o' him, and it will have to be managed in such a way that he does not drop on us. If he should we are gone."

They talked in an undertone for several moments, so that the detective from his place of concealment was unable to hear a word that they said. At last they moved off and disappeared in the darkness.

"Now to see if the horses are safe, and then to get back and warn Archie of our danger," said Ned Todd, as he began to cautiously make his way through the jungle of vines and grass.

He finally got near enough to the corral to discover that the horses were gone. He made the discovery with no little alarm. It was plainly evident now that the enemy had determined on securing their victims at all hazards. Todd wheeled about and started toward the house. Before he had taken a dozen steps in that direction, a voice said:
"Stop! surrender, or you are a dead man." At the same moment a pair of strong arms were thrown about him, and the cold muzzle of a pistol thrust against his temple.

#### CHAPTER VI.

#### A STRANGE DISCOVERY.

Alone in the dark attic attended only with sad reflections, Archie Holland patiently awaited the return of his companion. We all awated the return of his companion. We all know how in times of great anxiety the moments seem ages. At such times the thoughts can conjure up a thousand fantastic dangers. Out of the darkness we seem to see monsters

determined on our destruction.

Archie Holland was no coward, and when he felt these superstitious fears creeping on him he threw them off, and, starting to his feet, stood at the window looking upon the moonlit

forest.

There were many things to occupy the mind of Archie Holland at this time. His father's mysterious disappearance, his supposed death, and the story of the man Frank Erwin, that he was still alive and a prisoner in Oklahoma. The mystery had a saddening effect on the youth, and he wondered if this strange rendezvous, Oklahoma Peg, and Captain Snell, could have any connection whatever with his missing father.

It was but natural that his mind should take in the tragedy of the day. He wondered why the man Miller was traveling alone with his daughter through the wilderness, and where was the young lady whom he had sworn to rescue? A slight noise on the ground below at this moment attracted his attention.

"What is that? A man's footsteps as I live," he said leaning forward and gazing out into the darkness, yet being careful not to bring himself in range of a bullet. A few moments' silence ensued, and again footsteps were heard.

"Whist," came from below. It was but natural that his mind should take

"Whist," came from below.

"All right," some one answered in a whisper.
"It's not all right," thought the youth, cocking his pistol and holding it in his hand. There were two dark forms below, and he knew that neither was the border detective. They must be enemies.

Archie dropped on one knee close by the window and listened.

'Are they here yet?" a voice asked in a whisper.
"Bagged as neat as you please," was the an-

"Where are the others?"

"Coming."
The youth appreciated the fact that his position was becoming every moment more critical. He must get out of this place, or he would soon be surrounded by enemies and his escape impossible.
"Are ye sure it's Todd?" a voice from below

"Hush, don't make so much noise. You'll be heard."
"Oh, they're asleep."

"Oh, they're asleep."
"May be not."
"Of course they are," said the man, who was evidently the more careless of the two. "If they'd been awake we'd a had a shot from 'em before this time."
They were standing beneath the very tree by which Ned Todd had descended. Archie could have hit either with his pistol, but how many more of the banditti were near, waiting for him, he had no means of knowing, and dared not begin the fight while his companion was not begin the fight while his companion was

away.

The two men were in view but a moment, and then they disappeared around the house.
"There is no need for me to stay here until I am caught like a rat in a trap," thought Archie as they disappeared. "I had better try to es-

cape, and run my chances of finding Major Todd."

He opened the door, and with a cocked revolver in his hand, crept down the narrow, crooked stairway. In spite of all his caution the stairway would creak. It was very dark, and he once or twice came near stumbling, but

and he once or twice came near stumbling, but with very little confusion, regained his equilibrium. All this trouble, however, prolonged the time.

When half way down he halted, for he was certain he heard a door open in some part of the house. In his imagination he could see the dark assassins, like Macbeth, creeping upon their intended victims. For a few moments he waited in the narrow stairway, pistol in hand. He thought he saw a dark robed form glide across the open space revealed by the cracks in the door at the foot of the stairs. But a brief investigation convinced him that it was only his imagination.

his imagination.

Nevertheless stealthy footsteps could be heard in different parts of the house, and the air was filled with strange whispers and mur-

murs.

"There is some mischief brewing," said the youth, as he reached the door of the front room. A few smoldering embers were in the fireplace, giving forth a dull glow of light, through the pale gray ashes that covered them. Through the gloom of the dark room the form of the cripple could be seen lying on his sheepabin rug, evidently asleep.

of the cripple could be seen lying on his sheep-skin rug, evidently asleep.

Archie tried the front door, but it was se-curely locked and bolted.

"I must get out of here some way," he thought. Then he remembered the window. But when he reached it, he made a discovery that was new to him. The sashes of the window were of iron, instead of painted wood as he had at first supposed. The youth was about to try the front door again, when the sound of voices came to his ears.
"Some one is out there, that won't do," he

"Some one is out there, that won't do," he thought.

"No, no, no," muttered the idiot cripple, roll-

ing over on the rug and kicking and giggling in half suppressed glee.

"That fellow is awake," said the youth to himself. "Had I not better appeal to him?" But at that moment the idiot began snoring so loudly that Archie concluded that after all he must be asleen.

must be asleep.

He groped his way across the room, and reached the door, which he found unlocked and opened. But it only led to another apartment, if possible even more dark than the

This is certainly the dining-room,"

thought. After groping about a little more he was convinced of the fact.

Voices could be heard in some passage, closet, or adjoining apartment. They were not very loud, but every word could be distinctly heard.

"It's time they were all here now," said one, "there is no need o' waitin' any lorger. Let's

"It's time they were all here now," said one, "there is no need o' waitin' any longer. Let's go up and knock 'em on the head."
"No, wait for Cap."
"Cap, thunder! he's too slow! When I've got work to do, I want it done and over with!"
"But we'd better be a little careful in this Cap." case."
"Why?"

"Why?"
"Them fellers are perfect tigers. Cap an' some of the boys hev been shooting at 'em all day, but could neither hit 'em or drive 'em out o' the country. They say't one o' them is Major Todd, the border detective."
"Oh thunderation, he can't be here!"
"Cap says he is."
"Then we will need all the band."

Then we will need all the

"Then we will need all the band."
"Guess we'd better go a little keerful."
"Let's go where we kin see somethin'."
They had been talking in low, earnest tones yet so as to be heard by Archie, but now began to move away. The creaking of boards could be heard by which Archie knew that they were getting farther and farther away. It now occurred to him that he could possibly effect his escape by following the men. He began groping his way around the apartment, and at last reached the door.

He tried it, and found it also unlocked.

He tried it, and found it also unlocked.
Good fortune seemed favoring him. Again
on the air there came to his ears the subdued

sound of human voices.

If he would save his life he must act immediately. diately. He boldly opened the door, and passed into another room.
"Yes, yes, come on," said a voice from with-

At this moment the distant report of a pistol

came on the air.
"There! trouble has begun," said some one.

"Ned Todd is in danger, I've not a moment to lose," thought Archie.

With the intention of running to the rescue With the intention of running to the rescue of his companion, he started to the next door in order to get out of the house, but, when he was only half way over, the floor suddenly gave way beneath him, and he fell down, down, alighting with a thump, that almost took the breath out of his body, on the ground at the foot of the stairs of a cellar or dungeon. The

fall was eight or nine feet and Archie was almost stunned by it. He had one of his pistols ready cocked in his hand and it was discharged

ready cocked in his hand and it was discharged by the fall, the flash momentarily lighting the dungeon-like apartment in which he lay.

The first thing that Archie did was to assure himself that he was not hurt. It was so intensely dark after the flash of his pistol that he could see nothing, but he immediately heard a rustling sound as of some one moving near him.

him.
"Who is there?" he demanded, recocking his revolver.

revolver.

No voice answered, but there was another and still more perceptible movement.

"Speak out or I will fire," said the youth.

A piteous groan came to his ears, half smothered, as if it were uttered with great difficulty.

Thrusting his fingers into his vest pocket, he drew out a match which he struck. It flared up, lighting the gloomy dungeon.

No wonder Archie Holland started back with an exclamation of horror and wonder. Before

an exclamation of horror and wonder. Before him seated on a stone, bound hand and foot, was a young girl. A handkerchief was drawn across her mouth so tightly she could not speak.

not speak.

Archie hastened to her side, and holding his pistol between his knees cut the bonds that bound the captive.

"You are free," he said in a whisper.

"Thanks," came in a faint response.

"What is your name?" he asked.

"Daisy Miller," was the answer.

"Was your father killed to-day?"

"Yes, sir," and he could hear her sobbing faintly.

faintly. "Do not weep, I will defend you; I will defend you with my life," the youth answer-

At this moment voices were heard from

ed.

At this moment voices were heard from above, and the rays of a lantern could be seen streaming down the open trap door.

"Get behind me, Miss Miller," said Archie Holland, leveling his pistol at the opening, through which the light was streaming.

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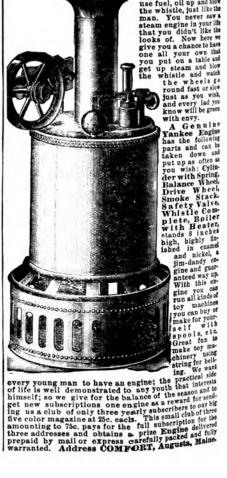
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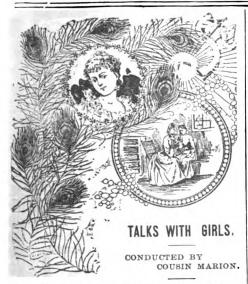
Hundreds have received clocks from us and are more than ediption with them. This is a glorious opportunity to get a fine clock with them. This is a glorious opportunity to get a fine clock without paying a cent for it and you should write at once. Address, PERSIAN CO., 19 Warron St., New York. Real Steam Engine FREE.

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A Genuine



The first month of spring, and the winter is going slowly from before the sun, and the flowers that it brings forth. May it be springtime in your hearts always, and it will be, if you will try to make it so. But there is work to do in the spring and let us get at it.

The first is from Cousin Maud in Trinity county, Texas, and she asks me questions that her physician can best answer. I get a good many questions of this kind, but health is too valuable for me to tamper with, and I have no advice except to consult your physician who knows your needs best.

suit your physician who knows your needs best.

Flo, Walnut Creek, O.—If the young man you love wants to make up the quarrel, give him the chance and let the other one go.

S. E. A., Tippecanoe, Ohio.—Yes. (2) Girls of seventeen might have one caller a week, but it is rather young for beaus. (3) If the young man really loves you he will not go with another girl for spite. Throw him over.

Clover Blossom College Indiana—Take the

Clover Blossom, Colfax, Indiana.—Take the young man back, but before you do, tell him what you have heard, and have a perfect understanding with each other.

with each other.

College Chums, West Sunbury, Pa.—Country parties usually last until very late hours, but they should not continue beyond one o'clock, unless it is something out of the ordinary; and midnight is plenty late enough for most. (2) No kissing games. (3) Dances at private houses are permissible, and it is proper to go to public dances with a chaperone.

Stella, Altoona, Pa.—If you told him you loved him, that was the proper answer, no matter whether you said it gracefully or not. (2) Yes. (3). The lady does as she pleases about taking the man's arm. (4) You may go to his house if his mother or sisters are there.

Diamond, Orange Vale, Cal.—A girl of fifteen is

arm. (4) You may go to his house if his mother or sisters are there.

Diamond, Orange Vale, Cal.—A girl of fifteen is too young to have men's company, therefore your other questions are "Liswered in the negative.

Violet, Net Jork, N. Y.—Don't say anything about loving the young man until he tells you he loves you. (2) The love of a girl of nineteen is not as likely to be childish as that of a man of twenty-one. She is much older than he is. (3) I am not sure. (4) The only way to show your disapproval of a man swearing before you is to tell it to him, and request that he do not offend again. If he does, don't let him talk to you any more.

Blue Eyes, Horton's Summit, Va.—The member of Congress from your district. Address: Superintendent, Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md. (2) Call for the things you want in the order in which they appear on the bill of fare. (3) There is no rule about registering at a hotel. You simply walk up to the counter and tell the clerk you want a room. Ask him what the price will be. He will do the rest.

man, who will never marry, but comes to see you, just as you would any other friend, and don't think of loving him any more than you do all of the others you know. In the meantime he will come around, or you will find some one to take his place.

sweet Sixteen, Port Jervis, N. Y.—No. (2) Ordinarily, yes. (3) If you know the young man to be all right, you can accept his attentions, but you should by all means let your parents know that you have. (4) Most emphatically, yes.

Peach, Lake Crystal, Minn.—Your conundrums are too hard for me.

Primrose, Columbus, Mont.—Engagement ring on third finger of left hand. An opal is said to be unlucky. A solitaire diamond is the rule for an engagement ring. It need not be large.

M. E. B., Madison, Wis.—A photograph is often a Christmas present.

Christmas present.

Iantha, Bellevue, Kans.—Thirty is a very suitable age for eighteen. (2) The lady leads the way into her own church. (3) The opera is quite correct. (4) A man should not call oftener than once a week or two weeks unless he is "courting," and he should leave at 10.30, or earlier. No kissing. (5) Yes, a man should stop chewing tobacco to please his sweetheart as well as for a hundred other reasons.

reasons.

Black Eyes, Raleigh, N. C.—Don't marry the old widower whom you do not love. (2) Flirting is next of kin to lying, and is quite as unworthy of a man or a woman. (3) I think you are a frivolous and foolish girl who had better not marry for a long time yet, for as you now think, you will not be a good wife, and may be a very bad one.

Winifred, Scranton, Pa.—If you are quite sure of yourself, there can be no harm in visiting your friend, whatever gossips may say of you and her

Blue Eyes, Charlotteville, Va.—You are too young to be asking questions about beaus. Turn your attention to your studies for five years yet. Punch, Greensboro, N. C.—It is proper to shake hands when introduced. You may ask your escort into the house if it is not too late. The lady should speak first.

White Rose, Stonewall, N. C.—Don't use a tooth-pick at table. (2) There is no harm in dancing. Many of the churches do not object to it. (3) Six-teen is too young for beaus.

Omaha, Omaha, Neb.—I think I would not wear the long wedding veil. (2) You will have to settle the other matters between yourselves.

May, Eros, Ark.—Why do you wish to give him up if he is such an excellent man? You may go further and fare worse.

Little Ted, Amherst, Va.-Before marrying your cousin, it will be well for you to find out if it is not a penitentiary offence.

Twin Sisters, Moultrie, O.—Wait till he sends his address. (2) Yes. (3) Say 'thank you.' (4) Wait till he asks for it, unless you want him to have it. (5) No.

P. S., Paducah, Ky.—Being a Kentucky girl you ought to know the answers to the questions you ask me.

Three Girls, Burnside, Mich.—Don't dance with men you do not know. (2) Better keep your photographs. (3) Until they know each other very well. (4) An engaged girl may accept another escort than her fiance if he has no objection.

Brown Eyes, Pima, Ariz.—Tell the young man you do not wish him to come to your house so often as it provokes remark. (2) No. (3) Name the little girl Fairfax, or Phyllis, or Ruth, or Bruce, or some other name that can not have an "ie," added to it. (4) No. (5) Too much novel reading is bad, but a little is very good.

Louise. St. Paul, Minn.-Certainly not.

Louise. St. Paul, Minn.—Certainly not.
Housekeeper, Bristol, Conn.—I think if you had
a talk with the young man in a friendly way and
settled your difficulties, it would be pleasanter for
all concerned. Or you might write him a note to
the same purport. (2) If you find it pleasant at
the dances given by the Catholic young men, I see
no harm in going. If churches can't be friendly
there is nothing in religion. no harm in going. If churchere is nothing in religion.

Minerva, Cedar Rapids, Neb.—Evidently he has ot received your invitation. In any event don't

Mildred, Cross Timbers, Texas.—Treat the young | give him another thought until you hear from him. Mary, Altheimer, Ark.—A girl should have only one "beau," meaning by that her "best young man." She may accept the attention of a dozen or more in a general way. (2) The lady pays her own train fare unless she is the man's invited guest.

Violet, Pontitoc, Miss.—Don't doubt the young man. Settle your doubts by frankly teiling them to him and asking him to clear them up. There may always be times of doubt, but they can be cleared away by frankness.

cleared away by frankness.

Brown Eyed Beauty, Ironton, Mo.—Hypnotism is neither medicine nor electricity, and it is something that you should not tamper with. It is dangerous in the hands of inexperienced persons. (2) The pompadour style of hair came from Madame Pompadour of France. (3) Don't scrape your feet on the sidewalk. It is slovenly, and in some places is used as a sign to attract disagreeable attention.

Blue Bell, Redwood, Tenn.-Send your escort home if he shows signs of wanting to stay too long. (2) Thank him and say you will be very glad to go. (3) The man usually opens and closes the door. (4) In a strange church the man leads the way. (5) I have not space to give you anything about Japanese customs.

There, my dears, all of your questions are answered, except a few that have been answered many times, or were not worth the trouble, and I hope they will be of interest and profit to you. and to other people as well. By by. Cousin Marion.

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#### The People's Poet.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT



HE poems of Ella Wheeler Wilcox may not reach the highreach the high-est degree of literary and poetic perfec-tion, but they are strong in hu-man sympathy, and they appeal to the great mass of the common people. They are often of the kind that men cut out and tuck away in their vest pockets, and that children speak in school. Some

in school. Some of them have been set to music, and people like to sin g them. They appeal to the heart, and they often voice great truths. They are more widely copied than the poems of any other woman writer in America. It is doubtful if any poem of recent years written by an American poet has been more widely copied than Ella Wheeler Wilcox's poem entitled "Solitude," which begins with—
"Laugh, and the world laughs with you:

copied than Ella Wheeler Wilcox's poem entitled "Solitude," which begins with

"Laugh, and the world laughs with you;
Weep, and you weep alone,
For the sad old earth must borrow its mirth,
But has trouble enough of its own.
Sing, and the hills will answer;
Sigh, and it is lost on the air;
The echoes bound to a joyful sound,
But shrink from voicing care."

Ella Wheeler Wilcox came "out from the West." She was born in Johnstown, Wisconsin, about forty years ago, and all of the years of her childhood and young womanhood were spent in the West. She began to write at a very early age, and from the first her work was popular. The first poem for which she ever received payment appeared in one of the Leslie publications, and then the began to write for several eastern family periodicals. It was not until 1883 that she wrote "Solitude," a poem that brought her more prominently before the public than anything she had written up to that time. The poem was first published in the New York Sun, and its author was paid the munificent sum of five hundred dollars for it. The poem was suggested to Ella Wheeler while she was visiting a friend in Madison, Wisconsin. This friend had suffered a great bereavement, and it was while dressing for a ball that Ella Wheeler thought of how quickly one turns from sorrow to sunshine, and the poem was the result.

Another almost equally popular poem, containing but two stanzas, is the one entitled "Take Courage," It is the poem with which William J. Bryan concludes his book and it voices a truth that no one can deny.

"Let those who have failed to take courage,
Though the enemy seemed to have won,

"Let those who have failed to take courage,
Though the enemy seemed to have won,
Though his ranks are strong, if he be in the wrong,
The battle is not yet done;
For, sure as the morning follows
The darkest hour of the night,
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.
O man, bowed down with labor,
O woman, young yet old,
O heart, oppressed in the toiler's breast
And crushed by the power of gold;
Keep on with your weary battle
Against triumphant might.
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right."
Mrs. Wilcox's "Poems of Passion," publish-

Until it is settled right."

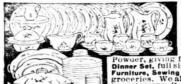
Mrs. Wilcox's "Poems of Passion," published about twenty years ago, created a good deal of discussion, but they are not the poems that made her reputation or that her friends care for most. One of her favorite poems is "My Creed." It is a creed to which all can subscribe and it would be well if we could all live the truths contained in its brief and simple lines which are as follows:

which are as follows:

"Who giveth love to all,
Pays kindness for unkindness, smiles for frowns,
And lends new courage to each fainting heart,
And strengthens hope and scatters joy abroad,
He, too, is a redeemer—son of God."

He, too, is a redeemer—son of God."

Ella Wheeler was married sixteen years ago to Robert M. Wilcox, a prosperous business man of Meriden, Connecticut, and her home since her marriage has been in New York excepting during the summer and fall months when she lives in a charming home of her own at Short Beach, Connecticut. She is a firm believer in the gospel of cheerfulness and one does not find morbid notes in her songs. She believes also in the still higher gospel of healthfulness, and nothing gives her greater pleasure than to know that she has sent forth a poem that has been helpful to some one. She has many letters received from those to whom her poems have been helpful by inspiring them with strength to fight the battle of life.



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In this issue you will find Mr. W. M. Ostrander's advertisement, which will surely interest you if you contemplate buying or selling a farm or other property.

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Legation of the United States of America, Sirs:

Seoul, Korea.

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(Signed) HORACE N. ALLEN, U. S. Minister.

Korea. which is a semi-independent kingdom in the Far East, was the bone of contention in the China-Japanese War; it is nominally under the control of the Emperor of Japan, but England and Russia have important interests and maintain Free Trading Ports; it is shout 15,000 miles away from the United States, and the climate is such that if a Piano will stand seven years of its extremes of heat and dampness, it will stand anything.

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HE New Moon occurs this month at about 42 minutes past 8 o'clock in the morning of the 8th day, Washington when the state of the sun's face will be colleged and it will not be visible in the United States. At the time of 10 the 8un's face will be colleged and it will not be visible in the United States. At the time of 10 the sun's face will be colleged and it will not be visible in the United States. At the time of 10 the heavenly bodies will be colleged to the horizon and he in the Ascending house of the figure. The eclipse falls in the 18th, Jupiter in the 9th, Venus near the meridian in the 10th, while Mercury is on the cusp of the 11th house in which are found the conjoined luminaries and Mars.

Happily for our country. Mercury ruler of the scheme and the benevolent planets are the highest elevated ones in the figure and continue the good promises for us as a nation. Mars so near the Sun and Moon detracts somewhat from the measure of according opposition to either measures or methods of the Chief Executive. There will be bitter debates and unpleasant criticism of the Administration in Congress, and Saturn in the 8th tends to show either friction in the Cabinet or some change in that official family.

A Total Eclipse of the Moon occurs at about 42 minutes of 1 o'clock in the afternoon of the 22nd of the month. This eclipse is not visible in the United Propagation of the Administration of the Europe Asia the service of the Congress of the Sun and Mercury, ruler of the scheme, each afflicted by the fiery Mars, he being close to the Sun and Mercury ruler of the scheme, each afflicted by the fiery Mars, he being close to the Sun and Mercury are the 9th cusp. The effects of both these eclipses will be principle of the scheme, each afflicted by the fiery Mars, he being close to the Sun and Mercury near the 9th cusp. The effects of both these eclipses will be principle of the scheme will be some unusual disturbance in the religious world either through marked changes among church authorities

CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR APRIL, 1902.

CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR APRIL, 1902.

APRIL 1—Tuesday. The morning hours are contentious and fractious and invite moderation of all hasty impulses in social, domestic and business affairs; the time promotes combustion and fires, and explosions as the month opens will be quite likely. After the early part of the day conditions improve rapidly. See that the noon and early afternoon hours are given the preference for all the major moves of the day; especially should literary enterprises be diligently pushed and mental labors will be remarkably successful and satisfactory. Crowd all commercial contracts, urge correspondence and adjustment of accounts; make written agreements, encourage educational matters, and begin mathematical and secientific labors of magnitude.

2—Wednesday. The morning gives baffling condi-

2—Wednesday. The morning gives baffling condi-tions such as arrests or hinders progress in matters of consequence, particularly if connected with buildings or lands. After ten in the morning let every energy be put forth for prosecution of business, especially such as con-cerns machinery, chemistry, or any of the manufactur-ing enterprises of life.

3—Thursday. This is one of the best days of the month for beginning of the less than the contraction.

certs macninery, chemistry, or any of the manufacturing enterprises of life.

3.—Thursday. This is one of the best days of the month for beginning affairs of magnitude and importance. Reculus advises his friends to improve the moments of this day to their fullest extent. It is especially recommended for the beginning of long journeys, milling operations, metal working, and the extensive manufacture, purchase or sale of machinery. If this be the anniversary of thy birthday then these suggestions apply with even greater force and thou mayst reckon with good assurance upon a season of unusual prosperity. Buy goods for trade, engage in new enterprises; deal with public officials, judges, counsellors, ecclesiastics and traders in wool and woolens. The day and time are particularly favorable for persons born about the 1st of February, 2nd of June, or 5th of October or December of past years, and such persons have in these passing weeks marked increase of friends, improved health and unexpected and more favorable business advantages and benefits, many making benevolent changes in business or removals.

4.—Friday. Continue thine efforts of yesterday with

4—Friday. Continue thine efforts of yesterday with unabated energy, giving preference, if any, to business pertaining to the elegant and decorative in life; make personal applications for favor from public officials and governing officers of large organizations or corporations.

5—Saturday. A day of no special promise though somewhat conducive to rashness, peevishness and excitability; especially to persons born about the \$1\text{h} of March, 11\text{th} of September or \$1\text{h} of October, of past years, Let all such keep strong check upon all impulses of an aggressive or contentious character just at this time or serious controversies may result.

6 Sunday. Specially conducive to mental eccentricities and indulgences in the imaginative and marvelous in literature; the evening is the best part of the day, particularly for study and reflection and mental efforts of

7—Monday. Use the forenoon of this day for moves of importance in connection with houses or lands or as to mining enterprises; execute wills, appoint trustees, engage with printers and urge all literary labors and general correspondence; buy goods for trade in the afternoon, when also make applications for financial advantages or favor from persons of wealth or prominence in banking circles.

S-Tuesday. Partial Eclipse of the Sun. Keep thy tongue under restraint during the better part of this day, nor be rash in decision in be siness engagements; quartels are easily provoked and violence will abound. It is

no time to begin any important undertaking. Seek favor from persons noted for eccentricity of dress or habits

9-Wednesday. Let the musician and artist vigorously improve this day; choose the time for decorating buildings and dealing in decorative wares of all kinds; have no business transactions with money lenders or persons connected with patents.

10—Thursday. Shun correspondence in the opening hours of this day when correspondence relating to money matters is likely to prove unfortunate and annoying; use the afternoon for business connected with real estate or in reference to the property of deceased persons.

11-Friday. Begin the day early and urge all undertakings of a scientific, literary or artistic nature and press all general business; the afternoon is less to be depended upon for any of the polite avocations or musical or dramatical engagements.

or dramatical engagements.

12—Saturday. A very excellent day; use the forenoon for replenishing thy stock in trade and for dealing with bankers, chemists, manufacturers, carpenters,
machinists, surgeons, dentists and engineers, also for
seeking promotion in the public service.

13—Sunday. A day in which the musical portion of
religious worship will be unusually happy and effective;
conditions contribute special enjoyment of the elegant in
literature and art and render courtesies between the
sexes particularly agreeable.

literature and art and render courtesies between the sexes particularly agreeable.

14—Monday. The forenoon is the best part of this day and should be given preference for matters of most consequence; as the day advances, however, a malevolent train of influences will prevail when no important beginning should be made; give thy landlord a wide berth nor have anything to do with real estate matters or with persons in the dirty or laborious avocations; the late hours are particularly evil and much violence and crime are induced, when also fires are to be carefully guarded against; make no application for favor or advantage from persons in authority during this day; let all persons have care against exposing themselves to danger in wells, mines, or other underground places, especially if born about the 17th of January, 15th of April, 18th of July, or 17th of October, of past years. Such persons should look carefully to their affairs, lest by their own recklessness or haste they invite litigation and experience misfortune and loss, or in some cases suffer violent hurts or diseases; such persons are now generally excitable, contentious and quarrelsome; they are admonished that patience and discretion would prove profitable allies in the present juncture of their affairs.

15—Tuesday. Do not be in haste to begin thy duties on this day as baffling and disappointing conditions thwart success; the middle hours are the best ones and should be employed in preference to other parts of the day for the principal moves in life.

16-Wednesday. Push correspondence in the early morning hours, but keep a sharp watch over the finances in the middle hours when losses of money or valuables are quite probable; beware of signing any promise to pay or of binding thyself as surety for another.

17—Thursday. Personal applications for favor from public authorities are more likely to succeed on this day than usual and the day is excellent as well for all the honorable undertakings of life, especially those concerned with great manufacturing enterprises.

cerned with great manufacturing enterprises.

18—Friday. This day should be avoided for wooing or wedding, for conditions are decidedly treacherous and evil in this respect; many very strange and ill-assorted marriages are effected at this time, and disappointment, poverty and unhappiness will fall to the lot of the greater number who now assume the matrimonial voke; ladies should not allow any alluring prospect of riches to influence them at this time to make any engagement of the above nature. This is especially true of ladies claiming this as their birthday or if born about the middle of January, July, or October, of past years.

19—Saturday. The morning hours are the poorest

19—Saturday. The morning hours are the poorest but after nine in the forenoon matters concerned with building, excavating and construction should be vigorously pushed, when also dealings should be had with agriculturalists, mining concerns, plumbers, ship-builders and all classes of men engaged in the dirty and laborious avocations.

20-Sunday. One of the promising Sabbaths of the spring months, particularly conducive to the success of religious efforts and contributing physical vitality and buoyancy of spirit. Church matters are particularly favored

21—Monday. Arise betimes and dilligently urge thy several pursuits during the first two-thirds of this day, when conditions especially favor all dealings with persons of wealth and distinction, also all transactions with banks and monied institutions; use the afternoon for dealing with public men and officers of large corporations; mental labors in the night hours will be very laborious and generally unsatisfactory; indeed, the coming twenty-four hours have little to offer of a satisfactory character; some bad burglary and violence is probable during the night hours when fres prove fierce and destructive.

22—Tuesday. Total Eclipse of the Moon. Avoid con-

tructive.

22—Tuesday. Total Eclipse of the Moon. Avoid contention and do nothing hastily at this time; some bad fires and accidents now occur. Treachery and deceit are abroad, especially in the commercial and mercantile world, and REGULUS cautions close scrutiny of signatures to commercial paper and against a too ready belief in representations; both tongue and pen are tempted to exaggeration and unreliable utterances; thieves and forgers are active and the criminal classes are here excited to fresh deeds of violence and cruelty. Persons born as indicated in the paragraph for the 14th instant are again admonished to have care in all their affairs.

23—Wednesday. Urge general business during the

23-Wednesday. Urge general business during the forenoon but look out for the pennies during the afternoon when extravagance is incited and unsatisfactory purchases are induced; the evening is fine for social engagements, or musical or dramatical entertainments.

gagements, or musical or dramatical entertainments.

24—Thursday. Take this day for all minor dealings with the laboring classes and transacting business with plumbers, tinners, gardeners and builders; let persons born about the 20th of January, April, July or October of past years, if compelled to be employed in underground places or about chemicals and machinery, have particular care in these last days of April for avoidance of harm from fire, accident or explosion.

from fire, accident or explosion.

25—Friday. The early part of the day is the best, though on the whole the day is but an indifferent one; some unusual mental and nervous unrest among mankind will be noted at these times by close observers and the classes engaged in great literary works will be observed to be suffering unusual misfortunes and some persons noted in literary circles are likely to succumb under prevailing adverse conditions.

26—Saturday. Use the early morning hours for minor purchases of goods for trade, though articles of dress or decoration are best left unbought; do not court or marry on this day, particularly if acquaintance of parties is short. Better wait a while.

27—Sunday. The afternoon is best; the mind will be remarkably active and pulpit utterances full of vigor and zeal; mental efforts in the evening will be effective and literary productions satisfactory.

28—Monday. Rise early and push all literary work and general correspondence with energy; seek favor at the hands of thine employer and crowd all honorable un-

the hands of thine employer and crowd all honorable un-

dertakings.

29—Tuesday. Give preference to the forenoon for pursuit of the elegant occupations, dealings in fancy goods, jewelry and all articles that please and gratify mankind; have no dealings in houses or lands in the afternoon which is less promising of good than the early

hours.

30-Wednesday. The month closes with a very excitable and unfortunate day; keep out of contentions, engage no servants, do not travel needlessly, and be sure to "make haste slowly" in thy respective avocations; beware of giving offence to thine employer.

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open book; he will tell you your past as wen as your future.

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ATS constructed entirely of tissue paper sounds unpracticable, but as a matter of fact they can be made in such a way as to stand the wear and tear of climate much better than those made of chiffon and tulle, which are worn now-

which are worn nowadays on even the most ordinary occasions.
The idea originated in the manual department
of the public schools, where the girls are taught
to braid tissue paper and to sew it together
forming hats of various sizes and shapes. Out
of this grew the fashion of making the paper
hats form a part of the outfit of the children of
the family, and this practical use of that which
at first was only a plaything, became a really
useful thing, and the fad grew, as such fads
will grow, until few girls there are who do not
possess at least one of these dainty creations.
And it is not only confined to the children and
girls, for the young lady sister does not scorn

possess at least one of these dainty creations. And it is not only confined to the children and girls, for the young lady sister does not scorn to wear them also.

These hats are built in exact imitation of the fashionable hats of the season. The tissue paper braided forms a very good imitation of the popular fancy braids, and if colors are harmoniously combined, a very pleasing effect is obtained. One distinct advantage in having these hats is that the cost is so slight that one may have a hat to wear with every suit, and it will be a great satisfaction to know that your hat cost only a few cents instead of several dollars. Tissue paper can be purchased for a penny a sheet, and from ten to twenty sheets are required for the hat according to the style.

ing to the style.
The milliners complain that it is



TAM O'SHANTER.

a great detriment to their trade. A down town milliner said to me the other day: "You would be surprised to know how much the paper hats are injuring my spring trade, especially in children and misses' hats;" and she added: "I am sure we will find the same difficulty all through the summer and even into the fall. Our hats are being copied by all the enterprising young people, and I cannot but admire the skill with which it is done. There is a copy of one of my spring hats now; just look at it and I will show you the original after she leaves the store." I looked and sure enough there was a dainty-looking lady wearing a hat in perfect imitation of one of Madame Armstrong's pattern hats. "She was in here the other day and examined this pattern hat," said Madam, "as I supposed with a view of buying it, but it seems that I was mistaken." It was really laughable to have such a timely illustration.

Our initial shows a picture of this selfsame hat. It is of black and dull red (old red) paper, two strands of black and one of red being braided for the foundation. The crown is high and very small, the brim very wide in front, with scarcely no brim at the back. Around the crossed ends prinned with a fancy pin. Directly in front is a large bow of red, and black a great detriment to their trade. A down town milliner said to me the other day: "You would



a large bow of red and black deftly combined. The whole is so

as the milliner said, so "chic".

Another hat is of statement of said, so "chic". as the milliner said, so "chie".

Another hat is of white tissue paper. It has a Tam O'Shanter crown, with a wide, full brim. The fullness of the brim is made by a constant widening of the crown. No wire is used. The only trimming is a band of turquoise blue paper drawn tightly around the crown, and a very large bow of the same shade directly in front.

One hat is made of dark brown paper. It has a broad flat crown, with a wide, drooping brim. Around the crown is a band of pale yellow paper. On the left side is a full blown yellow rose, and drooping carelessly on the brim, slightly lower, is a half open bud of a darker shade.

slightly lower, is a half open bud of a darker shade.

A dainty confection is shown in the Violet hat, and a proud young miss of fifteen is the artist who constructed it. It is made entirely in the violet shades, and the little blonde is a picture for an artist in it.

The hat is of the palest violet. It has a low crown and a wide brim after the "shed-roof" style. The crown runs into the broad, drooping brim. Carelessly strewn on it are large bunches of violets—also of paper—some of lighter and some of darker shades.

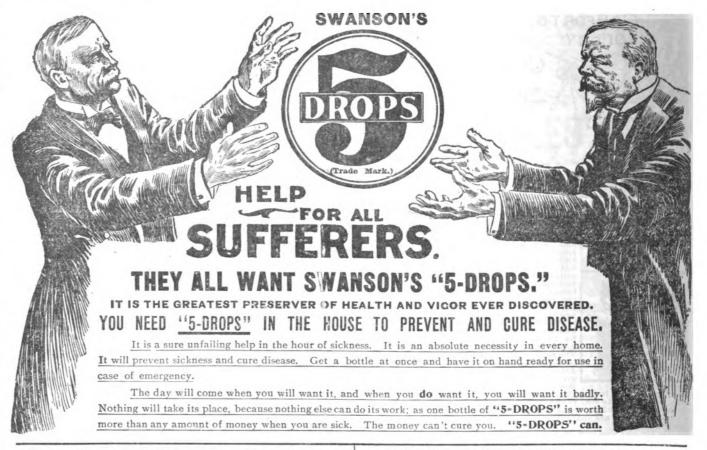
The last hat shown is perhaps the most graceful of any of the group. It is of light tan, has a very small, low crown, and a wide half drooping brim. Around the crown is drawn tightly a band of dark pink, and a large bow of the same shade is placed directly in front. On the brim across the front are carelessly arranged four large Amer-

four large American Beauty roses. At the left



roses. At the left side, near the back are two more roses. Among the roses green leaves are scattered. The stems are of paper twisted tight, no wire being used. This hat has a bandeau of pink and tan, so as to set the hat forward.

It is possible to copy any bat, but requires a certain amount of milliners' skill, or at least artistic taste. Many of the young ladies, taking the cue from "little sister," are constructing distracting affairs from this simple mate-



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For Coughs and Colds, use "5-DROPS." By taking it at bedtime and in the morning before breakfast it will relieve and cure the most severe cough. It will break up a cold quicker than any other medicine, thereby preventing Bronchitis, Pneumonia, etc., which are the result of a cold not properly treated with the right remedy.

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# SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO., 160 LAKE STREET, CHICAGO.

rial. One displayed recently by a young lady was an exact imitation of a fifteen dollar hat shown in an up-town milliner's window, "And just think" she said proudly, "it only cost twenty-five cents."

We shall illustrate and describe some suggestions for new shirt waists next month.

without for new shirt waists next month.

tions for new shirt waists, next month.

#### To All Comfort Juveniles, Greeting.

#### PRIZES! PRIZES!! PRIZES!!

COMFORT believes that among its thousands of juvenile readers are many who have the gift of writing, and in order to develop this talent, not only for COMFORT's benefit but for the benefit of the component of t efit of those possessing the gift, we propose a plan herewith in which all who will may take a hand and receive a share if his merit is equal

Therefore we offer as the first subject for all Therefore we offer as the first suggest to the Comport readers, not over twenty-one years of age, "George Washington," and we want essays on this best known of Americans, of from the hundred to two hundred words. That is, says on this best known of Americans, of from one hundred to two hundred words. That is, an essay may not be less than one hundred nor more than two hundred words in length, and each essay is to be the best the writer can produce of his own writing. The merit of the essay will depend, and be judged upon its originality, its correct English, its correct spelling, its correct punctuation, its correct capitalization and its clearness of language and proper presentation of the subject. Each of these points will count so many, so that in this way the youngest and least experienced writer may have an equal chance with the older writers, who are not so painstaking as their younger competitors. Boys and girls are to be considered equally.

In order to make it an inducement for our juveniles to enter the contest a prize of \$2 will

piveniles to enter the contest a prize of \$2 will be offered for the best essay; \$1 for the second best; 50 cents for the third, and a yearly subscription to COMFORT for the fourth. As there are COMFORT readers in every state and territory in the Union and in British America, the writers from each state territory and country writers from each state, territory and country will constitute a class and the writers in those classes will only have their own class to con-

share in the benefits.

The winning essays, only, will be printed and announcements of winners will be made in the newspapers nearest the postoffices at which winners receive their COMFORTS, and prizes will be deposited with the postmasters at those of-

the deposited with the postmaters.

These essays are to be in prose, but if any writer thinks he or she can present the subject better in poetry, he or she may do so, provided the poem is not over a dozen lines in length.

Address all communications to Essay Editor,

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.
Take Notice: New subjects will be presented each month, and all essays must be sent in before the twenty-fifth of the month. Otherwise they will not be considered

#### Odd Things Worth Knowing.

The Old Testament contains five thousand six hundred and forty-two different words.

Plaster of Paris is so called from having been obtained in the beginning from Montmarte, near Paris, France.

A milliner was originally a man, and was so called probably from Milan, a city in Italy, whence he imported female finery. Wheat came originally from the central land of Thibet, in Asia, where its representative yet exists as grass with small mealy seeds.

said to have invented it fifty years earlier.

COUPON

Cut this out and so ith your name and ad Swanson Rheumatic

It is erroneously believed that the word pickle is derived from the name of William Benkels of Bierfleet, Holland, the inventor of pickled herrings. The real origin is the Dutch word pekel, meaning brine.

Pianofortes were invented by Schroeder of Dresden in 1717. Square pianos were first made in Saxony in 1760. The first record of the use of one in England was in 1767. They were probably in use in America very soon after that.

Water has one property in which it differs from all other known substances—it expands under the influence of either heat or cold. It is at its greatest density at 40 degrees, and from this expands into steam at 212 and into ice at 32 degrees.

Isinglass is a corrupted form of the German name of the stung, hausenblas. It is made from the bladder of the sturgeon. It probably received its English name from some improper association with the word "icing," and the French "glace, ice."

Italics are letters formed after the Roman model, but sloping towards the right, used to emphasize words or sentences. They were first used about A. D. 1500 by Manutius, a Venetian printer, who dedicated them to the Italian states; hence the name.

Punch, the name of the mixed drink so frequently used at all kinds of gatherings, was first made by the English, or introduced by them, and it is from the Hindustanee word paunch, meaning five, there being five ingredients in the mixture as first known.

The peculiar and agreeable odor of Russia leather is derived from the birch bark used in tanning it. This odor repels moths and other insects, and makes it valuable for book-binding, as a few books bound in Russia leather in a library will protect the remainder from insect attacks.

The Chinese call a book "Shoo" and write it with two characters, one of which means "pencil" and the other "speak." A speaking pencil, so to speak.

Satin, both name and fabric, is of Chinese origin.
The nearest approach which English type will enable us to make the Chinese pronunciation is sz-tun.

A fathom was originally the space between the tips of the middle fingers of a man's two hands, when the arms were extended horizontally. It is now legally fixed at six feet.

The word "hank" or "hanks," as applied to skeins of thread or yarn, is derived from the name of a Brabant manufacturer who came to England on the invitation of Edward III, in 1391.

It is generally believed that the first telescope was made by Zachary Janssen, a spectacle maker at Middleburg, England in 1590, though Bacon is







PRIZE WINNERS FOR APRIL Holman F. Day, First Prize, George H. Smith, Second Prize. Marion Penn Lane, Third Prize.

Cupid and Cap. Gregg.

Love's Wandering Astray, being Episode Number Three.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY

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SYNOPSIS.

(Synopsis. Cap. Skote Gregg of Hobb's Harbor, Me, master of the coaster Susan P. Gregg, meets a fascinating widow while visiting his cousin in Newport, R. I. He shows such attentions to her that his cousin's wife threatens to inform her old friend, Sophy Maxwell in Hobb's Harbor, to whom Cap. Gregg has been engaged for thirty years. The captain, on his nex 'isit to Newport, sends his man of all work of the sch ner to carry a message to the widow. The young man, who is offended because the captain is betraying Sophy Maxwell, returns with the alarming message that the widow is married again and that her husband is in full chase. The Susan is hustled out of Newport Harbor and all sail is made for the coast of Maine. On the way, after the captain asserts over and over that he is glad that he has found out in time what a deceiver the widow is, Seth, the crew, confesses that he "only made believe" go to the widow's house. He imagined from what the captain was saying that he was cured of his infatuation. But Gregg chases the boy up the mast and he is still clinging in the rigging when the captain works the schooner single handed into Hobb's Harbor).



HE arrival of the Susan P. Gregg was an event at Hobb's Harbor, because nearly every one in village expected some sort of package by her. Cap. Gregg always sailed for Ne.v. York loaded with commissions.

She had been sighted off Cow Nubble and the populace was down to the wharf in numbers.

"That air Seth is actin' blame queer aboard the Susan," commented Uncle Jote Wall, peering

under his hand. "He's squatting up there in the top and he hain't turnin' his head to help handle ship."

This attitude of Seth became more noticeable as the Susan was brought to her moorings. He remained motionless. Occasionally there was a bit of a dialogue between him and the skipper. The words were inaudible, but all noticed that at the close of the discourse Cap. Gregg always shook his fist at the fellow aloft.

When the Susan had sogged in near enough to be hailed, Uncle Jote Wall quavered out over the waters, "Hey, Cap'n of the Susan Gregg, ahoy! What ye got in your riggin'? Mother Carey's chicken?"

"Naw, it's a henhawk," bawled back the skipper. "Anybody got a gun?"

But the crowd on the wharf thought it was all a joke and laughed. It looked more serious when, after making all tidy as best he could, the skipper came ashore in the only boat and left Seth still clinging aloft. They could hear what he yelled back to the culprit this time.

"You mis'able finback shark!" shouted Gregg, again shaking his fist. "Git ashore as best ye can and when ye do git ashore remember I'm lookin' for ye. There's one lickin' due ye now. If ye let on what it's about I'll kill ye. Now that's fair warnin'."

"What's all the touse between you and Seth about," questioned Uncle Jote Wall while Capt. Stote was shaking hands on the wharf.

"It's private business 'twixt him and me,' returned Skote shortly. 'Tain't anything for just their secret and no one's else-the whole any of ye to be askin' questions about, not unless ye want to rile me-and ye know what I am when I'm riled."

There had been occasions in the village when Capt. Skote Gregg had been "riled" and his neighbors remembered them. They forebore therefore to ask questions, that is, of Cap. Gregg, but at last, when the skipper had trudged away up the hill to his house, a man brought the trembling Seth ashore in a dory, the questions were fired at him broadside. But Seth backed away from the throng on the wharf, every now and then throwing an apprehensive eye over his shoulder towards the skipper's house as though he expected that worthy and wrathy individual to come bolting down the hill like a Bengal tiger.

"Go right away from me," cried Seth, flapping his hands in protest. "I'm in all the trouble I want to be without any more help. I hain't goin' to say a word to no one. 'Tain't no one's bus'ness."

"We'll stand behind ye," said Chep Grant, "if the skipper's tryin to bulldoze ye. We

won't let him hurt ye ' "That's all right to neke talk that was " the sole of my foot."

whined Seth. "But none of ye won't git 'round till after the hurtin' 's all over and then ye'll take it out in puttin' flowers on my coffin and sayin' how too bad it was. No, Itell ye! Don't his boots. ask me no more questions and I won't tell ye no more lies."

He escaped and ran away to his home. He was no more communicative to his own relatives. It can be easily understood how the mysteri-

ous falling out between Gregg and Seth became the absorbing topic of the village. And the eternal skirmish drill between the skipper and his "crew" also excited the populace. Whenever the captain walked about his place he kept his eye out for the recreant crew. Seth never went sharply around a corner. He always took a wide swing and reconnoitered. Once or twice the skipper had got near enough to warrant a chase. But Seth escaped each time.

The sporting instincts of some of the younger men of the village were aroused. Bets were made as to whether the skipper would catch Seth. The advent of either on the street was a call for all the loafers to post themselves advantareously to see whatever might happen.

Finally, so acute did the curicsity of the village become that duress was attempted on Seth. He was cornered one night in the grocery store by some of the lobster fishermen and was informed that unless he gave up the secret there and then one of them would go fetch the skipper and the others would hold him. Seth, in the store until the doughty mariner arrived.

"Go 'long, go and git me murdered if ye want to," cried Seth, almost blubbering. "I've been reckoning ye would. Ye are allus mixin' into things that hain't your bus'ness round this dog-goned place. Go ahead and after I'm dead you'll be sorry."

Seth's distress was so acute that it was decided after conference to allow him to go.

But it is sad to relate that though the young man dauntlessly faced this strenuous ordeal he was in danger of being ruined by petty circumstances as insinuating as little serpents. Sometimes the mighty rock that the blast cannot split may be divided by water poured on wooden wedges. It was the Sims girl that proved the undoing of this village Samson of secrecy. She kept at him early and late to tell her why the skipper had become so angered at him. Behind the Sims girl the skipper's sister was standing, poking her on. The skipper's sister couldn't get even a grunt out of the skipper himself.

If Seth had but known, the skipper was now anxious to meet him and talk the thing over amicably and arrange for a permanent truce. But Seth was not to be come at. He flew even from the captain's ingratiating beckonings at a distance, ever suspecting guile.

Gregg feared just the danger that was now encompassing Seth—the everlasting coaxing and nagging of an inquisitive woman. At last the Sims girls ceased taunting him of pusillanimity and indicated that he didn't love her and if he didn't he might go his way. Seth valiantly resisted these assaults. Then the Sims girl said she had heard it on good authority that Seth had been caught stealing from the cargo. She allowed that if he didn't clear his character it was "good-bye Joe" between them. One night when Seth persisted in keeping his secret even in the face of this ultimatum the Sims girl turned him out of the house, threw at him in a bunch all the varied assortment of taunts and allegations she had been rehearsing and shut the door on him. She declared that it was forever.

Seth sat on the corner of the banking for half an hour and blubbered. His siege had been a nerve-racking one. His tears were excusable. The Sims girl sat close to the parlor window and listened. Just as she was about to call him back and tell him that she loved him and wouldn't tease him any more, Seth's resolution gave a last despairing flop and died. He went along and tapped on the door.

"Let me in," he called, "and I'll tell ye for I s'pose I've got to." By this narrow margin was he defeated. But it is ever thus in the world's battles.

Under pledge of secrecy—that it should be story was told to the Sims girl. Then she hurried Seth away so that she could go over and dump the whole horrible, awful, disgraceful, shameful tale in the ears of the skipper's spinister sister, July Ann. What! Cap. Skote Gregg break the engagement to Sophy Maxwell, the best woman Hobb's Harbor ever had? The Sims girl fully realized what a bomb-shell she was carrying.

The Sims girl was nearly out of breath when she arrived in July Ann's kitchen but she was able to gasp out the skeleton of the affair, to be filled in later. It was fortunate for July Ann that the thing was broken to her in this manner by degrees, otherwise she certainly must have died of strangulation. She gripped her throat and popped her eyeballs. By turns she wept for the woes of the betrayed Sophy and raged over the skipper's deception of herself.

"Wasting his time and substance on a Jezebel, and me ownin' ha'f that schooner," she gritted. "And then when he brings her here to the old home I shall have to go forth like the dove from the ark with no place for

"If you lit some one would up and tell you to come off your perch, birdie," mumbled the hired man who sat behind the stove tallowing

"What's that ye're havin' over?" screamed July Ann, detecting satire.

"I only said, mum," replied the hired man, raising his voice, "that it wa'n't in no ways right for a man that 'tended church." He shouted the last word. July Ann glared at him suspiciously for a moment and continued.

"I'm goin' right now to tell the elder and then I shall call 'round to Sophy's house and show her what a villun she has been nussin' in her bosom."

The hired man chuckled but stooped and made believe talk to the cat. July Ann snapped her hood on her head and tied the strings with trembling fingers, talking all the time-now with tears, now with fire flashing from her eyes. As she left the kitchen she whirled and shook her fist at the "copied picture" of the skipper gazing blandly on the scene from the sitting room beyond.

"And if ever a man in this world will wish that his cake was dough and the devil had it, that man will be you, Skote Gregg, when ye git back home tomorrer." Then she slammed the door and went rasping down the pebbly path, the Sims girl gasping along behind.

"Looks kind o' like 's if Cap's good angel don't bring him some kind of warnin' he's li'ble to think he's made a mistake and dropped into a camp of Tuscaroory Injuns when he gits home," pon lered the hired man. "Now let's see! Shall I warn him? If I do July Ann will cook my goose. If I don't he's goin' to have his harselet curled. Men folks ought to stand by men folks, I s'pose, but I jest reckin that I hain't called on to grab into this game. It's too casartin. If I only knowed who was comin' out on top-but I don't."

The hi - 1 man put the cat in the woodshed and went to bed. He decided that the affair was in the hands of Providence and that he wouldn't interfere.

Cap. Gregg had been up country for a few days buying pressed hay to make another car-go to New York. He was expected home on the morrow. And he came. Hours before his arrival every person in the village of Hobb's Harbor understood the situation of affairs and knew that Cap. Skote was coming back to fall into an ar suscade. Vantage points from which the anair could be witnessed were in as great a demand as seats along the route of the coronation procession of King Edward.

Now Cap. Gregg had not studied the whirls of weather-breeding clouds, the menace of skies, the signs of tempest all his life in vain. And his eye by instinct was peeled for land squalls as well. When he approached Hobb's Harbor the unwonted stir among the populace attracted his keen attention. Despite the frantic protests of July Ann the sight-seers had persisted in crowding up around the house until the premises looked as though an auction were in progress.

At the turn of the lane leading to his home Cap. Gregg reined up his fuzzy white horse and cocked his eye up to a boy who had posted himself in the crotch of a leaning willow

"What is the' goin' on up to my place, bub?" he asked. "Hain't no trouble, is the'?"

"Not yit," returned the boy briefly, shifting his chew of gum.

The skipper gazed at the youngster awhile, then looked toward the house with his lids drooping half down over his eyes in a calculat-

ing stare. "I hain't lived man and boy in this place for goin' on fifty-five year without knowin' some of the ways of the folks here," he soliloquized. "It's out-that's jest what's the trouble, and they're up to see the finish. Here's where I shorten sail and ratch up, with an eye to breakers over the lee."

He drove along slowly. His suspicions were deepened by the fact that the persons who had assembled were pretending not to notice his arrival. But he knew that every eye was watching him and his pride wouldn't allow him to halt. He drove into the yard and swung his legs out over the wheel.

"If this is a public reception," he bawled sarcastically to some men standing in his barn door, "why don't the band strike up? I'm here!"

"From what I hear inside I guess the band's gittin' ready to strike," drawled one of the men. "But I shouldn't say it was Susy's band. It sounds more like a band of loocivees with turpentine sprinkled on 'em."

Then the skipper heard the well known tones of July Ann's voice screaming maledictions.

"I tell you I will-I will," she cried. "Don't ye try to stop me. I will have his heart for mincemeat-I will."

The next instant from the crater of the kitchen door the valcano erupted. Ahead came July Ann, wrestling with Aunt 'Liza Shaw for the tongs, with which it appears July Ann was vowing to commit murder. Behind came Sophy Maxwell, her face expressing sorrow rather than anger. In the "also ran" crowd were half the women of Hobb's Harbor. Popping from July Ann's mouth were disjointed sentences about "widow-painted Jezebel-woman of Babylon."

Then Cap. Gregg understood full well that it was all out. He was never accounted a coward BIGGER BOX SAME PRICE THE MODERN STOVE POLISH Brilliant, Clean, Easily Applied. Absolutely Odorless

> LIQUID-BETTER YET! FIRE PROOF!

by men. In fact, his reputation ran the other way. But above all Cap. Gregg, like a masteri. general, knew when to retreat. He knew what July Ann was when she was well started. Furthermore, there would be neither credit nor profit in a pitched battle with his sister there before the eyes of the assembled villagers.

July Ann was within striking distance. He uttered one hoarse shout of protest, then he dodged under the belly of the white horse, staggered along a few feet to recover his balance and started on the dead run down the street. July Ann screaming with rage followed and all the people chased behind her. The were simply following to be in at the death spectators, but a stranger looking on would have concluded that Skipper Gregg was being chased from town by a wild mob. He looked behind once and his fears suggested that the whole village was raised against him because he had been unfaithful to Sophy Maxwell.

"This is what comes of livin' under the nose of people," he gasped as he ran. "I've got to make that schooner ahead of 'em-and I'll kill the man that tries to stop me." He shouted this threat for a group of men had assembled at the foot of the lane.

The intensely interesting solution of this fascinating story can only be solved by at once sending your subscription to COMFORT, August ta, Maine. Next month we have another damatic story to announce, and by subscribing a renewing your subscription now either for six or twelve months, you can keep in close touch with all of the good things being added to COMFORT from month to month.

Don't fail to at least take advantage of tispecial six months' coupon offer on page 12, all old subscriptions are now promptly removed on expiration.

[EDITOR'S NOTE-Episode No. 4 in the May "COMFORT" will relate how Cap. Skote Greg won unique distinction as the only "pirate" tha ever hailed from Hobb's Harbor.]

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#### The Great Deal.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY GEORGE H. SMITH.

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THE table before three men who for two hours had been shut into the private office of Goald & Stauchs, brokers, Wall street, New York, a neat walnut box stood open. One of them snapped the lock, dropped the box into a leather case that looked as if it might contain a kodak, took the box by the strap and his hat from the table, and started for the

door. Mr. Goald looked inquiringly across the table at his partner. The latter held up one hand with the fingers and thumb widely separated.

"We'll make it five hundred thousand, if you succeed," said Mr. Goald, aloud, speaking to the back of the man who was leaving the room. The man turned around at the door.

"Now you're talking business," he said. "Make out the papers," he added, as he came back to the table.

Some of the city papers, two days later, in printing the lists of steamer passangers in-cluded in the annual migration of the season printing the lists of steamer passangers included in the annual migration of the season to Europe, commented on the coincidence that three men who in place of their real names may be called Mr. Smith, Mr. Jones and Mr. Brown, were all passengers on one steamer, and that the three probably represented more money than any other three men who could be brought together in America. One of the papers even figured up the number of hundred millions worth of stocks and bonds which they owned or controlled, while another paper gave a description of the palatial accommodations which they had engaged on board the steamer for themselves, their families and servants.

"Hello, Jones!" said Mr. Smith, as the man he addressed came hurrying on board the steamer at almost the last second. "I thought you were going to be left."

"I thought so, too," said Mr. Jones, stopping to take breath and light a cigar. "My valet was taken violently ill not more than an hour ago, and went to the hospital. I didn't know anything about it until he sent a new man to take his place—his cousin, he said. It made us late. I only hope the fellow can shave me comfortably. He looks decent enough," following with his eyes as he spoke, the smoothshaven man who had come on board behind him and who was now disappearing down a passageway with his hands full of luggage.

shaven man who had come on board behind him and who was now disappearing down a passageway with his hands full of luggage.

For four days the Keramic plowed across the Atlantic ocean toward Europe, and in the evening of each one of these days the three money kings gathered in the private cabin of Mr. Jones' magnificent suite of rooms, and talked business. The host's new valet, who had proved to be a first-class man, his master said, waited on the three men when anything was business. The host's new valet, who had proved to be a first-class man, his master said, waited on the three men when anything was wanted, and brought cigars, seltzer, matches, writing paper, whatever they might call for. When not engaged in this way the man retired from the room, but retired, if the men in the cabin had only known it, into a stateroom from behind the curtains of which he could hear and did hear every word of their conversation.

About eleven o'clock of the fourth evening, Mr. Jones gathered up a few small sheets of paper from the table, covered with memoranda in pencil, and handing copies to each of the other two men, kept one himself.

"It's going to be a big thing," he said, as he put his own copy into a leather letter case and returned the case to his pocket.

"The biggest thing yet," added Mr. Brown, lighting a cigar as he rose to go.

"Well, good night."

An hour later a man with a black box under his arm crept silently along the deck towards the stern of the boat, carefully steering his course so as to avoid detection by the men on watch.

Arrived at the extreme stern he looked about him. A part of the superstructure of the deck hid him entirely from the sight of any one out at that late hour.

The night was calm and beautiful. The mass of rushing, churning water which the powerful screws beneath him left in the steamer's path

COMME

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of rushing, churning water which the powerful screws beneath him left in the steamer's path shone with a weird, phosphorescent light. Far down in the west behind them, a slim moon

was sinking into the ocean.

The man who had crept along the deck in the shadows paid little heed to the beauty of the shadows paid little heed to the blank how here. that he had brought with him on the deck, he took from it another box of polished wood, and opening this balanced it on the steamer's rail. Even in that dim light the gleam of shin-

rail. Even in that dim light the gleam of shining metal was visible.

I Grasping the box with his left arm to steady it upon the railing, the man began to manipulate the apparatus in it with his right hand.

So intent was he on what he was doing that he did not hear steps behind him on the deck, and it was not until the watch, within six feet of him sang out, "What's going on here?" that he rnew that he was not alone.

In the same instant the box on the rail, with its shining metals, slipped from beneath his arm into the boiling water behind the boat.

"Just trying to get a night exposure of this steamer's wake," he answered calmly, turning to face the watchman, now standing beside him. "You startled me so you made me drop my camera overboard. You ought to be more "careful."

"The hell I had," retorted the sailor. you know that nobody is allowed on this part of the deck at this time of night? You get below Here, take your box with you," kicking the leather case along the deck after the retreat-

ing man.

"I teckon I ought to pull him in to the mate,"

the sailor grumbled to himself, as the man

went out of sight, "and I would if he wan't a

son of cabin boy to that rich old cuss what's so

free with his money. I guess I'll let him go."

Mr. Ambrose Stauchs, of the firm of Goald & Stauchs, had a summer home on the extreme eastern end of Long Island. The house had not yet been opened for the season when its

not yet been opened for the season when its owner one day got off the train at the nearest railroad station.

"Yes," he said to the station agent, who greeted him cordially. "My friend here and I came up early this year, just to get away from the city for a few days. No, the folks are not coming yet. We're just going to put ourselves up.

up.
"And, oh, yes! I say, Wise," coming back on, yes: I say, wise," coming back to speak close to the station master's ear, "I just as lief you wouldn't say anything to anybody about my being here."
"Sure, Mr. Stauchs, I won't, then," was the

reply.

It was the day after the Keramic sailed, that It was the day after the Keramic sailed, that the two men took up their quarters in the otherwise unoccupied summer residence. From that time on, so soon as the apparatus could be put in place, one or the other of the men watched day and night in a darkened room into which had been brought a wire from the flag staff on the observatory of the house. Connected with the wire in the darkened room was a tiny mirror hung by a thread so that its slightest movement would send a ray of light, reflected from it, dancing over a sheet of paper crossed with lines as intricate as those on a Chinese puzzle.

Chinese puzzle.

One day passed, and another, and the mirror hung motionless. Early in the evening of the third day—the fourth day after the sailing of the Keramic—the broker watching in the darkness saw the mirror move. The spark of light swept across the lines upon the paper, and

stopped.

Like a flash the broker darted into an adjoining room, where his companion was as-leep, and shaking him, cried, "It's come! Quick! See what it says!"

Side by side the two men bent over the mirror. The spark was moving again, now, and continued to move, going from space to space

continued to move, going upon the paper.

"They—have—done—it." The man who had been asleep read slowly aloud. "Buy H. O. to the last cent you can raise. Buy until you can and you are—"

been asleep read slowly aloud. "Buy H. O. to the last cent you can raise. Buy until you can hold them, and you are—"

The point of light stopped moving, and although the two men watched it until the last minute came that the broker could stay, and yet catch the only train that would get him to the city by morning—and his companion watched it all night—it never moved again. The wireless telegraph instrument that had been operating it from hundreds of miles away was gone down to the bottom of the Atlantic ocean, thrown overboard to escape detection.

The next day men in Wall street said that Goald & Stauchs must be hard up, so persistently were they realizing on every negotiable security they had, but as the day passed, and no trouble came to the firm the gossips said they must have been wrong, and wondered what deep laid scheme the brokers had up their sleeves.

The next day's cable announced the safe ar-

sleeves.

The next day's cable announced the safe arrival of the Keramic in England, with all on board well.
Still a day later, and the ocean wires were

busy with cipher messages going both ways be-tween the London firms which represented the three American financiers, and their New York offices

A little later and it began to be rumored in the financial world that a stupendous deal was on foot. Just what, no one seemed to really know, or else would not say. Then there was another rumor that there was a hitch somewhere, and three days of uncertainty and surmise passed.
Then came the news of The Great Deal—the

Then came the news of The Great Deal—the combination that electrified America and staggered the rest of the world.

Men who were out of it, and everybody was out of it except the people associated with the three organizers of the scheme wondered how a firm of mere brokers like Goald & Stauchs ever got into the deal.

They never found out, nor did the money kings themselves ever learn how it came about that this one firm had become acquainted with their plans so prematurely as to be able to fix themselves so as to defeat the entire project unless they themselves were allowed to come into less they themselves were allowed to come into the deal.

the deal.

How the brokers got the tip that there was such a deal on foot, and took the way they did to shadow the three men, they never told. It was enough for them that they had vaulted at one leap from being men who bought and sold stocks to earn a living, to be many times millionaires. They paid the scientist the five hundred thousand dollars they had promised him, and the man went back to his laboratory to build another stronger and better machine, which, when it is finished is destined, no doubt, to amaze and delight the world with the possibilities of wireless telegraphy.

When Mr. Jones' valet recovered from his sudden illness he did not seek to get back to

when Mr. Jones valet recovered from his sudden illness he did not seek to get back to his old place. Instead of that he returned to his beloved native Paris and bought out a nice little business there, the profits of which made him, in the eyes of his friends, rich for life. Sometimes these same friends wondered how

#### Almost a Tragedy; or, The Lady in the Grotto.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT by MARION PENN LANE.

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half dozen matrons were seated in a pretty tent on the beach at Tampa watching the merry bathers disport themselves in the bounding billows that tumbled in upon the clean white sand, when one of them, fat, fair and fifty, made a statement which startled the entire

swimmer and diver."

at her incredulously, and some laughing the little feminine laugh that is ever so much more disagreeable than any language.

"Or was," she added good naturedly, as she contemplated her ponderous portliness, and pleasantly laughed the disagreeable laughs of the few into a better humor. "I fancy," she went on, still contemplating her figure, "that if I tried to dive now, it would not much matter which way I went into the water, the splash would be about the same; but when I was ninewould be about the same; but when I was nine-teen, I only weighed a hundred and twenty pounds and I went into the water like a knife-blade. It was my ability to swim and dive that prevented my first romance from becoming a really dreadful tragedy."

"Oh, tell us about it," begged the others, not less interested now, than they were amused and incredulous before, and the heroine of her own story made herself more comfortable in the sand, and proceeded to gratify the curiosity of her companions.

sand, and proceeded to gratify the curiosity of her companions.

"At nineteen," she said, "I was pretty, so the men said, and rich, and my mother took me with her to Naples to spend the winter. You can imagine the kind of a time a rich American girl could have in a land of poor nobles aaxious to improve their fortunes; and that is the kind of a time I did have. But they were not all poor, and the most devoted of all was one who was very rich, as riches are measured in Italy. He was erratic, and so peculiar that he was known as the 'Mad Count.' Still he was brilliant and handsome, and though twenty-five years older than I, he was the most interesting man I had met in Europe. Possibly if—however, it was not to be, and it is too late to talk of what might have been."

The listeners smiled at the recognition of possibilities not dissimilar to their own experiences, and the story teller went on.

"During the entire winter his attentions increased, and at the first touch of spring he asked my mother and me to join a house party he was giving at his nicturesque country-seaf

creased, and at the first touch of spring he asked my mother and me to join a house party he was giving at his picturesque country-seat on one of the islands not far from Naples. I was nervous about accepting the invitation, for the Count's manner was not reassuring, but there was no good excuse, and we just had to go. It was a lovely place this Isola Bella where the Count had his summer home, and we did have a simply divine time for the first few days. The Count was a perfect host, and if any of the The Count was a perfect host, and if any of the men among his guests were his rivals, he gave no sign. Neither did he trouble me with the

men among his guests were his rivals, he gave no sign. Neither did he trouble me with the attentions I disliked in the city. Suddenly, though, and by no apparent design, the romance gave place to the tragedy.

"One afternoon, while the others were enjoying their siestas, I slipped away with my sketching materials to a point presenting a view that stirred all my poetic and artistic sentiment. As I sat absorbed in the exquisite combination of sea and mountain and sky, I saw the Count coming up the narrow path from the sea below, and remembered that he alone knew of my escape to this quiet nook he had selected on the day of our arrival for my 'especial artistic delectation', as he said. I did not want to see him and wondered why he came uninvited, but I could not run away, or hide, and was compelled to receive him politely. He apologized and asked if he might share the view with me, and this being granted, he ast down and began talking of the island and its many interesting physical features; particularly the remarkable sea-caves at the base of the cliffs, some more beautiful than the famous Blue Grotto of Capri. I was astonished that he made no love to me, and when he asked if I would like to take a row under the cliffs and see what a wonderful water-colorist and sculptor nature was, I consented without a word, except that we be back within an hour. In a small cove at the foot of the cliff-path we found two boats fast at a small dock and getting into one we rowed out upon the bosom of the tideless sea. I loved the water and rowing, and I had the oars.

"We had rowed and drifted about for half and the oars."

sea. I loved the water and rowing, and I had the oars.

"We had rowed and drifted about for half an hour, perhaps, when he asked me to pull in closer to the clift, and he would show me the entrance to one of the caves he had told me of. He was laughing and complimenting me on my skill with the oars, and I was enjoying the water as a sea nymph might. As we neared the cliff at a point for which he told me to row, he held up his hand warningly and I stopped rowing. Under the shadow of the great grey wall above us, the smile left his face, his compliments ceased, and he became very grave. I knew well enough what was coming, and I tried to divert it by a constant chatter about the cave, implying a doubt of its existence, and chaffing him for being so poor a pilot. He let me go on, his eyes sparkling but shifting from side to side in a way that means but one thing, and then he interrupted me with an impetuous the oars. side to side in a way that means but one thing, and then he interrupted me with an impetuous declaration of his love, and a fierce demand that I should marry him. I was stunned by the suddenness of it, and sat as dumb as an oyster, simply staring at him and clutching the oars as if they were lifepreservers. When my wits returned and he had subsided somewhat, I tried to reason with him, and explain that I did not love him and could not marry him, but did not love him and could not marry him, but

did not love him and could not marry him, but in the midst of my argument he stood up in the boat before me with such a strange glitter in his eyes that I became thoroughly frightened. "I did not know what to do, but instinctively rose to my feet to meet him face to face, and as I did so, he caught me in his arms, and plunged overboard with me. He did not know that I could swim, but his ignorance was of no advantage to me for he was a powerful man and held me so firmly that I could not possibly break his hold. I tried to scratch his eyes out, but he easily avoided my hands by thrusting his face close against the side of my neck, and as he did this, he bore my head backward into the water. Then I felt myself sinking and with one effort to scream, the water filled my mouth, there was a flash of dazzling light, a quick pain and a suffocation, followed by a restful sense of floating through a limitless blue sky, and all was dark.

"Consciousness ended there, and I knew no more until I opened my eyes in what seemed to

"Consciousness ended there, and I knew no more until I opened my eyes in what seemed to be a room of silver walls and sapphire floor. It was all very vague and indistinct, but some one was administering a stimulant very pleasant in its effect, though I did not know why. Gradually I began to gather strength of mind and body, and as I did so I realized where I was and how I had gotten there. I knew it was the Count giving me brandy or some other stimulant, and chafing my hands, and I became so angry that I quite forgot all my fear. I poured out the vials of my wrath on the man, but he laughed at me in my weakness, and told me he was going to keep me there till I promised to marry him. He assured me that he would return to my mother and offer his services in the

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search that would be made when I had failed to appear, but that he would come back to me the next day at noon to learn if I were ready to marry him. If I were not he would not urge me bersuse as he said, he wished me to act of my own free will, but would go away again, to return each day at noon until I had given my consent or had starved to death. The ugly glitter came into his shifting eyes again, and I trembled as he stood before me, but I was so overcome that I could not move and my tongue was positively like a lump of putty tongue was positively like a lump of putty in my mouth. He was dripping wet as I was, but he was courtly still, and with a sweeping bow, and his regrets that there was no food and only hard stones for a bed, he sprang into the water that formed the floor of the cave and disappeared.

disappeared.
"I was so utterly overwhelmed by the situa-



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"I shall never regret," she had said, "that I am an expert wimmer and diver."

"Oh!" they unanimously exclaimed, looking the said of the s

tion in which I found myself that what had taken place seemed to be a terrible dream, and I think I must have fainted, for when I again realized where I was the effects of the drowning had passed away, and I came to myself with much more strength than I had when the Count took his unexpected departure. I was dazed, however, and as I sat up and tried to collect my scattered senses, I saw the Count's silver flask lying on the floor, where I had dashed it from his hand in my first recognition of him in his efforts to revive me. There was half a pint of brandy remaining in it and I took a liberal drink of it. Being unused to it I soon began to feel its effects, and I began to 'pull myself together' as the newspapers say and tried to think. I am sure you will all easily understand that my position was an awful one for any woman, but for a girl of nineteen, never out of sight of her mother, and shielded at every tion in which I found myself that what had

and tried to think. I am sure you will all easily understand that my position was an awful one for any woman, but for a girl of nineteen, never out of sight of her mother, and shielded at every turn, it was something inexpressible. But I was blessed with a pretty good hard head, and it was not long until I began to gather my forces and facts and arrange them as a lawyer-general might. I might, in the first place, have remembered that I could not be forced into a marriage, and could have given a promise and gotten out. But I never thought of that, because I thought of another plan of escape before that one suggested itself.

"I saw that the cave was similar to the Blue Grotto of Capri which I had visited, but that the entrance was several feet below the surface of the water and only approachable from either side by a diver who knew its exact location. The opening was quite large and plainly visible from the inside of the cave which received its light from it. I had no sooner arrived at this point in my thinking than it occurred to me that I was probably as good a swimmer and diver as the Count was, and if he had no trouble getting out of the cave, I should not. To think was to act, and throwing off my dress, and fastening my skirts about me so as not to impede my movements, and tying my shoes about my neck, I took a stiff jorum of the brandy, and, with a little prayer to be led happily out of all my afflictions I got as near to the entrance as I could and dived for the opening shining far down in the water like a silver arch leading to Heaven. But my spirit was stronger than my flesh, and when I came to the surface after staying under the water until I thought I should burst, I only bumped my head on the overhanging rocks and was forced to come back into the cave. Some women might have cried at that, and I felt like it, but my strength was increasing, and the mere sense of it encouraged me so that I sat down on the rocks again and calmly waited for more herest. head on the overhanging rocks and was forced to come back into the cave. Some women might have cried at that, and I felt like it, but my strength was increasing, and the mere sense of it encouraged me so that I sat down on the rocks again and calmly waited for more breath. I made another trial, less successful than the first, because I bumped my head harder, and caught a throatful of water that weakened me agreat deal. I was so tired now that when I dragged myself out on the rocks again, I sank down quite exhausted, and presently fell into a doze. How long I slept I do not know, but when I awoke I was more eager than ever to try the water. But the light of the day was dying, for when I looked toward the entrance I could barely see it through the shadows, and with a great gulp in my throat I gave way and throwing myself down on the hard stones I cried like any woman would. It was not so much over my failure, or through fear of the Count, but simply because I was going to have to stay in that horrid cave all night. I was soaking wet and hungry; the place was dark and dismal; I had no bed to sleep on, there were a dozen things I was not used to and the personal discomforts quite outbalanced any thought of the real horrors of the situation.

"Goodness only knows how I passed that dreadful night, but I did, crying sometimes for my mother, laughing sometimes with hysterics, and sleeping not a little between times, for I was tired enough. I knew when I was roused suddenly from one of these naps, the sunlight was shining brilliantly through the archway of my escape, and I jumped to my feet and began to get ready for the work before me. Another jorum of the brandy, and a half hour's exercise in my almost forgotten calisthenics to take the stiffness out of my joints and I stepped out to my diving point. The arch showed clear, as if inviting me to come, and with my lungs filled to their utmost and all the strength I could command, I flung myself headforemost into the water. I dove with all my might and swam with the energ

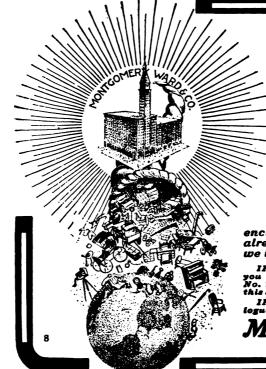
the entrance and rose to the surface outside, so close to the cliff that my foot touched it as I struck out in swimming.

"I felt that I was safe from the Count now, but a new danger confronted me. The Count had our boat to take him away when he came from the cave, but I had nothing but the wide open sea before me and a perpendicular wall hundreds of feet in height at my back. It was a mile to the little dock where I had taken the boat the day before, and I could not swim that distance. What lay around the point of the cliff in the other direction only a few hundred yards away, I did not know, but I swam for it, staying close to the cliff so that if my strength gave out I might cling to life a little longer. You know one at nineteen thinks life is quite worth living. worth living.

"Around the point, which I weathered safely, was a stretch of beach which I soon made. was a stretch of beach which I soon made, and putting on my shoes burried along for half a mile where I found a woman mending a fish net, near the water. The cliffs sloped away leaving room for a fisherman's cabin. The woman was so frightened at my appearance that she started to run, but my call for help research the started to run, but my call for help research the started to run, but my call for help research the started to run, but my call for help research the started to run, but my call for help research the started to run, but my call for help research the started to run, but my call for help research the started to run. that she started to run, but my call for help reassured her and she came to me. I told her
briefly what had happened and to go as fast as
she could and bring the chief police official,
telling no one but him. She hid me in her
house and ran away to the town, because she
had already heard the story of the disappearance of the American lady, and the chief
had been that way looking for the lost one.
When the chief came I met him, attired in a
blanket and blushes, and told him my story,
requesting him to go after my mother and to
do with the Count as he pleased.

"An hour later the whole island knew of my

"An hour later the whole island knew of my "An hour later the whole island knew of my strange adventure, and until we were ready to take the boat to Naples, the whole police force of the island was required to keep back the friendly islanders who wanted to congratulate me on my escape. I had no brain fever, nor any pneumonia, as the doctor said I ought to have, but I did have an attack of nervous prostration that lasted for weeks. Nor did the Count attempt to kill himself or do anything desperate when arrested. He simply laughed desperate when arrested. He simply laughed and held out his hands to be pinioned, and from that time until he died, five years later, he was a harmless lunatic crooning always to himself in a sing song monotone: "What has become of her?" What has become of her?"



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#### CHAPTER I.

A HOUSE ON MADISON AVENUE.

NCLE, you are not looking well to-night."
"I am not well, Florence. I sometimes

"I am not well, Florence. I sometimes doubt if I shall ever be any better."
"Surely, uncle, you cannot mean——"
"Yes, my child, I have reason to believe that I am nearing the end."
"I cannot bear to hear you speak so, uncle," said Florence Linden, in irrepressible agitation. "You are not an old man. You are but fifty-four."

"True, Florence, but it is not years only that make a man old. Two great sorrows have embittered my life. First, the death of my dearly loved wife, and next the loss of my boy,

"It is long since I have heard you refer to my cousin's loss. I thought you had become reconciled—no, I do not mean that, I thought your regret might be less poignant."
"I have not permitted myself to speak of it, but I have never ceased to think of it day and night."

night."

night."

John Linden paused sadly, then resumed:

"If he had died, I might, as you say, have become reconciled; but he was abducted at the age of four by a revengeful servant whom I had discharged from my employment. Heaven knows whether he is living or dead, but it is impressed upon my mind that he still lives, it may be in misery, it may be as a criminal, while I, his unhappy father, live on in a luxury which I cannot enjoy, with no one to care for me—"

Florence Linden sunk impulsively on her

knees beside her uncle's chair.

"Don't say that, uncle," she pleaded. "You know that I love you, Uncle John."

"And I, too, uncle."

There was a shade of jealousy in the voice of Curtis Waring as he entered the library through the open door, and, approaching his uncle, pressed his hand.

He was a tall. dark-complexioned man, of

pressed his hand.

He was a tall, dark-complexioned man, of perhaps thirty-five, with shifty, black eyes and thin lips, shaded by a dark mustache. It was not a face to trust.

Even when he smiled the expression of his face did not soften. Yet he could moderate his voice so as to express tenderness and sympathy. He was the son of an elder sister of Mr. Linden, while Florence was the daughter of a younger brother.

Both were orphans, and both formed a part

Both were orphans, and both formed a part f Mr. Linden's household, and owed every-

thing to his bounty.

Curtis was supposed to be in some business downtown; but he received a liberal allowance from his uncle, and often drew upon him for outside assistance.

As he stood with his uncle's hand in his, he was, necessarily brought near Florence, who instinctively drew a little away, with a slight shudder indicating repugnance.

Slight as it was, Curtis detected it, and his face darkened.

John Linden looked from one to the other. "Yes," he said, "I must not forget that I have a nephew and a niece. You are both dear to me, but no one can take the place of the boy I have lost." have lost."
"But it is so long ago, uncle," said Curtis. It

must be fourteen years

must be fourteen years."
"It is fourteen years."
"And the boy is long since dead!"
"No, no!" said John Linden, vehemently.
"I do not, I will not, believe it. He still lives, and I live only in the hope of one day clasping

him in my arms."
"That is very improbable, uncle," said Curtis, in a tone of annoyance. "There isn't one chance in a hundred that my cousin still lives. The grave has closed over him long since. The sooner you make up your mind to accept the inevitable the better." The drawn features of the old man showed

that the words had a depressing effect upon his mind, but Florence interrupted her cousin

with an indignant protest.

"How can you speak so, Curtis?" she exclaimed. "Leave Uncle John the hope that he

has so long cherished. I have a presentiment that Harvey still lives."

John Linden's face brightened up.
"You, too, believe it possible, Florence?" he said, eagerly.
"Yes, uncle, I not only believe it possible, but probable. How old would Harvey be if he still lived?"
"Eighteen—nearly a year older than your

Eighteen-nearly a year older than yourself.

"How strange! I always think of him as a little boy."
"And I, too, Florence. He rises before me in

his little velvet suit, as he was when I last saw him, with his sweet, boyish face, in which his mother's looks were reflected.
"Yet, if still living," interrupted Curtis, harshly, "he is a rough street-boy, perchance serving his time at Blackwell's Island, a hard-pred young ruffing when it would be hitter

serving his time at Blackwell's Island, a hardened young ruffian, whom it would be bitter
mortification to recognize as your son."

"That's the sorrowful part of it," said his
uncle, in s voice of anguish. "That is what I
most dread."

"Then, since even if he were living you
would not care to recognize him, why not cease
to think of him, or else regard him as dead?"

"Curtis Waring, have you no heart?" demanded Florence, indignantly.

"Indeed, Florence, you ought to know," said
Curtis, sinking his voice into softly modulated
accents.

"I know nothing of it," said Florence, coldly.

"I know nothing of it," said Florence, coldly,

"I know nothing of it," said Florence, coldly, rising from her recumbent position, and drawing aloof from Curtis.

"You know that the dearest wish of my heart is to find favor in your eyes. Uncle, you know my wish, and approve of it, do you not?"

"Yes, Curtis; you and Florence are equally dear to me, and it is my hope that you may be united. In that case, there will be no division of my fortune. It will be left to you jointly."

"Believe me, sir," said Curtis, with faltering voice, feigning an emotion which he did not feel—"believe me, that I fully appreciate your goodness. I am sure Florence joins with me—""

"Florence can speak for herself," said his cousin, coldly. "My uncle needs no assurances from me. He is always kind, and I am always grateful."

John Linden seemed absorbed in thought.
"I do not doubt your affection," he said;
"and I have shown it by making you my joint heirs in the event of your marriage; but it is

only fair to say that my property goes to my boy, if he still lives."

"But, sir," protested Curtis, "is not that likely to create unnecessary trouble? It can never be known, and meanwhile—"

"You and Florence will hold the property in

"Have you so specified in your will?" asked Curtis.

"Have you so specified in your will?" asked Curtis.

"I have made two wills. Both are in yonder secretary. By the first the property is requesthed to you and Florence. By the second and later, it goes to my lost boy in the event of his recovery. Of course, you and Florence are not forgotten, but the bulk of the property goes to Harvey."

"I sincerely wish the boy might be restored to you," said Curtis; but his tone belied his words. "Believe me, the loss of the property would affect me little, if you could be made happy by realizing your warmest desire; but, uncle, I think it only the part of a friend to point out to you, as I have already done, the baselessness of any such expectation."

"It may be as you say, Curtis," said his uncle with a sigh. "If I were thoroughly convinced of it, I would destroy the later will, and leave my property absolutely to you and Florence."

"No, uncle," said Florence, impulsively, "make no change; let the will stand."

Curtis, screened from his uncle's view, darted a glance of bitter indignation at Florence.

"Is the girl mad?" he muttered to himself. "Must she forever balk me?"

"Let it be so for the present, then," said Mr. Linden, wearily. "Curtis, will you ring the

"Let it be so for the present, then," said Mr. Linden, wearily. "Curtis, will you ring the bell? I am tired, and shall retire to my couch early."

"Let me helpyou, Uncle John," said Florence,

ing.
"As you please," she answered, coldly.
"Will you be seated?"
"Will you be seated?"

"Will you be seated?"

"No; our interview will be brief."

"Then I will come to the point. Uncle John wishes to see us united."

"It can never be!" said Florence, decidedly. Curtis bit his lip in mortification, for her tone was cold and scornful.

Mingled with his mortification was genuine regret, for, as far as he was capable of loving any one, he loved his fair young cousin.

"You profess to love Uncle John, and yet you would disappoint his cherished hope!" he returned.

"I set his cherished hope?"

"There is no doubt of it. He has spoken to me more than once on the subject. Feeling that his end is near, he wishes to leave you in charge of a protector."

"I set his cherished hope?" "I can protect myself," said Florence, proud-

ly.
"You think so. You do not consider the hapless lot of a penniless girl in a cold and selfish world."

"Penniless?" repeated Florence, in an accent

of surprise.
"Yes, penniless. Our uncle's bequest to you is conditional upon your acceptance of my

"Has he said this?" asked Florence, sinking

"Has he said this?" asked Florence, sinking into an armchair with a helpless look.
"He has told me so more than once," returned Curtis, smoothly. "You don't know how near to his heart this marriage is. I know what you would say: If the property comes to me, I could come to your assistance, but I am expressly prohibited from doing so. I have pleaded with my uncle in your behalf, but in vain."

Florence was too clear-sighted not to pene-

Florence was too clear-sighted not to penetrate his falsehood.

"If my uncle's heart is hardened against me," she said, "I shall be too wise to turn to you. I am to understand, then, that my choice lies between poverty and a union with you?"

"You have stated it correctly, Florence."

"Then," said Florence, rising, "I will not hesitate. I shrink from poverty, for I have been reared in luxury, but I will sooner live in a hove!——"

a hovel——"
"Or a tenement house," interjected Curtis,

with a sneer.
"Yes, or a tenement house, than become the wife of one I loathe."

"Girl, you shall bitterly repent that word!" said Curtis, stung to fury.
She did not reply, but pale and sorrowful, glided from the room to weep bitter tears in the seclusion of her chamber.

CHAPTER II.

A STRANGE VISITOR.

of his cousin with a sardonic smile.

of his cousin with a sardonic smile.

"She is in the toils! She cannot escape me!" he muttered "But"—and here his brow darkened—"it vexes me to see how she repels my advances, as if I were some loathsome thing! If only she would return my love—for I do love her, cold as she is—I should be happy. Can there be a rival? But no! we live so quietly that she has met no one who could win her affections. Why can she not turn to me? Surely I am not so ill-favored, and, though twice her age, I am still a young man. Nay, it is only a young girl's caprice. She shall yet

twice her age, I am still a young man. Nay, It is only a young girl's caprice. She shall yet come to my arms, a willing captive."

His thoughts took a turn, as he rose from his seat and walked over to the secretary.

"So it is here that the two wills are deposited!" he said to himself—"one making me a rich man, the other a beggar! While the last a rich man, the other a beggar! While the last is in existence I am not safe. The boy may be alive and liable to turn up at any moment. If only he were dead—or the will destroyed.

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Here he made a suggestive pause.
He took a bunch of keys from his pocket and tried one after another, but without success. He was so absorbed in his work that he did not not here the extreme of a dark-house. notice the entrance of a dark-browed, broad-shouldered man, dressed in a shabby corduroy suit, till the intruder indulged in a short cough,

intended to draw attention.

Starting with guilty consciousness, Curtis turned sharply round, and his glance fell on

the intruder.
"Who are you?" he demanded, angrily. "And how dare you enter a gentleman's house unbidden?" "Are you the gentleman?" asked the intruder, with intentional insolence.
"Yes."

"You own this house?"
"Not at present. It is my uncle's."
"And that secretary—pardon my curiosity-

is his?"
"Yes; but what business is it of yours?"

"Yes; but what business is it of yours?"
"Not much. Only it makes me laugh to see a gentleman picking a lock. You should leave such business to men like me."
"You are insolent, fellow!" said Curtis, more embarrassed than he liked to confess, for this rough-looking man had become possessed of a dangerous secret. "I am my uncle's confidential agent, and it was on business of his that I wished to open the desk."
"Why not go to him for the key?"
"Because he is sick. But, pshaw! Why should I apologize or give any explanations to you? What can you know of him or me?"
"More, perhaps, than you suspect," said the

"More, perhaps, than you suspect," said the intruder, quietly.
"Then you know, perhaps, that I am my uncle's heir?"

"Don't be too sure of that."

"Don't be too sure of that."

"Look here, fellow," said Curtis, thoroughly provoked, "I don't know who you are nor what you mean, but let me inform you that your presence here is an intrusion, and the sooner you leave the house the better!"

"I will leave it when I get ready."

Curtis started to his feet, and advanced toward his visitor with an air of menace.

"Go at once," he exclaimed, angrily, "or I will kick you out of the door!"

"What's the matter with the window?" returned the stranger, with an insolent leer.

"That's as you prefer; but if you don't leave at once I will eject you."

By way of reply, the rough visitor coolly seated himself in a luxurious easy-chair, and, looking up into the angry face of Waring, said:

"Oh, no, you won't!"

"And why not?" asked Curtis, with a feeling of uneasiness for which he could not account.

of uneasiness for which he could not account.
"Why not? Because, in that case, I should seek an interview with your uncle, and tell "What?"

"That his son still lives; and that I can re-

The face of Curtis Waring blanched; he staggered as if he had been struck; and he cried out, hoarsely:

"It is a lie!"
"It is the truth, begging your pardon. Do you mind my smoking?" and he coolly produced a common clay pipe, filled and lighted it.
"Who are you?" asked Curtis, scanning the man's features with painful anxiety.
"Have you forgotten Tim Bolton?"
"Are you Tim Bolton?" faltered Curtis.
"Yes, but you don't seem glad to see me."

Yes; but you don't seem glad to see me."

"I thought you were—"
"In Australia. So I was, three years since.
Then I got homesick, and came back to New
York."

"You have been here three years?"
"Yes," chuckled Bolton. "You didn't suspect it, did you?"
"Where?" asked Curtis, in a hollow voice.

"Where?" asked Curtis, in a hollow voice.
"I keep a saloon on the Bowery. There's my card. Call round when convenient."
Curtis was about to throw the card into the grate, but on second thoughts dropped it into

"And the boy?" he asked, slowly.

"Is alive and well. He hasn't been starved.
Though I dare say you wouldn't have grieved
much if he had."

"And he is actually in this city?"
"Just so."

"Does he know anything of—you know what I mean."

"He doesn't know that he is the son of a rich man, and heir to the property which you look upon as yours. That's what you mean, isn't it?"
"Yes. What is he doing? Is he at any work?"

"He helps me some in the saloon, sells papers in the evenings, and makes himself generally useful."

Has he any education?" "Has he any education?"
"Well, I haven't sent him to boarding-school or college," answered Tim. "He don't know no Greek or Latin or mathematics,—phew, that's a hard word! You didn't tell me you wanted him made a scholar of."
"I didn't. I wanted never to see or hear from him again. What made you bring him back to New York?"
"Couldn't keep away, governor. I got home-

New York?"

"Couldn't keep away, governor. I got homesick, I did. There ain't but one Bowery in the
world, and I hankered after that—"

"Didn't I pay you money to keep away, Tim world, and I hankered after that——"
"Didn't I pay you money to keep away, Tim

Bolton? "I don't deny it, but what's three thousand dollars? Why, the kid's cost me more than that. I've had the care of him for fourteen years, and it's only about two hundred dollars

a year."
"You have broken your promise to me!" said

Curtis, sternly.
"There's worse things than breaking your promise," retorted Bolton.

Scarcely had he spoken than a change came over his face, and he stared open-mouthed behind, and beyond Curtis. Startled himself, Curtis turned, and saw, with

Startled himself, Curtis turned, and saw, with a feeling akin to dismay, the tall figure of his uncle standing on the threshold of the left portal, clad in a morning-gown, with his eyes fixed inquiringly upon Bolton and himself.

#### CHAPTER III

AN UNHOLY COMPACT.

"Who is that man, Curtis?" asked John Linden pointing with his thin finger at Tim Bolton, who booked strangely out of place, as with clay pipe, he sat in the luxurious library on a sumptious chair. "That man?" stammered Curtis, quite at a loss what to say.

"He is a poor man, out of luck, who has applied to me for assistance," answered Curtis, recovering

to me for assistance," answered Cursis, recording to me for assistance," answered Cursis, recording this wits.

"That's it, governor," said Bolton, thinking it necessary to confirm the statement. "I've got five amali children at home almost starvin', your hour."

"That is sad. What is your business, my man?"

It was Bolton's turn to be embarrassed.

"My business?" he repeated.

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"That is what I said."
"I'm a-blacksmith, but I'm willing to do any honest work."

"That is commendable; but don't you know that it is very ill-bred to smoke a pipe in a gentleman's

it is very ill-bred to smoke a pipe in a gentieman's house?"

"Excuse me, governor!"

And Bolton extinguished his pipe and put it away in a pocket of his corduroy coat.

"I was just telling him the same thing," said Curtis. "Don't trouble yourself any further, uncle. I will inquire into the man's circumstances, and help him if I can."

"Very well, Curtis. I came down because I thought I heard voices."

John Linden slowly returned to his chamber and left the two alone.

"The governor's gettin' old," said Bolton. "When I was butler here fifteen years ago, he looked like a young man. He didn't suspect that he had ever seen me before."

"Nor that you had carried away his son, Bolton."

"Who hired me to do it? Who put me up to the job, as far as that goes?"

"Hush! Walls have ears. Let us return to husi-

ob, as far as that goes?"
"Hush! Walls have ears. Let us return to busi-

ness."
"That suits me."
"Look here, Tim Bolton," said Curtis, drawing up a chair and lowering his voice to a confidential pitch, "you say you want money?"
"In course I do."
"Well, I don't give money for nothing."
"I know that. What's wanted now?"
"You say the boy is alive?"
"He's very much alive."
"Is there any necessity for his living?" asked Curtis, in a sharp, hissing tone, fixing his eyes searchingly on Bolton, to see how his hint would be taken.

"Is there any necessity for his living?" asked Curtis, in a sharp, hissing tone, fixing his eyes searchingly on Bolton, to see how his hint would be taken.

"You mean that you want me to murder him?" said Bolton, quickly.

"Why not? You don't look over scrupulous."

"I am a bad man, I admit it," said Bolton, with a gesture of repugnance, "a thief, a low blackguard, perhaps, but, thank heaven! I am no murderer! And if I was I wouldn't spill a drop of that boy's blood for the fortune that is his by right."

"I didn't give you credit for so much sentiment, Bolton," said Curtis, with a sneer. "You don't look it, but appearances are deceitful. We'll drop the subject. You can serve me in another way. Can you open this secretary?"

"Yes, that's in my line."

"There is a paper in it that I want. It is my uncle's will. I have a curiosity to read it."

"II understand. Well, I'm agreeable."

"If you find any money or valuables you are welcome to them, I only want the paper. When will you make the attempt?"

"Tomorrow night. When will it be safe?"

"At eleven o'clock. We all retire early in this house. Can you force an entrance?"

"Yes; but it will be better for you to leave the outer door unlocked."

"I have a better plan. Here is my latch-key."

"Good! I may not do the job myself, but I will see that it is done. How shall I know the will?"

"Usu have a better plan. Here is my latch-key."

"Good! I may not do the job myself, but I will see that it is done. How shall I know the will?"

"Suppose I succeed, when shall I see you?"

"I will come round to your place on the Bowery. Good night!"

Curtis Waring saw Bolton to the door, and let him out. Returning, he flung himself on a fauteuil.

"There is an element of danger in the boy's pres-

teuil.

"I can make that man useful," he reflected.

"There is an element of danger in the boy's presence in New York; but it will go hard if I can't get rid of him! Tim Bolton is unexpectedly squeamish, but there are others to whom I can apply. With gold everything is possible. It's time matters came to a finish. My uncle's health is rapidly failing—the doctor hints that he has heart disease—and the fortune for which I have been waiting so long will soon be mine if I work my cards right. I can't afford to make any mistakes now."

#### CHAPTER IV.

FLORENCE.

Florence Linden sat in the library the following evening in an attitude of depression. Her eyelids were swollen, and it was evident she had been weeping. During the day she had had an interview with her uncle, in which he harshly insisted upon her yielding to his wishes, and marrying her cousin. Curtis.

'But, uncle," she objected, "I do not love him."

"But, uncle," she objected, "I do not love him."
"Marry him and love will come."
"Never!" she said, vehemently.
"You speak confidently, miss," said Mr. Linden,
with irritation.
"Listen, Uncle John. It is not alone that I do
not love him. I dislike—I loathe—him."
"Nonsense! that is a young girl's extravagant
nonsense."

nonsense."
"No, uncle."
"There can be no reason for such a foolish dislike. What can you have against him?"
"It is impressed upon me, uncle, that Curtis is a bad man. There is something false—treacherous—about him."
"Pooh! child!

about him."

"Pooh! child! you are more foolish than I thought. I don't say Curtis is an angel. No man is; at least, I never met any such. But he is no worse than the generality of men. In marrying him you will carry out my cherished wish. Florence, I have not long to live. I shall be glad to see you well established in life before I leave you. once, I have not long to live. I shall be glad to see you well established in life before I leave you. As the wife of Curtis you will have a recognized position. You will go on living in this house, and the old home will be maintained."
"But why is it necessary for me to marry at all, Uncle John?"

"You will be sure to marry some one. Should I divide my fortune between you and Curtis, you would become the prey of some unscrupulous fortune between your and curting between the prey of some unscrupulous fortune between tune-hunter."
"Better that than become the wife of Curtis War-

ing\_\_\_"
"See, you are incorrigible," said her uncle, angri-

"See, you are incorrigible," said her uncle, angrily. "Do you refuse obedience to my wishes?"
"Command me in anything else, Uncle John, and I will obey," pleaded Florence.
"Indeed! You only thwart me in my cherished wish, but are willing to obey me in unimportant matters. You forget the debt you owe me."
"I forget nothing, dear uncle. I do not forget that, when I was a poor little child, helpless and destitute, you took me to your arms, gave me a home and have cared for me from that time to this as only a parent could."

as only a parent could."
"You remember that, then?"
"Yes, uncle. I hope you will not consider me
wholly ungrateful."

"It only makes matters worse. You own your obligations, yet refuse to make the only return I desire. You refuse to comfort me in the closing days of my life by marrying your cousin."

"Because that so nearly concerns my happiness that no nearly concerns my happiness "Because that so nearly concerns my happiness that no one has a right to ask me to sacrifice all I

"I see you are incorrigible," said John Linden, stormily. "Do you know what will be the consequence?"

no claim to more than I have received."
"You are right there; but that is not all."
Florence fixed upon him a mute look of inquiry.
"I will give you twenty-four hours more to come to your senses. Then if you persist in your ingratitude and disobedience, you must find another home." home

home."
"Oh, uncle, you do not mean that?" exclaimed Florence, deeply moved.
"I do mean it, and I shall not allow your tears to move me. Not another word, for I will not hear it. Take twenty-four hours to think over what I have said."

said."
Florence bowed her head on her hands, and gave herself up to sorrowful thoughts. But she was interrupted by the entrance of the servant, who an-

"Mr. Percy de Brabazon."

An effeminate-looking young man, foppishly dressed, followed the servant into the room, and made it impossible for Florence to deny herself, as she wished to do.

"I hope I see you well, Miss Florence," he simpored

pered.
"Thank you, Mr. de Brabazon," said Florence coldly. "I have a slight headache."
"I am awfully sorry, I am, upon my word, Miss Florence. My doctor tells me it is only those whose bwains are vewy active that are troubled with headache."

bwains are vewy active that are troubled with headache."

"Then, I presume, Mr. de Brabazon," said Florence, with intentional sarcasm, "that you never have a headache."

"Weally, Miss Florence, that is vewy clevah. You will have your joke."

"It was no joke, I assure you, Mr. de Brabazon."

"I—I thought it might be. Didn't I see you at the opewa last evening?"

"Possibly. I was there."

"I often go to the opewa. It's so—so fashionable, don't you know?"

"Then you don't go to hear the music?"

"Oh, of course, but one can't always be listening to the music, don't you know. I had a fwiend with me last evening—an Englishman—a charming fellow, I assure you. He's the second cousin of a lord, and yet—you'll hardly cwedit it—we're weally vewy intimate. He tells me, Miss Florence, that I'm the perfect image of his cousin, Lord Fitz Noodle."

"I am not at all surprised."

"Weally you are yow kind. Miss Florence.

I'm the perfect image of his cousin, Lord Fitz Noodle."

"I am not at all surprised."

"Weally, you are vewy kind, Miss Florence. I thought it a great compliment. I don't know how it is, but evewybody takes me for an Englishman. Strange, isn't it?"

"I am very glad."

"May I ask why, Miss Florence?"

"Because—Well, perhaps I had better not explain. It seems to give you pleasure. You would, probably, prefer to be an Englishman."

"I admit that I have a great admiwation for the English character. It's a gweat pity we have no lords in America. Now, if you would only allow me to bring my English fwiend here—"

"I don't care to make any new acquaintances. Even if I did, I prefer my own countrymen. Don't you like America, Mr. de Brabazon?"

"Oh, of courth, if we only had some lords here."

"We have plenty of flunkeys."

"That's awfully clevah, on my word."

"Is it! I am afraid you are too complimentary. You are vewy good-natured."

"I always feel good-natured in your company, Miss Florence. I—I wish I could always be with you."

"Really!" Wouldn't that be a trifle monot-

you." "Really!" Wouldn't that be a trifle monot-

onous?"
"Not if we were married," said Percy, boldly breaking the ice.
"What do you mean, Mr. de Brabazon?"
"I hope you'll excuse me, Miss Florence—Miss Linden, I mean; but I'm awfully in love with you, and have been ever so long—but I never dared to tell you so. I felt so nervous, don't you know. Will you marry me? I'll be awfully obliged if you will."

will you marry me? I'll be awfully obliged if you will."

Mr. de Brabazon rather awkwardly slipped from his chair, and sunk on one knee before Florence.

"Please rise, Mr. de Brabazon." said Florence, hurriedly. "It is quite out of the question—what you ask—I assure you."

"Ah! I see how it is." said Percy, clasping his hands sadly. "You love another."

"Not that I am aware of."

"I cannot encourage you, Mr. de Brabazon. My heart is free, but it can never be yours."

"Then," said Percy, gloomily, "there is only one thing for me to do."

"What is that?"

"I shall go to the Bwooklyn Bwidge, climb to the parapet, jump into the water, and end my misewable life."

"You had better think twice before adopting

able life."
"You had better think twice before adopting such a desperate resolution, Mr. de Brabazon. You will meet others who will be kinder to you than I

"I can never love another. My heart is broken. Farewell, cruel girl. When you read the papers to-morrow morning, think of the unhappy Percy de Brabazon!" Mr. de Brabazon folded his arms gloomily, and

Mr. de Brabazon folded his arms gloomily, and stalked out of the room.

"If my position were not so sad, I should be tempted to smile," said Florence. "Mr. de Brabazon will not do this thing. His emotions are as strong as those of a butterfly."

After a brief pause Florence seated herself at the table, and drew toward her writing materials.

"It is I whose heart should be broken!" she murmured; "I, who am driven from the only home I have ever known. What can have turned my uncle against me, usually so kind and considerate? It must be that Curtis has exerted a baleful influence upon him. Icannot leave him without one word of farewell."

She took up a sheet of paper, and wrote rapidly:

She took up a sheet of paper, and wrote rapidly:

"Dear Uncle—You have told me to leave your house, and I obey. I cannot tell you how sad I feel, when I reflect that I have lost your love, and must go forth among strangers—I know not where. I was but a little girl when you gave me a home. I have grown up in an atmosphere of love, and I have felt very grateful to you for all you have done for me. I have tried to conform to your wishes, and I would obey you in all else—but I cannot marry Curtis; I think I would rather die. Let me still live with you as I have done. I do not care for any part of your money—leave it all to him, if you think best—but give me back my place in your heart. You are angry now, but you will some time pity and forgive your poor Florence, who will never cease to bless and pray for you. Good-by!

She was about to sign herself Florence Linden, but reflected that she was no longer entitled to use a name which would seem to carry with it a claim upon her uncle.

The tears fell upon the paper as she was writing, but she heeded them not. It was the saddest hour of her life. Hitherto she had been shielded from all sorrow, and secure in the affection of her uncle, had never dreamed that there would come a time when she would feel obliged to leave all behind her and go out into the world, friendless and penniless, but poorest of all in the loss of that love which she had hitherto enjoyed.

After completing the note, Florence let her head She took up a sheet of paper, and wrote rapidly:

"I see you are incorrigible," said John Linden, stormily. "Do you know what will be the consequence?"

"I am prepared for all."
"Then listen! If you persist in balking me I shall leave the entire estate to Curtis."
"Do with your money as you will, uncle. I have

tented herself with lowering the gas, but refrained

tented herself with lowering the gas, but refrained from waking her.

And so she slept on till the French clock upon the mantel struck eleven.

Five minutes later the door of the room slowly opened, and a boy entered on tip-toe. He was roughly dressed. His figure was manly and vigorous, and despite his stealthy step and suspicious movements, his face was prepossessing.

He started when he saw Florence.

"What, a sleeping gal!" he said to himself. "Tim told me I'd find the coast clear, but I guess she's sound asleep and won't hear nothing. I don't half like this job, but I've got to do as Tim told me. He says he's my father, so I s'pose it's all right. All the same I shall be nabbed some day, and then the family'll be disgraced. It's a queer life I've led ever since I can remember. Sometimes I feel like leaving Tim and settin' up for myself. I wonder how 'twould seem to be respectable."

The boy approached the secretary, and with some tools he had brought essayed to open it. After a brief delay he succeeded, and lifted the cover. He was about to explore it, according to Tim's directions, when he heard a cry of fear, and turning swiftly saw Florence, her eyes dilated with terror, gazing at him.

"Who are you?" she asked, in alarm, "and what are you doing there?" (See illustration front page.)

This wonderful exciting story of 38 Chapters is one of the most interes in love, interest and

are you doing there?" (See illustration front page.)

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2. The National Council of Women held their

2. The National Council of Women held their annual meeting in Washington in February for the transaction of a great deal of work on lines for the improvement of women's condi-tion chiefly in public affairs. Among the prom-inent women is Rev. Mrs. Amanda Deyo, Pres-ident of the National Peace Union.

5. Miss Susie Sorabji, a Parsee lady, is one of the interesting visitors at present in the United States. Up to 1841 no Parsee had ever become a Christian, but in that year Miss Sorabji's father, a wealthy Parsee gentleman, became converted, and afterwards used all his influence in the cause of Christianity. Mr. Sorabji suffered many persecutions, but was faithful for fifty years, when he died. His widow is at the head of a great Christian school in Poonah, and all her children are active workers and teachers at various points in India. Miss Susie and her sister have four schools in Poonah. She is a remarkable speaker and is lecturing in this country for the cause in which she is interested. The Parsees are the Persians of India.

6. This is the official photograph of the President of the United States. The official photograph was taken by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing at Washington, is approved by the President, and is put away for safe keeping in a vault in the Bureau, along with photographs of all the other Presidents, as far back as photographs are known. When a President dies, souvenirs are made from the official photograph. President Roosevelt selected this photograph as the best ever taken of him, and it became official in February.

7. The Mother of Governor Odell of New York, one of the best known and most prominent governors in the Union, died at her home in Newburgh, N. Y. in February at the age of seventy-one. She was married in 1850 to Benjamin B. Odell and lived in Newburgh from that date. She left five children.

8. One of the best known and most popular writers of plays in the United States is Clyde Fitch of New York, who writes a new play or two every year, and has done so for several years past. But overwork is bound to break any one down and Mr. Fitch has been sent South by his physician and ordered to rest absolutely for months, or pay the penalty with his life. More Americans wear out than rust out.

9. It is possible that the best President the Republic of Mexico ever had, Gen. Porfirio Diaz, may resign, or he might die suddenly. In either event he would be succeeded by Gen. Bernardo Reyes, Minister of War, next after Gen. Diaz the most popular man in his country. Under Diaz Mexico has enjoyed years of peace and prosperity, but none of the southern republics are reliable, and Mexico might undergo a change of government peacefully and it might not.

10. No woman has given as much to the cause of education as has Mrs. Stanford, widow of the late Senator Leland Stanford of California, her chief and greatest gift being twenty millions of dollars to Leland Stanford, Jr. University, California, founded and endowed by the hughend as a memorial to their colly child

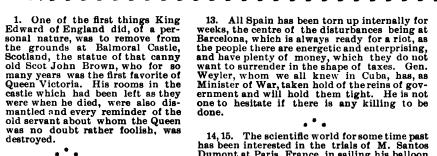
her husband as a memorial to their only child, Leland, Jr., who died at the age of sixteen years. Mrs. Stanford has given away hundreds of thousands of dollars in all kinds of chari-

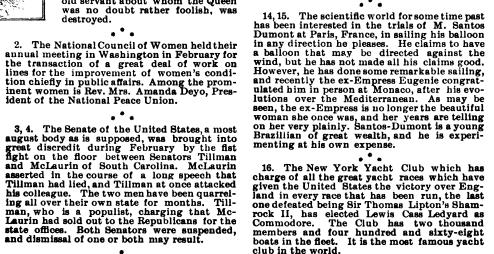
11. Prominent in the politics of the country is Tom L. Johnson of Cleveland, Ohio, one of the few millionaires who is not laboring always in the interest of the rich. He is the leading single tax advocate and his hobby is three cent street car fares. He is Kentucky born, having been a street car driver and poor and got his start by an invention of a fare box for cars without conductors. His first name is plain "Tom," and not Thomas.

12. The combinations of capital generally were greatly astonished by the action of President Roosevelt in ordering Attorney General Knox to investigate the matter thoroughly.

ties. She is now over seventy years of age.

# **3**444444444444444444444444444444 PORTRAITS AND PARAGRAPHS OF PEOPLE THE PUBLIC PRINTS.





The New York Yacht Club which has 16. The New York Yacht Club which has charge of all the great yacht races which have given the United States the victory over England in every race that has been run, the last one defeated being Sir Thomas Lipton's Shamrock II, has elected Lewis Cass Ledyard as Commodore. The Club has two thousand members and four hundred and sixty-eight boats in the fleet. It is the most famous yacht club in the world.

17. Associate Justice Horace Gray of the U.S. Supreme Court, has suffered a paralytic stroke, but at last accounts he was in a fair way to recovery, although his age, seventy-four years, is against him. His mind is clear, but his muscles are beyond his control. . . .

18. The most famous jeweler in the world, Charles L. Tiffany of New York, died in February at the great age of ninety years. Mr. Tiffany has not been in active business for some years, but his sons carry on his business for some years, but his sons carry on his business in his name. The stamp of "Tiffany" on all kinds of gold and silver jewelry, glass and other works of art, is a sure sign of superiority. Mr. Tiffany left a fortune of millions.

19. The fastest trotting horse ever known is Cresceus owned by George H. Ketcham of Ohio. His record is two minutes, two and a quarter seconds, and Mr. Ketcham is his own driver. In the six years he has been trotting he has won in purses \$102,851.50, or over \$17,000 a year. Mr. Ketcham is naturally proud of his great horse, and it is something to own the fastest trotter the world has known.

20. Since early September of last year, the whole Christian world has been disturbed by the capture of Miss Ellen Stone, a missionary, by Bulgarian brigands who held her and her companion, Madame Tsilka, for a ransom put at one hundred and twenty thousand dollars. Being an American missionary the Protestant churches of this country immediately set to work to raise the money. It was not an easy task, but something over sixty thousand dollars was forwarded to Consul Dickinson, and after months of negotiating the brigands accepted the amount and Miss Stone and Madame Tsilka were released and restored to their friends. No other women have had such an experience as theirs. experience as theirs.

21, 22, 23. Still in the shadow of her husband's tragic death, the widow of President McKinley sorrows in her quiet home at Canton, Ohio, but she is trying to smile again, and chief among the friends who cheer her most are the three children who live in a pretty house near her own. They are Ramona, Dorothy and Wanna Smith, aged twelve, ten and five. Dorothy is the favorite and often drives with Mrs. McKinley when she visits her husband's grave. The children's father is a clergyman and was a close friend of the late President.

24. When Melville W. Fuller of Chicago was appointed Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court by President Cleveland, and came to make his home in Washington, there were eight daughters in his family, who made the home of the Chief Justice a gay gathering place for society, though three of the daughters were yet in school. Now all of them are marked ried except the youngest, Miss Frances, whose picture is given here, and we may expect her soon to follow in the footsteps of her sisters, for she is a very pretty girl.

25, 26. One of the notable recent weddings was that of Miss Morton, the fourth daughter of ex-Vice President Levi P. Morton of New York, and Mr. Winthrop Rutherford, one of New York's famous 400. Miss Morton is not quite half the age of her husband, who is forty-four, but it was a love match, and as neither married for money, it is probable their married life will be happier than many among fashionable people. fashionable people.

27, 28. It is, in some respects, a pleasant thing to be rich, and much is said of the good times that the sons of rich men have. We give the pictures of two of these favored youths, one, Frank J. Gould, who recently came into possession of ten millions as his part of the estate left by his father, Jay Gould, and the other, John D. Rockefeller, Jr.. whose father is said to be the richest man in the world. Both live in New York, both have married within a year, and both are young men of good habits, Mr. Rockefeller being quite active in church work.

29, 30. Since this country has been undergoing 29, 30. Since this country has been undergoing such a German craze over the visit of the Emperor's brother, Prince Henry of Prussia, a picture of Hon. John A. Kasson of Iowa, the only living ex-Minister to Germany from this country, and Hon. Carl Schurz, the only German born American who ever held a position in the Cabinet of a President of the United States, Secretary of the Interior under Mr. Hayes, will be of interest.

31, 32. The largest corporation in the world is the United States Steel Company, generally known as the "Billion Dollar Trust," and the known as the "Billion Dollar Trust," and the head of it is Charles Schwab of Pennsylvania, who was a poor boy of German parentage. Mr. Schwab has recently returned from a visit to Europe where he was entertained by the royalty and nobility and the common people. He was accompanied by his wife, whose picture with her husband, was taken as they left the ship in New York. Mr. Schwab secured some unpleasant notoriety by gambling at Monte Carlo.

33. Dr. Parkhurst, the noted New York preacher and reformer has written the following letter to the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of Congress on the Cuban situation, which voices the sentiment of the American people; at least, as far as Cuba is concerned:

DRAR SIE: Permit me to say that to reduce the

Concerned:

DEAR SIR: Permit me to say that to reduce the tax on beer and tobacco and to leave untouched the tariff on Cuban productions would be an act discreditable to the country that tolerates it, a disgrace to the parties in or out of Congress that, directly or indirectly, are responsible for it and an outrage upon the Cubans, whom we have made so loud a pretence of defending.

C. H. PARKHURST.

34. The Norwegian navigator, C. E. Borchgrevink, who has recently returned to America from an exploring expedition towards the South Pole, reached a point within 800 miles of the Pole, which is 500 miles farther than any previous explorer has attained. He reports the temperature as low as 84 degrees for days at a time, and they had seventy-one days of absolute darkness, during nearly the whole of which the wind blew a terrific gale, sometimes reaching one hundred miles an hour. He was absent a year with his party.

35. When Prince Henry of Prussia was in New York City a luncheon was given to him by a committee of New York men at which one hundred men who are foremost in the great industrial enterprises for which the United States is now famous were invited to meet him. At the head of this committee was J. Pierpont Morgan of New York, who is the greatest business organizer the world has ever known.

\* . \* 36. In London last month at the Horse Show, the Princess of Wales, daughter-in-law of the King of England barely escaped being run oven by a fractious horse that was frightened by the music and shouting

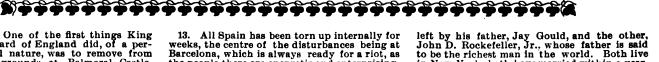
The senate and House of representatives met in joint session last month to listen to an euloium pronounced on the late President Mc-Kinley by John Hay, Secretary of State. His address was an hour and a quarter long and was listened to by a distinguished audience, including Prince Henry of Prussia and his suite.

38. One of the most pleasing acts of Prince Henry of Prussia, who made himself very popular with all Americans during his visit to this country, was receiving on his yacht, Mrs. Moore of Pittsburg, Pa., whose mother had been a nurse to the wife of the Prince in her infancy. Mrs. Moore and the Prince talked together for more than an hour and he was greatly pleased with her visit.

39. The prettiest American girl now feted in Europe is Miss Gladys Deacon of New York. She is but nineteen, yet all the courts are agitated over her, and the Crown Prince of Germany became so infatuated that his father, the Emperor, was compelled to interfere to prevent complications.

40. One of the great affairs tendered to Prince Henry of Prussia while in New York City was a dinner given by Mr. Herman Ridder, Editor of the Staats Zeitung, the leading German newspaper of this country. It was a press dinder and more than one thousand newspaper men attended. The Prince made the best speech he has delivered while in this country. It was a very democratic assembly and every body had a good time with the Prince.

41. Possibly the most unpopular man in England is Joseph Chamberlain, whose bad feeling toward the Boers has been most pronounced. His wife was an American girl, the daughter of Secretary of War Endicott, under President Cleveland. She was popular in Washington and has been popular in England, and she has recently set herself the task of presenting her husband to the public in a better light than he has thrown about himself. It is no small work, but American women can overno small work, but American women can over-come a world of difficulties when they try to.















































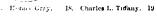














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EAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS:

April, fickle April, is here once more. ashered in by "April Fools' Day," a day dear to all American young people, and, to tell the truth, to many who are "older and wiser grown." Whence came the custom of playing tricks or "fooling people" on this particular day no one seems to know. Some think it derived from an ancient pagan custom, such as the Hull Festival among the Hindoos or the Roman Feast of Fools; and still others that it is only a polite recognition of a delicate tribute to the changeable character of the month. We are allowed our choice, and we may be as changeable and as fickle as the month in our decision in the



Our first letter this mouth gives us an early tasts
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OUR separate and distinct national organizations of American women societies have re-cently held interesting sessions in the city of Wash-ington, and on the first day of May there will begin in Los An-geles, Cal., the sixth biennial ses-

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

geles, Cal., the sixth biennial session of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, which will be largely attended by delegates from every portion of the Union.

The organizations which met in Washington the past month were the National Daughters of the American Revolution, the Woman Suffrage Association, the National Council of Women, and the National Mothers' Congress. All were largely attended and great interest was manifested in the sessions.

Perhaps none of the societies of women have a grander or more lofty motive than the Daughters of the American Revolution. The object of this association is to maintain and preserve the patriotic history of by-gone days; to instill into the souls of the present and succeeding generations a love and veneration for the tried and true heroes who fought the battles of the country in the days of old, when England sought to subjugate and forever control the people of the American Colonies. To be a

ed Women, which has ten thousand members; Mrs. Hannah G. Solomon of Chicago, president of the National Council of Jewish Women, and Mrs. Zina Young Gates of Utah, who is a daughter of the late Brigham Young, the former head of the Mormon church.

The National Mothers' Congress ended its successful sessions on February 28, with an audience that tested the capacity of the Auditorium to its fullest extent. This organization was founded in 1896 by Mrs. Theodore W. Birney of Washington who has been its president since that time. The idea of bringing mothers together in a national united effort for a more enlightened parenthood is the basis of this society of noble women. "Orphan asylums are excellent institutions, reform schools fill a certain need and jails are a necessity," says Mrs. Birney, "but if we had educated mothers, or perhaps I should say, 'women educated to make competent, capable mothers,' the orphan asylums, reform schools and jails would want for inmates." The new president is Mrs. Frederick Schoff of Philadelphia. She is a womanly, capable and cultured mother, who was married at twenty and has not only reared a family of seven children from kindergarten to Harvard College, but also has done much work in improving the condition of childhood everywhere. One of the most prominent ladies in attendance at the congress was Mrs. Fred T. Dubois who is the wife of Senator Dubois of Idaho. She is greatly interested in caring and providing for motherless children, and the orphan asylums at the National capital and elsewhere find in Mrs. Dubois a worthy and valuable assistant.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs, which will assemble in Los Angeles Cal. from

valuable assistant.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs, which will assemble in Los Angeles, Cal., from May 1 to May 8, will be attended by several thousand women from all parts of the country.

The program committee has chosen an attractive list of club women to preside over the



member of this largely increasing organization one must be a descendant of a Revolutionary soldier. The recent session was the eleventh Continental Congress and was presided over by Mrs. Charles W. Fairbanks, wife of United States Senator Fairbanks of Indiana, who was again elected President-General of the Congress for the ensuing year. Among the vice-president-generals elected was Mrs. Althea Randolph Bedle, widow of ex-Governor Bedle of New Jersey, whose portrait appears as the initial cut to this article. Mrs. Bedle is one of the most distinguished society women in the country. Another prominent woman at the congress was Mrs. Charles H. Deere, of Moline, Ill., who was elected State Regent of the Illinois Daughters of the American Revolution at Washington. By the birthright of an ancestry which reverts to a Colonial governor on one side and to Revolutionary heroes on both sides of her family, she possesses a patriotic devotion akin to that which swayed the hearts of the yeomen of old. Taken all in all, the recent Continental Congress was a brilliant and commendable success.

The annual convention of the Woman Suffrage Association was attended by a large num-

Continental Congress was a brilliant and commendable success.

The annual convention of the Woman Suffrage Association was attended by a large number of delegates, chief among whom was Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, both honorary presidents of the Association. These ladies have long advocated the right of suffrage for woman and their names are known throughout the civilized world. Besides these ladies there was in attendance Mrs. Elenora Babcock, of Dunkirk, N. Y., in charge of press work; the Rev. Antoinette Brown Blackwell, a pioneer suffragist; the Rev. Anna H. Shaw, vice-president at large; Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery, Dr. Cora Smith Eaton, Miss Alice Stone Blackwell, and many others of prominence in the movement. Committees of the Association appeared before Congressional committees and plead that women be allowed to exercise the right of suffrage.

various sessions. Mrs. Anna D. West of Massachusetts is to have charge of "Civics." Miss Ellen C. Sabin of Wisconsin, who holds a professor's chair in the Milwaukee-Downer College, will direct the session on education. The evening devoted to "Literature," which is usually a star session, is being arranged by Mrs. May Alden Ward of Cambridge, Mass. Mrs. Dimies T. S. Denison of New York, the vice-president, is to direct the "Civil Service" session, this subject being presented for the first time to the convention. For the press session Mrs. Ella W. Peattle of Chicago has been chosen; for the art session, Mrs. A. H. Brockway of Brooklyn, while Mrs. Florence Kelley of New York will preside over the industrial session. Some of the other subjects to be considered are clubhouses, travelling libraries, forestry and the Audubon movement. No less than three mornings have been set aside for business, and these will be in charge of Mrs. Lowe, the president. The question that may arouse more interest than all the others, if introduced at all, will be the color problem. The idea is advanced that the General Federation should not discuss the question, but should permit each state federation to settle the matter as it sees fit.

That these five great organizations of women above described, are doing much for home and humanity cannot be gainsaid. And that the

That these nive great organizations of women above described, are doing much for home and humanity cannot be gainsaid. And that the subordinate branches of these associations are likewise of benefit, incalculable benefit to their members is equally true. A good club woman is a good wife and a good mother. The influence of the women's club is in the direction of the intellectual and moral upbuilding of the family.

the intellectual and moral upbuilding of the family.

It has been lately said that the country had gone "Woman Club Mad" so many different organizations having come into existence all over the Union. It is true that Literary Clubs and in fact women's clubs of all kinds are being organized in nearly every section and where in some cases the mothers may neglect their home affrage.
A more representative body of women than

the board of officers chosen by the National Council of Women at the congress held in Washington it would be hard to find. Mrs. William Tod Helmuth, of New York City, the new president, has been president of Sorosis twice. She is a Daughter of the American Revolution and a member of the American Revolution and a member of the Society of American Women in London. Mrs. Ida M. Weaver of Idaho, first recording secretary, is a member of the Idaho Democratic state committee. Mrs. Kate Walter Barrett, of Washington, D. C., second recording secretary, is superintindent of the Florence Crittenden Mission, which she represents in the Council. Among other women present at the Congress were Mrs. Calista Robinson Jones, president of the Women's Relief Corps, which has a membership of 145,000 women, whose devotion to the sick and destitute soldiers of the Civil War is well known; Mrs. Josephine Silone Yates, president of the National Association of Color-

MRS. IDA M. MRS. HANNAH G. WEAVER. SOLOMON

MRS, JOSEPHINE MRS. WILLIAM TOD MRS. ZINA YOUNG MRS. CALISTA MRS. KATE WALTER SILONE YATES. HELMUTH. GATES. ROBINSON JONES. BARRETT.

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MARY W. EARLY, Lynchburg, Virginia.

I must not forget to thank our cousins Lottie E.

I must not forget to thank our cousins Lottie E. Held of Princeton, Maine, and Elsie Smith of New Rochester, Ohio, for pleasant leters I am sorry not to be able to use. I hope they will both try again. And now we must say goodby for another month. AUNT MINERVA.



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Veracious Records of the Doin's in the Cobb Corner Postoffice, "Writ out" by the Boy Behind the Counter.

[EDITOR'S NOTE. The quaint philosophers, the dry wags, the shrewd dickerers and the eminent yarn-spinners of the countryside make a forum of the country postoffice when there is room at the rear around the big stove. The stories and incidents on which some of the most successful human interest novels of the day are constructed come from the quaint loungers around the stores in Yankee communities. These official records of "Jeth's Crowd" are to be taken down month by month for the readers of "Comfort," and we hope that as you become acquainted with the members of the "Congress" your interest in their discourse and stories will deepen.

In the May number of "Comfort" the "Cobb's Corner Congress" will continue sessions.]



HE Postmaster came stagger ing in from the woodshed with three snowy sticks of birch. The gang that was bugging the stove surveyed him blandly and disinterest-edly and made no move to get

out of the way.
"H'ist up your hucks," he snorted and then without a snorted and then without a word of warning he dropped the big sticks clattering to the dented floor. All the loafers snapped away their legs as agile as lobsters in deep water. No, not all!
Uncle Wack Spofford was looking up the eclipses in a patent medicine almanac and didn't notice the impending avalanche. One of the sticks caught him right across the toes.
"Je-e-ere Cris'mus, Sancho Pedro!" he squealed dropping the almanac and grabbing

"Je-e-e-ere Cris'mus, Sancho Pedro!" he squealed dropping the almanac and grabbing his foot.
"Wal, git out the way, then!" grunted The Postmaster, opening the stove door and raking the coals forward.
"If I thought ye done that a puppus," yelled Uncle Wack, "I'd cuff your jackass ears up to a peak and then cuff the peak off."
"How long hev' ye held the heavyweight champeenship of the world?" The Postmaster asked tauntingly.
"Wal, I was allus able to wrassle you back-holts when we went to school," whined Uncle Wack, souffing his toes with his palm.

The Postmaster, squinting and squizzling his face as the heat from the open stove door flared against it, simply snorted in disgust. The others in the crowd wagged their jaws solemn-

wagged their jaws solemnly.

"Hain't go in' to be a dooel, is the'?" asked Teed Strout. "If ye fight, s'pose ye take stockin's of mud at tew paces and let us all in on the side-lines."

"There hain't no satisfaction fighting with a pole-cat," growled Uncle Wack extending his foot and wriggling his toes to determine whether any had dropped off. "If I thought ye done that a puppus," he continued, "I'd never trade with ye another cent's wuth, tom ding me if I would."

"Wal, I might's well go and tell Square Shaw to draw up bankruptcy papers," The Postmaster retorted. "I've been makin' a swingin' big profit off'n that molasses and that kairosene I've been sellin' ye. Then I make a pretty good thing off'n the soap and clothes-pins I sell ye sence your wife has commenced to take in washin's to support ye while ye set 'round this store and stick your fat old feet out in the way of bus'ness."

of bus'ness."
Uncle Wack started up out of his chair. Just Uncle Wack started up out of his chair. Just for one instant the eyes of the gang opened. By the manner in which Uncle Wack clutched his cane some expected that he would hit The Postmaster a clip. But he simply limped away toward the door gasping over and over again, "Not another cent's wuth—not another cent's wuth, to save your pelt from perdition." He went out and banged the door.

"Wal ye hain't lost any canvas that will slack your headway a mite," said Cap'n Jote Bailey.

"He's too mean to fertilize pigweed," chipped in Teed Strout.

"D' I ever tell ye about the time we dug out the fox over on Tarheel Hill near Wack's place?" asked Ezry Pitts. "Wal' me'n Uncle Jud and one of his boys run a fox into a hole one day and we set to work to dig him out.

place?" asked Ezry Pitts. "Wal' me'n Uncle
Jud and one of his boys run a fox into a hole
one day and we set to work to dig him out.
Now you all know that ye never can dig a fox
out in this county without a jug of hard cider.
'I don't know how they be in other counties
but that's the way fox hunters be here. 'Specially Uncle Jud, there. He couldn't throw
dirt a cent's wuth without hard cider.

"We had cider with us—a quart for ev'ry
three feet of hole. But I reckin that fox must
have worked one time on the Niggeruargan
canal. Uncle Jud reckined he still had four
feet to go when the cider giv' out. Says I to
the boy, 'Bub, ye jest run over 'cross to Uncle
Wack's and tell him to fill the jug up with his
best cider. Tell him I'll settle with him when
'I come long past his house on my way home.'
'Pritty soon the boy was back with the
cider. Uncle Jed got out of the hole, slucked
the sweat off'n his forrud, horsed the jug over
his elbow and took a good swig. 'Hah!' said
he. Then he smacked his lips harder 'n I ever
his elbow and took a good swig. 'Hah!' said
he. Then he smacked his lips harder 'n I ever
heerd him before.

"Crippy,' said he, 'that's jest got the ting to
it. But it seems to me it's jest a dite ha'ash.
Bee what you think, Ezry.'

"So I took a sniffer. Wal, I set down on a rock heap once that had a nest of yaller-tail hornets in it and I was some surprised. But I wa'n't any more so than when I took that drink. It seemed to taste like cider and then are in the property of the same than a contract the seemed to taste like cider and then are in the property of the same than a cider than a cider than the same than the sam and then ag'in there was something about it that made me think I had swallered a red-hot horseshoe, nails and all. I looked over to Uncle Jud, tryin' to git back my breath to say suthin'. He was rubbin' his hand around over his weskit in a circular fashion still greathy his line. ion, still smackin' his lips. 'Seems's if it set powerful hot on the innards,' says

Uncle Jud, the tears fairly poppin' out ag'inst his nose.
"'It's takin' holt of me jest a crumb, too,' I says. Then says I to the boy, 'Where'd ye git this tophet tonic?"

"'Over to Uncle Wack's where ye told me to

go,' says he.
"'Who drawed it for ye?" says I.
"'Uncle Wack did,' says he. 'He said he had some drawed into a jug in the suller way and he went right there and filled our jug up whilst I held the candle. He said the bill would be

some drawed into a jug in the suller way and ne went right there and filled our jug up whilst I held the candle. He said the bill would be twenty cents.'

"I must say it's burnin' my innards quite noticeable,' says Jud, sloofin' up the drool in the corners of his mouth. He really looked distressful. I wasn't feelin' well myself.

"Here, boy,' says I. 'Jest ye sample this will ye, and see what it tastes like to you. P'raps Uncle Jud and I have kind o' blunted our tasters while we've been knockin' round in the world.'

"The boy took in a mouthful and then he rose up into the air and spit it out. He was standing on a snow drift eight feet high. That mouthful that he spit out bored a hole right straight down to the ground jest as if it had been chain lightnin'.

"Weraow-w-w!' yelled the boy rollin' around on the snow; 'it's pizen.'

"Wal, I don't p'tend to say it's pizen', says Uncle Jud, 'but it sartain hain't dyspepsy cure.' And he kep'on rubbing his palm around over his weskit.

"Blame the stuff,' says I. Then I grabbed the jug and tipped it all over that fox hole. It commenced to run out—go-lug, go-lu g, go-lug! In less than ten seconds—whoosh, up come that fox. His hair was mostly burnt off and he was the most astonished lookin' fox I ever see in all my life. He giv' me a reproachful stare as much as to say, 'You're a mighty skinny sport, you are!' Then he twisted 'round and whined and lapped at his tail. Ev'ry time his tongue touched his brush and of hair come off. The fox kept whinin' and lapping and in no time almost he had

twisted round and whined and lapped at his tail. Ev'ry time his tongue touched his brush a wad of hair come off. The fox kept whinin' and lapping, and in no time, almost, he had lapped off ev'ry hair. There that tail stuck straight out like a nigger's sore finger. The fox looked at it melancholy-like for a minute and then he give me one more of those reproachful looks that said, 'I don't care to live in a world that's got sports in it like you!' Then he laid down there on the snow and died. Blame me, 'twas sad.

Then he laid down there on the snow and died. Blame me, 'twas sad.
"'Jud,' says I, 'we've got to hunt into this matter. I feel like as though there was a blacksmith shop set up inside of me.' So over to Wack's house we went as though Satan was chasin' us. We found the old sanup jest tallerin' his boots. He was a-comin' over to where we was diggin' out the fox. Trouble was, he was feared that we'd skin away without payin' him for that cider. him for that cider.

him for that cider.

"'Look here, Wack,' says I, 'what in tunket did ye put in that jug? Our stummicks feel as though we had lit spring bonfires in 'em.'

"'Cider,' says Wack. 'Course it's cider,' says he, puttin' down his taller and lookin' at us, astonished-like. 'The boy seed me draw it out of the jug. Come to the sullerway and I'll show ye that it was jest cider.'

"So he lit a candle and we went along to the sullerway. Wack took the stopper out of a jug and smelt. Then he took the stopper out of another jug on the lower step and smelt of that.

and smelt. Then he took the stopper out of another jug on the lower step and smelt of that. "'Wal, wal, wal,' says he, 'I vum I'm gettin' sort of careless. I've been and mixed them two jugs. That's dretful careless in me. Here I've been and sold ye lye instid of cider.' "'Lye!' we yelled.
"'Yas,' says he, 'did ye bring it back?' "'Some of it,' says I, rubbin' my stummick. 'I poured the rest down a fox hole, you blamed old hard-shelled turtle, you!' "'You understand,' says he, 'that lye is thutty cents a gallon. I was only chargin' ye twenty for the cider. I shall look to ye to make it right. I shall hav' to tax ye for the lye. 'Twas careless in me.' "Say, what do ye think of that? Like to sent

"Say, what do ye think of that? Like to sent us to Kingdom Come with pizen and never said a word about bein' sorry. All he thought about was gittin' ten cents more fer that lye."
"What did ye say to the mis'able old pettator bug?" asked The Postmaster.
"Whet in timenation could be say that would

tor bug?' asked The Postmaster.
"What in timenation could ye say that would

ation could ye say that would
express your feelin's?"
asked Ezry disgustedly.
"Furder, my tongue was so
swelled up by that time I
couldn't do justice to the
case. But I did tell him
one thing. I told him I'd
be swatted if I'd pay for
that lye. And he dunned
me for that thutty cents
ev'ry time he seed me fer ev'ry time he seed me fer a year. He's what I'd call about as peak-ed a man as we've got in town."

Ezry passed his plug around the circle.
When all were chewing comfortably Teed
Strout remarked: "Then ye don't none of ye

reckin that Wack will ever give the town a ten thousand dollar lib'ry buildin'?"

The "Huuh" that was snorted in chorus woke up the cat. She thought a window had blown

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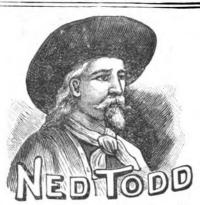
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# The Oklahoma Detective,

#### The Strange Cabin in the Wilderness.

BY HENRY DALE.

Author of "Boomers and Cattle Kings," "The Cheyenne Outbreak," "Shadowing a Shadow," "Chepita," "Mormonism Unveiled," Etc.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

The opening chapters of this intensely interesting story appeared in February Comfort. Back numbers may be obtained by enclosing three cents to Comfort, Augusta, Me., for each number desired.

During the past year portions of Indian Territory were opened to settlement by the Government allotment of lots by chance, and the scenes that were enacted in the years gone by, when Oklahoma was the objective point of settlers from east and west, north and south, were again presented in a much more exciting manner. A Kansas telephone girl luck is sequenced a lot valued at \$17,000, and others were nearly as fortunate.

Recovered the exciting seconds that have transmired in Olive.

fortunate.

Because of the exciting events that have transpired in Oklahoma and Indian Territory, events that have attracted the attention of the whole country, the story of "Ned Todd" is presented to our readers in the hope that instruction and entertainment may be derived from its perusal.

#### CHAPTER VII.

SEPARATED.

In that hour of peril, Archie Holland's muscles were like steel. His hand which under ordinary excitement might have trembled, was now as steady as an iron bar.
"Where are you going?" they heard a voice

"To the front room," another answered.
"Come on, we've got no time to fool away down

here."
"If Cap Snell don't hurry up, he'll get away." "Who fired that shot?"

"I don't know. It was some blunderin'

"He's awake by this time. Two shots ought to warn any one. Come on up to the attic." "Hello, there is the trap door open." "Let it alone, we've got no time to fix it now."

It was evident that these two men knew nothing about the fair prisoner, whom Snell had confined in the dungeon, nor did they dream that Archie Holland had found her. As

dream that Archie Holland had found her. As they went away, one of them said:

"Well, we've got the worst one fast."

"That evidently means that Todd is either dead or a captive," Archie Holland thought.

"Well, I must now prepare to fight it out alone and at the same time defend this unfortunate girl."

As the footsteps passed out of the upper room, Archie Holland said:

"Miss Miller if we would baffle our foes we must act at once. Come, let us get out of here."

"How will we?" she asked.

"There is a sort of a stairway leading above. I struck it several times in my fall."

He raised her to her feet, and she was so

weak that she scarce could stand.
"Come now, let me help you."
"I am very weak—I cannot walk—" she

began.

"Courage, courage, young lady."

"No, no, it is no use, kind sir. Go! fly for your life, save yourself, for I would only be a drag to hold you back."

"No, no, I cannot consent to that. We will both escape or perish together."

"It is folly for you to stay here with me, or attempt to escape with me. Fly! go while you can."

can."

"Young lady, I promised your dying father that I would find you and rescue you from these fiends, or die in the effort, and I intend to keep that solemn obligation."

"My father?"

"Yes, did I not tell you that I saw him die? They left him for dead, and we came upon the body before life was extinct. He died in my arms, and he begged me to find you and take you from Capt. Snell."

"Then you are not one of the Oklahoma ban-

"Then you are not one of the Oklahoma ban-

"Then you are not one of the Oklahoma banditti?"

No, I am like yourself a traveler in misfortune; but I will sooner die than violate the oath that I made to your father."

The young lady made another effort to walk and found her strength rapidly returning. They groped their way to the foot of the rickety stairs, and there the youth took the weak girl in his strong arms, and carried her to the apartment above. Here all was darkness.

The tramp of many feet in and about the house, the hurried whispering of voices could be heard. Something of an important and serious nature was evidently going on. Archie knew that it was the banditti assembling in the front room where he was supposed to be. At this moment the loud chuckling and giggling of the idiot could be heard.

"Shet up, Snap," some one growled, and the kick that momentarily silenced the idiot could be plainly heard from where they were.

"Miss Miller," Archie whispered, holding one of those little trembling hands in his own,

"Miss Miller," Archie whispered, holding one of those little trembling hands in his own, "you must be very brave now."
"I am—I am gaining my strength every moment," she answered.
"Follow me," he said, and he began groping his way about the room.
"Is there an outlet that leads to the open air?" she asked in a whisper.
"There certainly is, and yet I have been unable to find it."
The youth was growing his way about the

The youth was groping his way about the room, feeling with his fingers for some door or window, when he suddenly heard a loud knocking at the door of the room he and his companion had occupied but an hour or so

"The assassins have gone at their devilish ork," he said.

work," he said.
Loud angry voices could be heard even from where they stood.
"Open this door, open it quick or we will batter it down," cried one more loud and fierce than the others.
"Maybe he's not in there," said some one.
"Yes, he is."
"I say him go in" put in the receally best

"Yes, he is."
"I saw him go in," put in the rascally host.
Archie gnashed his teeth, and wished that he had the hypocrite in his power.
"Open the door, open it quick or we will smash it down," commanded an imperious voice of one who was, beyond doubt, in command of the bandits.
"Oh doer what shall we do?" sobbed the "Oh dear, what shall we do?" sobbed the

mand of the bandits.

"Oh dear, what shall we do?" sobbed the girl.

"We must get away as soon as possible for there will certainly be trouble if we do not."

"Crash, crash, crash," came heavy blows against the door above.

Archie was all the while busily engaged, trying to find the door, which in the darkness was no easy undertaking. At last his fingers ran against the window sash, and he seized it. It was made of iron same as the others, but when he tried to raise it, it yielded beneath his touch, and slid upward without any difficulty.

"Thank heaven!" he mentally ejaculated, "we at last have a means of escape."

The room in which they were was on the ground floor and it was but four or five feet from the window sill to the ground. He held the window up with one hand, while he passed his disengaged arm around the slender waist of Miss Miller, and raising her gently yet quickly passed her through the window. Although the moon shone, the window was so hemmed in by a shed and cluster of creeping vines all about the house, that the rays of the moon could not reach it.

It was like lowering the young lady into a pit of darkness.

It was like lowering the young lady into a

it was like lowering the young lady into a pit of darkness.

"Do not fear, I will soon be with you," said Archie, as she hung over the window sill.

"I am not afraid, let me go!" she answered

He held his arm about her waist, and low-

He held his arm about her waist, and lowered her, until her toes touched the earth, and then released his hold.

"I am coming," he whispered.
At this moment the door to the attic room gave way with a crash, and a yell rose upon the air. It was only for a moment, however. An instant later, all was the deepest silence.

"He's not here," cried a voice, hoarse with rage and disappointment.

"Gone," cried another.

"Gone where?—where is he?"

"Aye, that we don't know."

"Aye, that we don't know."
"Bryce, Bryce, didn't you say he was in this room?" asked another.
"Yes, I'd swar I saw him come in here," answered a man whom he recognized as their "But he's gone."

Twas him that fired that shot," suggested another.

"Then he's in the house yet?"
"Of course, he can't git away. Come on, an'
we'll have 'em both."
With a loud shout the banditti ran from the door clattering down the narrow, crooked

stairway.

Archie Holland had not waited for this determination on the part of the bandits, but leaped nimbly through the window, alighting on the ground by the side of the frightened

on the ground by the side of the frightened girl.

"Come," he whispered, placing his arm about her waist to support her faltering footsteps.

"We will yet escape them."

They hurried along under a sort of a shed and entered the door of an out-house, which was but a few feet away from the main building. The confusion and noise in the main building had increased to an uproar.

The out-building proved to be a sort of a general storage room. There were a few barrels, boxes and general rubbish in it. From a narrow aperture on the side opposite the main house the faint rays of the moon streamed in, giving a tolerable light.

"Wait here until I take a look around us," said Archie to his fair companion.

"I will," she answered sweetly and patiently. The full light of the moon fell on her features and he now discovered that she was very pretty. Her eyes and hair were black, and her features are grapher complexing clear and

very pretty. Her eyes and hair were black, and her features regular, complexion clear, and form symmetrical. When Daisy Miller dis-

covered that her rescuer, whom she had not been able before to see, was young and hand-some, she blushed. But rescuer and rescued had not time to give each other a moment's thought.

Every second was more precious to them than millions in gold. Archie wheeled to the narrow aperture but the next moment started back. Within four or five feet of it stood a tall, powerful brigand, holding a rifle in his

What was he to do? That sentry must be What was he to do? That sentry must be gotten rid of before their way was clear. Perhaps there was some other opening through which they might escape. The shed building in which they were hiding was sufficiently open for the moon's rays to shine through and partially light the interior. He discovered a door opening to another apartment, and without knowing whence it opened, he conducted his fair companion into it.

"Step carefully, so as not to make any noise,"

"Step carefully, so as not to make any noise," he whispered to her.
"I will."

"Twill."
"Do you know anything about the country about here?" he asked.
"Nothing."
"Here is a door anyway," he said as the

moon's rays revealed cracks about a door. Carefully raising the latch he noiselessly opened it, holding a pistol ready for any emergency. A man was sitting with his back toward the

A man was sitting with his back toward the door. The slight noise they were compelled to make, caused him to start, but before he could realize what was about to happen, the butt of Archie Holland's pistol descended upon his head with such crushing force that he fell senseless to the earth.

So slight was the noise, and so busily were the outlaws within engaged that they did not hear the blow which felled one of their comrades.

rades.
Without a moment's delay Archie seized Miss
Miller in his arms and bore her from the house
to the wood. He had gone but a few rods
when he paused beneath a giant oak to rest and
listen

"Miss Miller," he said, "I have a companion and friend somewhere near here, whose services would be invaluable to us if we could find him?

'Find him and bring him here by all means,"

interrupted the brave girl.
"But you, will I dare leave you alone?"
"Yes, sir, I will have no fears at being left alone."

"I think you had better stay here. By the way, the branches of this tree come quite low to the ground, can you not be concealed among them?"

He assisted her to mount among the thickest of the limbs, and then bidding her remain until he should come for her, he went down

the forest path.

On the right the small bushes and tall grass formed a complete jungle. We can hardly say that Archie's plans were fully matured. He knew that unless the pistol shot he had heard had killed the border detective he was in all probability alive, but a prisoner. If he was a prisoner and Archie could succeed in rescuing him, he felt sure that they would be able to make their way to the Boomers' camp, where they would be safe. Then he would resume his search for his father.

search for his father.

He paused as the sound of footsteps coming up the path fell on his ears. To avoid meeting the person coming up the path he withdrew to the thicket and sank to the ground.

"It's no use of staying there," one of the approaching men was saying. "One's enough to watch him now that he's tied. We must be looking after the other feller."

They went hurriedly up the hill and he could not hear anything more they said.

An angry yell rose from the house, at the discovery that he had escaped. The yell was answered by a shout from the men who had just passed the concealed youth, and were now between him and the oak tree, where he had left Daisy. Archie realized that she was in danger of recapture, but he knew from what he had heard that the ranger was a captive somewhere, and that he could best serve the beautiful young lady by securing his liberty and assistance. assistance.

CHAPTER VIII.

The perils of the day sank into insignificance

when compared with the night.

When Todd heard that command and found When Todd heard that command and found himself seized and the pistol muzzle thrust against his temple, he did not despair. For a single moment he seemed to yield to his would-be captors; but, just as the fingers clutching his shoulders began to relax their grip, he performed a most wonderful backward somersault, the toe of his heavy boot striking the arm that held the pistol.

There was a blinding flash, a stunning report, and the bullet whistled harmlessly through the air.

"Hold on!" roared one of the two men who had seized him from behind. "Don't let him break away."

"Hold on!" roared one of the two men who had seized him from behind. "Don't let him break away."

But they knew not what a giant they had to contend with. Todd was on his feet in a moment, and with his left hand, which he had managed to free, struck one of the ruffisms a blow which laid him sprawling on his back. He had his revolver in his right hand, and could he have got that free also, he would undoubtedly have made it disastrous for the three men who had pounced upon him; but the man who had seized his right arm was a powerful fellow, who realized that his life depended on his holding the pistol like grim death.

The Major struck him once on the side of the head, staggering him, and would have come out best in the struggle, had not the man who had fired the shot recovered from the effects of the kick and knocked the detective senseless with the butt of his pistol.

"There, Jack, you hev done it," said the man who had been struggling with the pistol, stooping over the fallen man and feeling of his head to see if the skull was broken.

"Don't believe it. Ye'd better be a looking."

to see if the skull was broken.

to see if the skull was broken.

"Don't believe it. Ye'd better be a looking out, fur he may only be playin' possum," said the man called Jack. "He's got more lives than a cat, an', sf we don't look sharp he'll git away with us yet."

One of the men coolly wrung the revolver from the hand of the detective and put it in his helt.

his belt.
"Now, Jack, let's tie him hard and fast," he said.

said.

"All right, Sam, hev ye a cord?"

"No, but Tom has some buckskin thongs."

"Where is Tom?"

"Here," growled the man who had been knocked down, starting to his feet, rubbing his bruised and bleeding face.

"What's the matter, 'Tom?"

"Dun no, think it must have been a comet struck me. Saw more'n forty thousand stars," answered Tom.

struck me. Saw more'n forty thousand stars," answered Tom.
"It wuz Ned Todd's fist as hit ye. Come, gire us a thong to tie him."
"Hain't ye killed him?"
"No."

"Then let me run a knife to his liver fur that knock he giv me."

"No, we don't want to do it yit."
"Why?"

"The Cap'n wants him a prisoner."

"The Cap'n wants him a prisoner."
"Oh, the Cap'n go to thunder. He ain't been knocked down like I hev."
"Give me the thongs and shet up," said Sam. Tom, grumbling some unintelligible threats floundered among his numerous pockets and at last drew out a handful of deer skin thongs.
"Thar they are," he said.
"Come, Jack, and help tie him."
"I believe he broke my arm with that kick," said Jack.

"Come both o' ye and help me tie him, quick," said Sam, for he had at this moment discovered that the unconscious man had begun

discovered that the unconscious man had begun to show some symptoms of recovery. "We're got to be quick about this chap, for if he comes to hisself he will prove too much for us yet." "I'd ruther cut his throat," growled Tom. But they aided Sam and soon had Ned Todd tied hard and fast. When he was secured they began to breathe easier. "Now if Cap was only here we'd be all right," said Sam, sitting on the ground by the side of the captive. "Where is he?" asked Tom.

"Where is he?" asked Tom.
"He went to look up some o' the others. He thought that this would be an awful job, but guess that we managed it without any great amount o' trouble."
"Ef ye'd got knocked down like me, ye'd a thought that it was some trouble."
"Cap will be surprised when he learns what we've done. The wust o' the two is bagged as neatly as can be, an' there'll be no trouble in gittin' the other. What, hello, comin to yer-





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self are ye? Well, I'm glad on it. Hup ye'll come out all right so we kin have a chance to hear ye squeal. I thort yer skull was too thick fur a little whack like that to crack it."

Sam glared in exultation at the prostrate man before him. All the border desperadoes and outlaws had good reason to dread Ned Todd. He had brought more road agents to justice than any other man, and was heartily despised by all. The three scoundrels knew that this act of theirs would give them quite a local reputation among their comrades on the border.

tation among their comrades on the border.

The detective made no response to their taunts and jeers.

Nearly an hour had elapsed since his capture, when the report of a pistol was heard in the direction of the house, and a terrible confusion ensued. Men could be heard running about the house. the house.

the house.

"Thar, they've got the other 'n," said Tom.

"No, they hain't," returned Jack, seriously.

"I bet he's got away."

"Let's go up and see."

"No, we mustn't leave this feller."

"Why, he's tied so he can't budge an inch," said the impetuous Tom.

"But he might," responded the cautious Sam.

"He's the wust of the two, and if we let him git away—"

"He's the wust of the two, and if we let him git away..."
"He'll not git away. By Jiminy, thar's a fight up thar, an' I'm goin' t' hev a hand in it," cried Tom.
"So'm I," put in Jack. "Sam's enough t' guard a feller what is tied."
"You'd better stay here, boys," said Sam, somewhat alarmed.

"No, no, we're goin'; one's enough to watch him. Ef ye can't do it, blow his brains out an' come on." They hurried away up the narrow path, and Sam clutched his revolver in his hand and glared furiously at the prisoner on the ground

before him. "Yve a notion to take his advice" he hissed through his teeth. "I've jist a notion to put the pistol to yer head and blow yer brains out. What ye got to say about it?"
"Nothing," Major Todd answered.
"Ye ain't?"

"No, it would be useless to say anything. I

"No, it would be useless to say anything. I am powerless to prevent you."
The scoundrel had raised his pistol, evidently to carry out his threat, when a loud yell rose on the air. What did it mean? The guard rose to his feet, standing over the detective listening to the noise on the hill above him and giving little attention to the prisoner. He really needed no attention, for never was a man more harpless.

needed no attention, for never was a man more helpless.

"I guess thar's a rumpus over thar," said the guard, turning back the broad brim of his hat and trying to pierce the darkness with his eyes.

So intently was he engaged that he did not hear the slight rustling of bushes in his rear. The detective heard the noise and began to take hope. Suddenly he heard a footstep. The guard heard it, too, and turned—but too late.

Whack! came a blow upon his head and he staggered and fell. Another blow rendered him unconscious.

him unconscious.

Of course the newcomer was none other than Archie Holland.

"Are you hurt?" he asked, going to where the detective lay.

"No."

"Are you tied?"

"Yes."
"Well, I will soon have you loose," said Archie, whipping out his knife and cutting the bonds which bound the detective.
"Now look to that fellow; he may revive sufficiently to get away," said Todd, rubbing his wrists which had suffered severely from the tight thongs.

Archie went to the side of the fallen outlaw,

Archie went to the side of the fallen outlaw.

Archie went to the side of the fallen outlaw, who had just begun to revive.

"I'm glad I did not kill him," he said, "because I want bloodshed to be my last resort; but now that he is not dead what on earth are we to do with him?"

"Handcuff and gag him."

"Have you any irons with you?"

"Yes, here's a pair in my coat pocket. I usually carry a pair about me. Put these on him and we can tie his feet with some of these deer skin thongs."

Before Sam had time to recover, he was securely bound. Todd then suggested that he be taken farther back into the wood.

"We may have the rascals all about in no

"We may have the rascals all about in no time," he argued.
"Yes, Major, and there is another person besides ourselves to look after," said the youth.
"Who?"

"Miss Daisy Miller, the daughter of the man

who was killed by Captain Snell. The young lady who was captured by the Oklahoma banditti." He then proceeded to give the detective

brief account of his adventures since they had separated, indicating the strange manner in which he had discovered Miss Miller.

which he had discovered Miss Miller.

"This has been a night of miraculous adventures," said Todd.

"Yes, and they are not over yet."

"No, listen; they are scattering. We must get away from here."

"Where will we go?"

"Get this prisoner out of the way," said the detective. Major Todd seized the bandit, who had now almost recovered consciousness, "Don't dare give utterance to a single cry or I

"Don't dare give utterance to a single cry, or I will knife you," he said.
"Spare me, Oh, Ned Todd, spare me," the

wretch groaned.

"I am glad that you are aware who I am. If you know me you will understand that I am not to be triffed with."

"I know that," was the answer in a pitiful, whining tone.

"Then keep your mouth closed."

"Then keep your mouth closed."
They crept back to the thicket, dragging their captive with them. Todd had been careful to possess himself of the rascal's pistol and

They are searching the woods for me," said

Archie, with some anxiety.

The shouts and sounds of voices had grown less distinct, but the cracking of twigs indicated that the Oklahoma outlaws were in the

"We can very easily get away from here," said the detective.
"But Miss Miller is sitting among the branches of that great, old oak tree; we must not leave her behind," Archie answered.

A cloud came over Ned Todd's face, but he action came over Ned Todd's face, but he made no answer. As they were groping their way through the dark jungle, they suddenly came upon a small shed-like house, about ten feet square. It was made of rough hewn boards not very strong. For years it had evidently been neglected for the grass and weeds had grown up about it so thick that they almost concealed it.

Creeping vines, wild ivy and hazel were

growing all about it, so that they were almost against the house before they had seen it.
"This is a good place to halt and watch their movements," said the detective.
"Yes, but we must find Miss Miller."

Loud voices could be heard not fifty paces

away. "They are about the very tree in which she is hiding," said Archie. "Heaven grant they may not find her."

CHAPTER IX.

THE PRISONER'S ESCAPE.

Angry, excited men could be heard tramping through the woods. Oaths and imprecations could be heard filling the air, and at times almost swelling to a sullen roar.

"I wish we had her here," the youth whis-

Todd had been silent until now. He knew the locality in which the robbers were must necessarily bring them near the young lady's place of concealment.

"I think one of us had better stay here," he said, after a few moments' reflection, "and the other go to the tree and bring her here to us. We have got to do some fine work just now, or we will lose our heads yet."

"I will go."

"I will go."

"I believe you had better stay here and guard the prisoner. My experience in wood craft may enable me to do more than you can."

But Archie was anxious to go himself. He thought that Miss Miller would be more apt to recognize in him a friend, than in a man whom she had never seen. After some precious minutes lost in argument, Todd said:

"Well, then, since you insist on it, you can go. I will stay and keep guard over this fellow. A great deal depends on keeping him safe."

Archie waited for no second instruction, but

Archie waited for no second instruction, but started off through the woods.
"Come on, come on," cried a voice not over thirty paces away. "Let's go whar the other is. We'll be sure o' one o' em yit."
Archie Holland fell to the ground and lay as still as if he were dead.

Archie Holland fell to the ground and lay as still as if he were dead.

"That voice, that voice," he thought. "I have heard it before, but where? It is like some long forgotten dream, it is familiar to me, and yet it brings an unpleasantness with it."

"All right, Cap, we are comin", responded half a dozen other voices.

There were some commands in a tone so low that our young friend could not catch, them

There were some commands in a tone so low that our young friend could not catch them, and then followed a tramp of feet down the bill.

"Now is my time," thought the youth, and he rose and crept through the jungle, parting

he rose and crept through the jungle, parting the bushes with his hand so carefully that he made scarcely any noise.

The oak tree was soon in sight, and he made his way as carefully and with as much speed as possible toward it.

"Is she there? has she been discovered and is the almost dead with fright?" he was asking

she almost dead with fright?" he was asking himself, and trembling with apprehension, despite all his good resolutions to the contrary. He is now beneath the tree, his eye trying to pierce the gloom and get a glimpse of the fair fingitive.

Before he knew it he was almost face to face with a man. A cocked revolver was at his head, and a deep voice in a low chuckle, said:

"I've got ye now!"
"Hold on, who are you?" demanded the youth.

"He, he, he, I know who you are, and this settles it."
"Snap!" went the pistol.

"Snap!" went the pistol.

Archie Holland could scarcely realize that his life had been saved only by the pistol missing fire. He acted on the impulse of the moment, and so suddenly that he astonished himself. At a bound he was on the man and struck him one well directed blow which made him stagger. He recovered immediately, however, and closed with the youth. In that dark and silent old wood there then commenced a death struggle. Neither spoke nor made any outcry. Luck was again on the side of the youth. His antagonist stumbled and fell heavily, his head striking a stone with such force as to stun him. Archie stooped over the prostrate form and gave him a whack with the buttend of his pistol to assure himself that he

trate form and gave him a whack with the butter that he trate form and gave him a whack with the butter of this pistol to assure himself that he would be bothered no more by him, and hastened to the tree.

"Miss Miller, Miss Miller," he whispered.
"Yes, sir," came the voice, faint, yet distinct, from the branches of the stout old oak.
"Hasten down quick."

The girl made but slight noise as she descended, and the youth kept a sharp look-out for their enemy.
"Here I am," she said, and turning round he saw the beautiful girl standing at his side. The pale moonlight made her white face radiant and her black eyes were in strong relief against her clear complexion.
"We must go," he whispered. "My friend is now waiting for us in this jungle."
"Sam, Sam, Sam, where are you?" a voice was calling at the foot of the hill.
"Here, quick, come on, they have discovered the escape of Major Todd, and we must go to him as rapidly as we can."

Drawing her small, trembling hand through his arm, he started through the thicket. Thorn bushes tore their clothes, and switches flew back stricking them in the face, and in some places the jungle seemed almost impenetrable. some places the jungle seemed almost impenetrable.

To add to their general discomfiture, the voices of their pursuers could be heard at times too near to be comfortable.

"They are somewhere in the woods or thicket," cried one voice, not over fifty yards

Archie paused and held the fair, trembling girl at his side, determined to defend her with his life.

"Do not be frightened, Miss Miller," he said. "I shall defend you. They shall not harm you." She trembled, yet a strange thrill of pleasure passed over her frame. She realized what a noble escort she had. Won't they search the woods?" she said.

"Yes, and we must join Major Todd and eave here."

leave here."

"Is he alone, why did he not come with you?"

"I left him guarding a prisoner."

"A prisoner?"

"Yes, we captured a bandit, and are now encumbered with a prisoner. But here we are," he concluded, as they suddenly came upon the vine covered wall of the strange out building.

"Archie," whispered a voice from the darkness.

"It is I. Is all right?" "Yes, you succeeded?"
"I did."

"They are all round us now." "I know it; listen, they are beating up the bushes."

The sound of tramping feet could be heard.

The detective and his young companion stood with pistol in hand, ready for conflict. "Hadn't we better make a fight here?" asked

the youth.

"Not if we can help it. If the worst comes to the worst we will fight, but not as long as it can be avoided."

"Where is the prisoner?"

"In that old house."

"Had we not better bring him out?"

"Had we not better bring him out?" "No, he is bound and gagged, so that there is no doubt but that he will be quiet. He understands that he's to be shot if he makes

The youth crept to the opening and looked in. Dark as it was, he could make out the form of the prisoner sitting upon the floor. All sounds in the woods seemed to cease, and Archie, creeping back to where his companion was asked: was, asked:

Are they all gone?" "Are they all gone?"
"No, not by a good deal. They are nearer than they seem."
"There, I heard a footstep."
"Where?"

"On the other side of the house."
Suspicious sounds were heard by both. They were very much like the faint creak of rusty hinges, and both sprang to the window of the old house just in time to see the prisoner jerked

through an open door on the opposite side.
"Ha, ha, ha!" rang out a wild, hoarse laugh
on the other side.

"He's gone, Major," cried Archie.
"Shoot him."
"It's too late."

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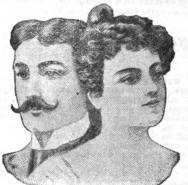
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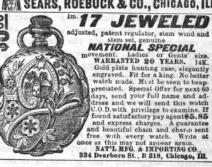


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No month of all the year has been given so much attention by poets and writers as the month of April. Over and over the "low hung clouds" the April day of smiles and tears has been described and praised. It is the swift transition from sunshine to rain that seems to have endeared the fickle month to those gifted with imagination. Change seems to be synonymous with charm to those who are observers of the fickle month. "If you were April's lady" was evidently intended to point to a resemblance between the months and fair femininity -all smiles and tears.

We are showing our warm admiration for Germany. This might be done as effectually if we really approached the Emperor in a spirit of the county officers, and therefore the readers fair minded inquiry. Germany as well as some other nations has a system of old age pensions that show an advanced plane of thought. Our millionaires give with unlimited hand to colleges and kindred institutions-few give to make the closing years of life more pleasant to those who are not subjects for the almshouse. Homes for the aged when the payment of a small sum will secure good care are few. Mr. Carnegie has given a large sum for the establishment of old age pensions among his employees. Some railroads have a similar provision. The idea is one that should appeal to charitable givers. No memorial to a loved father or mother could be more lasting than aid to the humble aged and poor.

One of the most interesting incidents of Prince Henry's visit was the fact that on his way over he had gone into the steerage of the Kronprinz Wilhelm and asked the steerage passengers why they were leaving Germany. A fair sized crowd from Germany lands at New York with every incoming steamer. As the Prince journeyed through our land he must have felt surprise at the thousands and thousands of Germans who are now citizens of the Republic. It may be food for thought to this scion of royalty to ask "Why?" One irreverent newspaper suggested that it was in order to avail themselves of the democratic privilege of the plain citizen of New York who called from a mud scow to the imperial yacht "Hello, Hen!" It may be precisely for that reason for back of the lack of breeding and the coarseness of the greeting was a real spirit of sturdy independence. In reality, they might have answered the query as to their change of home by saying as one writer has that America spells opportunity.

Statistics show the surprising fact that New York is the fourth city of the United States in the size of its colored population. Washington, Baltimore and New Orleans are ahead of New York but with those exceptions. New York leads every southern city. A remarkably small per cent. of the number belong to the dependent or criminal class. There is some light in these figures upon the solving of the "negro problem." It has been claimed that the future of the colored race lay in their adopting an agricultural life. They must be able to force success through other means of industry as these alone can furnish employment in a great city. They also seem able to combat successfully adverse climatic conditions for New York is not tropical in its climate. The negro in the professions will probably have to look for support to his own people unless he demonstrates a rare ability that lifts him beyond the reach of average competition. The field of domestic service is open for all with a demand that always exceeds the supply. New York has the during the next few months, those of our

#### LOVE, THE SLEUTH.

By HOLMAN F. DAY.

CHAPTER I.

"But Where is the Body?"



N the 24th of June, 1898, Mansfield viland bewildered by and sensational affair in its history—a case that became ere its untangling-one of the great criminal mysteries of the nation, even though it occurred in an obscure village in Maine.

I refer to the "Squire Brett Disappearance," or the Purinton mill mystery.

Thus on the 24th day of June, 1898, Squire Caleb Brett, 85 years old, leading business man of his county, ex-state senator, richest resident in the town of Mansfield, disappeared in broad noon from among his life-long friends, leaving for clues only snips from his garments and his well-known beaver hat.

The narrative carefully follows the developments of the affair and the reader is therefore left month by month in the same puzzled frame of mind as that which prevailed in Mansfield during the unraveling of the case.

The story gives vivid pictures of life in a typical New England village during a period of excitement and the characters are clear cut. As a matter of fact, the story is in a measure based on actual happenings and most of the characters are drawn from life. Though the detective element is introduced in the tale there are none of the unreal effects of melodrama but the movement of events travels connectedly and naturally. All the evidence in the affair will be set down for the perusal of the reader just as it came before the detectives and may exercise detective talents on his or her own account. Those who follow the story should take this evidence and study it, even as

largest demand for labor and the negro must | subscribers whose time has expired should imbe able to meet this demand or the race would not be so fully represented in New York.

#### Are You Pleased with This Month's "Comfort P"

We would like to hear from all our sub-We would like to hear from all our subscribers, write us everybody and let the editor know what departments in Comfort please you most. Do you like the short stories the continued stories or the departments best?

How do you like the opening chapters of "Adrift in New York?" This story will develop into a very interesting and exciting account of Tom and Florence braving the world. Don't fail to follow it.

into a very interesting and exciting account of Tom and Florence braving the world. Don't fail to follow it.

The Comport Clubs, the Prize Essays, the Homefinder and Lawyer, the Floral Department and Pictorial Paragraphs of 40 people as well as the New Puzzle departments and other features just added we trust will please our many readers and we hope to hear from you and learn just which ones you like most as we want to give you just what will please you all most. Next month we have the magazine supplement to add in order to give you still more to the good things and if you do not receive Comport and the supplement you will know it is because you did not Pay up. Every reader should extend their subscriptions now for six months while it only costs 10c. That is the only way for you to be sure of getting the May paper supplement. We are removing thousands of expiring subscriptions this month; unless you are paid May up-to-date yours will surely be removed. Be sure and fill out the coupon on this page and send in and also can you not help Mother Wray along and send some of the endless Chain Coupons printed on page 17 to your friends and earnestly arge them to subscribe now. It will please the dear old lady very much and we know your friends will more than thank you for calling their attention to "COMFORT" util and we know your friends will more than thank you for calling their attention to "COMFORT" it is now so full of good things.

Each month to Comport of the atta is so to date in good wholesome interesting reading and pictures as Compon in the view of the wholesome interesting reading and pictures as Compon interesting reading and pictures as Compon in the subscription on which the subscription of the subscription on the page and send in and also can you not

#### Great Colonial Story.

The intense interest manifested in all parts of the nation over the many Colonial Novels, such as Richard Carvel, Janice Merideth, To Have and to Hold, etc., issued during the past year or two has aroused a feeling of high regard for the exciting adventures of the Revolutionary times. In the May number we shall begin a very strong story of love and adventure, "The Daughter of a Whig," having to do with events of the good old Colonial days. Etta W. Pierce, who died not long since, was a most dramatic writer of stories, bearing on events happening about old Boston, dating back over a hundred years ago, and we know our readers will be more than pleased with this particular story. As this and several other stories of its like will be published in COMFORT

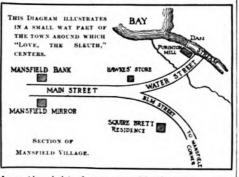
did the officers concerned. All will have the plain facts to work on. It is asserted by the author with a considerable measure of confidence that the denouement, which is reserved was shocked for the final chapter, will be difficult of anticipation. If you solve the mystery in your own the most perplexing mind you will prove a better detective than most of the shrewd men who were employed on the case.

> Through the tale, mingling with the grimmer incidents runs a love story that gives heart interest to many occurrences.

> "Love, The Sleuth," will be commenced in May and will run through most of the present year. This announcement is made so that all readers may have time to arrange their subscriptions and now take advantage of the low priced 6 months' trial subscription offer on this page only 10c. Remember, that unless you have renewed or subscribed within the past six months that Comfort will be discontinued with this issue unless you renew at once.

> Send in either your full year or 6 months' subscription today. In this way only can you secure free the 32 page magazine section supplement to be issued with the May edition.

Above are the opening and concluding sentences of the first chapter of COMFORT'S new serial story that will be commenced in the May number. Though the Squire was whisked



from the sight of men so suddenly and mysteriously, circumstances developed to involve first one and then another of his associates and for months the village of Mansfield was rent by sensations and surprises, suspicions and accusations.

mediately renew as we are carefully revising our entire subscription list and all expiring subscriptions will be removed as fast as we can reach them. If your time is about to expire, or if you are a new reader see to it that you either extend your subscription for another year, while you can do so at the low price of 25c., or else take advantage of the trial 10c. six months' offer on this page so you will not miss the first installment of the story and also keep in touch with the new departments, Puzzles and other prize features that are being added each month to Comfort's already interesting

I Will Cure You of

# Heart vs. Detectives in the Great "Purinton Mill Mystery." Rheumatism.

# 

After 2,000 experiments, I have learned how to cure Rheumatism. Not to turn bony joints into flesh again; that is impossible. But I can cure the disease always, at any stage, and forever.

I ask for no money. Simply write me a postal and I will send you an order on your nearest druggist for six bottles of Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure, for every druggist keeps it. Use it for a month, and if it does what I claim pay your druggist \$5.50 for it. If it doesn't, I will pay him myself.

I have no samples. Any medicine that can affect Rheumatism with but a few doses must be drugged to the verge of danger. I use no such drugs. It is folly to take them. You must get the disease out of the blood.

My remedy does that, even in the most difficult, obstinate cases. No matter how impossible this seems to you. I know it and I take this risk. I have cured tens of thousands of cases in this way, and my records show that 39 out of 40 who get those six bottles pay, and gladly. I have learned that people in general are honest with a physician who cures them. That is all I ask. If I fail I don't expect a penny from you.

Simply write me a postal card or letter. Let me send you an order for the medicine; also a book. Take it for a month, for it won't harm you anyway. If it cures pay \$5.50. I leave that entirely to you. Address Dr. Shoop, Box 304, Racine, Wis.

Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

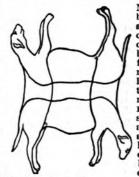
seven dollars if your place does not contain but a hundred inhabitants. We say to all now working to keep working. Keep working.

#### Presidential Prize Puzzle.

The awards will be announced in next month's issue, giving full details of all prize winners under this offer.

#### Ned Todd Illustrated.

The dramatic interest now being developed in Comfort's great detective story compels some striking illustrations to be made and next month we shall picture some of the most interesting situations which our artist is now busily engaged in making. Don't fail to extend your subscription at once, so as not to miss any of the thrilling chapters that are coming during the next few months. See subscription coupon offer for six months' extension. You will receive the magazine supplement and continue "Adrift in New York," if you subscribe or extend now. tend now.



N the March number of "COMFORT" appeared the picture of two dogs, obviously dead, which by the addition of four lines would be restored to active life. Herewith is the solution of the mystery, and "COMFORT" readers will see by hunting see by hunting around and holding at proper distance how easily the prop-er lines have brought the appar-ently lifeless dogs

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Owing to extensive additional improvements in "COMFORT" much beyond those first contemplated, compelling us to issue a Magazine Supplement, we may be obliged soon to announce an advance in the subscription price from 25c. to 50c. a year, of which we give timely notice to our valued old subscribers. To all subscribers old or new we make the following offer at this time. Fill out, sign and send in the special coupon subscription blank below with ten cents to pay for six months' trial subscription to subscribe on these remarkably favorable conditions can do so by at once filling out and sending us the subscription stand any new readers who now wish to subscribe on these remarkably favorable conditions can do so by at once filling out and sending us the subscription blank printed herewith and 10c. in cash.

wise order. You get a six months' trial subscription for ten cents, and continue for 25c. a year if you like. If you do not like, you can stop it at any time. We feel that this offer will be fully appreciated by our many readers and if you are already a paid up subscriber it would be well for you all to accent the same at once and have your up subscriber it would be well for you all to accept the same at once and have your subscription extended at the low price now offered. Subscribers in arrears should all immediately remit as "COMFORT" will hereafter be stopped the second month after expiration.

To Cur New Readers. We hold this To Guy and any new readers who now wish to subscribe on these remarkably favorable conditions can do so by at once filling out and sending us the subscription blank printed herewith and 10c. in cash.

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For enclosed 10c. please enter my subscription for COMFORT for six months paid in advance, and after that continue my subscription at 25c. a year unless otherwise or dered, I thus being entitled to and sure to receive "Comfort" May Magazine Supplement.

	(X
me	Count



odor of onions from the breath. To preserve eggs apply a solution of gum arabic to the shells and pack them in dry charcoal. Blood stains may be removed by rubbing with a piece of cotton batting soaked in chloroform.

To prevent a lamp from smoking soak the wick in vinegar and dry it thoroughly before you use it. When chamber towels get thin in the middle cut then in two, sew the selvages together and hem the sides.

When the color has been taken from silk by acids it may be restored by applying to the spot alittle ammonia. Hold your needle over something white if you have trouble in threading it.

Old cotton stockings may be made into lampwicks which answer very well.

To keep insects away from bird cages suspend a little bag of sulphur in the cage.

One of the simplest and most effective is a converted to the control of the surplest and most effective in the cage.

White lace may be revived by breathing upon it and shaking it and flapping it. The use of the iron turns ace yellow. If vegetables are cooked a very short time, two or three minutes too long over the fire, they lose their beauty and flavor.

and flavor.

Silk articles should not be kept folded in white paper as the chloride of lime used in bleaching the paper will impair the color of the silk.

A good bug poison is made of proof spirit one pint; camphor, two ounces; oil of turpentine, four ounces; corrosive sublimate, one ounce. Mix and apply. Cream of tartar water, with a little lemon juice added, is an excellent old fashioned remedy for prickly heat. It may be drank in any quantity without harm.

An excellent ointment for bunions is made of iodine twelve grains, lard or spermacetti ointment half an ounce It should be rubbed on two or three times a day.

Feather-beds should be opened every third year, the licking well dusted, scraped and waxed and the feathers pound, water five quarts. Boil for two hours and strain, dressed. A small loop of elastic, sewed to the inner side of the sleeve so that it may be attached to the cuff button, will be found to be better than a pin to hold the cuff securely in place.

Do not screw gas globes tightly to the fixtures, as the heat expansion will crack them. The same is true of lamp chimneys which are kept in place by screws, as many are.

To preserve furs from moth wash them in warm water one pint, corrosive sublimate, twelve grains. Dry thoroughly after washing. Handle the mixture carefully as it is poison.

A fire in the chimney may be extinguished by throwing powdered brimstone on the fire in the grate or stove. Close the grate or stove to prevent the fumes coming out into the room. into the room

Vinegar and salt, or oxalic acid, will restore badly tarnished brass. After rubbing with this, wash the brass thoroughly with soap and water and polish with rotten stone and oil.

A safe protection to gilt frames and other articles from flies and dust is oiled tarlatan. If it cannot be purchased already prepared, it may be prepared by brushing boiled oil over cheap tarlatan.

WOMAN

Keep your temper, whatever else you may give away. Ink stains many be taken out of mahogany by applying spirits of salt.

One of the simplest and most effective cures for burns is a covering of wheat flour. Leaves of parsley eaten with vinegar will remove the lump.

soup.

When you dry salt for the table do not put it into the salt cellars until it is cold, otherwise it will harden into a

Bottles may be cleaned by putting fine coals into them and well shaking either with water or not, hot or cold, according to the substance that fouls the bottle. To restore the color of black goods use bruised galls



CONDUCTED BY AUNT SARAH.



REQUEST from one REQUEST from one of our Western readers for the exact recipes for Boston brown bread and baked beans is very gladly complied with herewith, and we also illustrate the historic bean pot, which is so familiar in all New England households.

BOSTON BAKED BEANS.

Pick over one quart pea beans, cover with cold water and soak over night. In the morning drain, cover with fresh water, heat

morning drain, cover with fresh water, heat slowly, keeping below the boiling point until the skins burst. Drain beans, throwing the water out of doors, and not in the sink. Scald rind of one-half pound salt fat pork, scrape, remove one-fourth inch slice and place in bottom of pot. Cut through the rind of remaining pork every half inch, making cuts an inch deep. Put the beans in pot and bury the pork in the beans, leaving only the rind exposed. Mix together one tablespoon salt, two tablespoons molasses and three of sugar; add one cup boiling water, and pour this mixture over the beans. Then add enough more boiling water to cover the beans. Put cover on bean pot, put in oven and bake slowly six or eight hours, taking off the cover the last hour of cooking that the pork rind may become brown and crisp. Add water as needed, usually necessary as often as once an hour, and be sure the water is boiling. Add no water after cover has been removed. If yellow-eyed beans are used they should be boiled longer before putting into the pot, than the pea beans, as they need more cooking to make them soft. If one hasn't a regular earthen bean pot, a five pound lard pail can be substituted with good results.

BOSTON BROWN BREAD.

Mix and sift one cup each of rye meal, corn

BOSTON BROWN BREAD.

Mix and sift one cup each of rye meal, corn meal and graham flour, one teaspoon salt and three-fourths tablespoon soda. Add three-

fourths cup mo-lasses and two cups sour milk, or one and threefourths cups sweet milk. Turn into buttered tin and steam three and a half hours. Mould should be



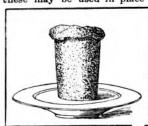
Mould should be filled only two-thirds full. The regular mould, having a hole in the center, is the best kind to use if a large loaf is to be steamed, as it is then sure to be well done all through. One-pound baking powder boxes make attractive little loaves, and are easy to slice, and the slices are more delicate because so much smaller than those from a large loaf.

For steaming, put the mould on a wire rack in bottom of kettle, fill kettle half full of boiling water, and add boiling water as needed. Be sure the cover of mould is tied down, to avoid a possibility of steam getting in.

With the usual Saturday night meal of beans

avoid a possibility of steam getting in.

With the usual Saturday night meal of beans and brown bread, a pie of some sort ordinarily forms the desert, with a cup of good Oolong tea. A famous pie in the farming districts of New England is the dried apple pie with one crust. Nowadays almost everyone uses evaporated apple, if the fresh fruit has given out, and these may be used in place of the old time dried apple for a Tart Pie. They should be soaked over night in cold water. Then place them in a small earthen baking dish and add a little hot water. Cover



water. Cover three hours in a

BROWN BREAD.

BROWN BREAD.

Be dark red in color. Brown sugar should be used instead of white, to retain the dark color. Cool, spread apples on the bottom crust, and then place narrow strips of paste across the top of the apple, from side to side, to form a lattice work on the top. They should be about half an inch wide, and an inch apart. Apricot filling may be used in this way in place of the apple. Dried apricos can be bought everywhere, and by soaking them over night and boiling until soft, with enough sugar to take off the acid flavor, a very rich filling is made.

Cole slaw, or pickled cabbage, makes a good relish for this supper, and if one has red cabbage, the effect is a little more striking. For this shred finely one-half head of cabbage, let stand in salt water for two or three hours, allowing two tablespoons salt to one quart cold water. Drain and cover with one half cup each of cold water and vinegar, cooked with six cloves, and one-fourth teaspoon mustard seed and strained. Let cabbage stand two hours in a cool place—drain and serve.

and strained. Let cabbage stand two hours in a cool place—drain and serve.

BROWNIES.

Mix together one-third cup butter, one-third cup powdered sugar, one-third cup molasses, one egg well beaten, seven-eighths cup bread flour and one cup nut meats, cut in pieces, (walnut, pecan or butternut meat can be used.)

Bake in small, shallow tins and ornament the top of each cake with a piece of the nut.
Mrs. A. E. Canada has sent us the following recipe for

MOLASSES PIE.



Here is the experience of an
American housekeeper who lived a while in

American housekeeper who lived a while in Japan.

She employed a Japanese butler and he employed all the other servants. The ten he selected were paid, for the lot, \$33 a month. The butler himself had \$7 a month and the cook had \$6. She says:

"They did their work as if by magic, so noiselessly that I never heard them, and so quickly that by breakfast time everything was in order for the day. During the entire two years there was not a single nick made in a dish, and only one broken, and not an article was lost. When the butler gave up his charge, as we came away, every piece of linen was returned with the worn places mended in the most exquisite manner. Some of the darns had been made into embroidered butterflies, birds and flowers. birds and flowers.

#### \$3,000 for one Lemon Pie.



T is not often that a woman gets \$3,000 for one lemon pie, but that kind of luck came to Mrs. J. E. Kane of New York City, not long ago. Mrs. Kane's husband is a telegraph operator in one of the broker's offices that are in the Wald or f Astoria hotel, where more millionaires may be found than under any other one of the world. Many of these millionaires may be found than under any other one of the world. Many of these millionaires may be found than under any other one of the world. Many of these millionaires may be found than under any other one of the stock in the wald of a wald or f wasn't good enough for him. He said he liked his wife's cooking better, and when he picked up a piece of lemon pie, that looked very tempting, one of the rich men asked him to l-t him try for himself what kind of a cook Mrs. Kane was. Mr. Kane was willing enough, and after the rich man had tried the pie, he liked it so much that he asked if Mrs. Kane couldn't send them down a whole one next day. Mr. Kane thought so, and the next day at lunch he had a big pie on hand about fifteen inches across and enough to go around the little crowd of millionaires at their lunch table. The pie was so much better than anything they had had since their mothers' pies, that they agreed to put a hundred shares of Northern Pacific stock aside for Mrs. Kane and let her have whatever it would bring. It was put in the name of "A. G. Pymacher," which meant "A Good Pie-maker," and the next day the sensational rush in Northern Pacific began. The prices kept going up, and Mr. Kane began to get nervous because he was afraid they would hold on too long, and he would not get more than the usual price for a pie. The brokers talked it over and finally Mr. Kane said he would toss a copper to see whether to sell or hold on. To sell won, and the stock was soid netting Mrs. Kane began to get nervous because he was afraid they would hold on too long, and he would not get more than the usual price for a pie. The brokers talked it over and finally Mr. Kane said he would

niesion.

If any lady reader of Comfort wants to know how to make this famous \$3,000 lemon pie, we give the recipe in full, but we cannot guarantee that she will get \$3,000 for the result of her labors—but she will get a good lemon pie, which to a starving person would be worth more than \$3,000.

THE CRUST.

THE CRUST.

Six cups of flour. One pinch of salt. Lard according to judgment. Ice water to dampen crust after lard is well worked into the flour. Knead lightly, so that the dough will just hold together. Put into earthen vessel. Freeze on ice over night.

on ice over night.

THE FILLING.

Three cups of boiling water. Three tablespoofuls of cornstarch to thicken. Yolks of three eggs. White of one egg. Whites of two eggs for frosting. Butter the size of a walnut, Juice of three lemons and grated rind. NOTE. The main thing to look out for is the freezing of the crust over night.

# **Drunkards Cured Secretly**

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NOTE.—Illustration shows in nest A PAIR OF SQUABS FOUR WEEKS OLD, at which age they are killed and sent to marke where they bring from 50c. to 75c. a pair, at retail from 60c. to 81.25 a pair, Costs five cents for feed to grow a pair (and the pair birds, which feed them) from hatch to market age. Do you know of an other thing raised which in four weeks grows from zero to 60c. as more? Delicious eating; try one and see; ask for PLY 20UT ROCK SQUABS; they are line-bred by selection; extra fit in highest priced.



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Pottery for Roasts, Stews, Baking or Boiling.

You can get the natural flavor of your food. These vessels, the most desirable and invaluable for every-day use ever made, having corrugated sides and ventilated bottom they heat readily and do not scorch or burn contents. Our fire-proof clay crockspots and bakers will stand and retain more heat than any other cooking vessels ever invented. Only after years of experimenting and improvements were they finally perfected so they now not only save you money on eatables and drinkables but save many dollars in fuel and time, giving you perfect uniformly health cooked food of all kinds. They are indestructible.

NO BURNED BOTTOMS. NO TASTE OF TIN.

BOSTON BEAN POT AND CEREAL COOKER. Our smaller covered handled pot, as above illustrated, is a correct model of the genuine Boston Best Baker. If your family is fond of the dish, you should have one of them; as with nothing else can you get the same results, tender and rich in flavor, is the way some one puts it. You can cook more than you will need for a single meal, warm overoften and always have the very best warm baked beans.

Rice. It is also desirable as a Rice Cooker, in fact, people who eat a great deal of rice and other cereals, buy almost as many for that purpose, as are bought as Beas Bakers. Does away with the double boller for cooking cereal.

COFFEE ROILER. Quality and Purity. Owing to its being seamless and flint lined, it is the only Boiler on the market that can be thoroughly cleansed, site having once been used, thus insuring the quality and purity of your coffee.

Always Hot. After having absorbed the heat necessary to boil the coffee irrains it for a great length of time, so that you can have hot (not warm) coffee, without keeping it on a hot stove, until it is spoiled, as so many have to do.

Saving. A great many of our customers, after each meal make it a practice to pour off any coffee that may be left, empty the grounds, rinse and then pour it back and when they again wish to serve, add a little fresh co Pottery for Roasts, Stews, Baking or Boiling.

claim the quality is just as good and that a pound of coffee will last nearly a universely the polynomer.

WENETIAN COOKER. Differs from all other cooking vessels in that it is higher, has double corrugated sides, a broad and ventilation bottom, and wooden lift on the bale and is made from the best material known for the purpose. It will heat more readily and retain and stand a greater strain from heat than any other cooking vessel.

on the bale and is made from the best material known for the purpose. It will hear more readily and retain and stand a greater strain from heat than any other cooking vessel.

COMBINATION COVERED ROANTER, BAKER AND STEW PAN. The Ladies' Friend. The largest covered dish in our Combination Culinary Wonder. It will roast, bake or stew equally well. They are 11 inches diameter, 5 inches high and hold about 11-2 gallons.

The superior advantages of this roaster are: The Meat requires no water or basing. Cooks uniformly throughout. Betains the juice and flavor of the meat and requires no attention. Boasts quicker than any other Boaster made. Browns beautifully, and does not tain or burn. Meat should not be seasoned until half cooked.

Ordinarily to get a nice cut it is necessary to buy a large roast; with this Boaster till, 2 or 3 pounds can be as nicely roasted as 10 or 15 pound cut. Every 4-pound roast will absolutely shrink 16 or 18 ounces if roasted in cast stoves.

If at any time you are using oven for baking you can roast meat on top of siove. It is fine for cooking fruit or canning, making jelly, tomato catsup and preserves, cooking oatmeal, corn meal mush and all kinds of puddings, escalloped oysters, potatoes, white and brown bread and fruit cake, suct puddings and apple dumplings. In act, it can be used for every conceivable purpose.

VENETIAN BAKER. Used in preference to any other kind of baker for cakes, bread, puddings, custards, escalloped oysters and potatoes, and, in fact, for every conceivable purpose a baker can be put to and is meeting with a sale second only to our VENETIAN COKER.

It bakes uniformly. No burned bottoms. It does not stick. No mussy appearance were received to the complex of the complex o

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY H. EDWARD SWIFT.



HE primary cause of all the effects which we are about to consider is found in a force known as Electricity, from the Greek name of amber (election), this being the body in which electric influences were first. influences were first observed. The peo-ple of two thousand or more years a go
were acquainted with
a few facts, such as
the attractive power
of amber after being
rubbed; the benumb-

ing shocks of the torpedo, a kind of electric fish; the aurora borealis; the lightning flash; and the sparks or streams of light which, under certain circumstances, are seen to flash from the human body. Six hundred years before Christ, Thales a Grecian philosopher, observed the former of these facts, but it was nearly twenty centuries before it was suspected that any connection existed between these phenom-

ena.

At the present stages of our information on this subject it would appear that electricity is a mode of motion in the particles of bodies very similar to heat and light. Like sound these are known to be dependent on undulatory motion; but whilst sound is brought out by the vibration of a body, as a whole electricity appears to depend upon some motion of the atoms themselves.

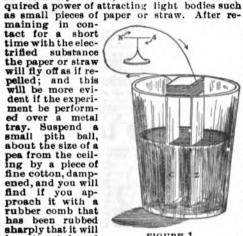
selves.

Be this as it may, it is certain that anything that tends to set up motion of the atoms in bodies, will also tend to call forth a display of electric force in one form or another. There are several ways of obtaining electrical results, for instance: mechanical, chemical, and through changes of temperature. Most mechanical action that produces friction or percussion, produces electricity. Every chemical action is accompanied by electrical effects. Changes of temperature, especially if sudden, call forth a display which we are all familiar with—lightning.

ning.

If we rub any resinous substance such as amber, resin, sealing-wax or ebonite, with a piece of warm dry flannel, we will find it has ac-quired a power of attracting light bodies such

ed over a metal tray. Suspend a small pith ball, about the size of a pea from the ceiling by a piece of fine cotton, dampened, and you will find if you approach it with a rubber comb that rubber comb that has been rubbed sharply that it will



has been rubbed sharply that it will be attracted and never repelled; but if you substitute a silk thread for the cotton, the pith ball will first be attracted and then repelled. The damp cotton allows the electricity to escape, hence is a conductor, while the silk thread will not allow the electricity and is called a non-conductor. All bodies are either one or the other. All metals are good conductors, silver standing at the head of the line, with copper, the metal is extensively used, as second. Dry air is the best insulator, or the poorest conductor. Glass and ebonite are also very poor conductors, and are extensively used as insulators.

Electricity is generated by the action of acids or their salts on metals. The metal more acted upon by the acid or salt becoming the negative as can be shown by the following experiment. Two strips, one of copper and the other of zinc one inch by four inches, have a piece of copper wire soldered to each. Take a small flat piece of cork or dry wood an inch square by say three-quarters of an inch thick, and place it between the plates as shown in Fig. 1, and lash them together with a piece of waxed string. Be careful that the plates do not touch at any point. If we immerse this arrangement (which is a simple galvanic couple) in a tumbler of a solution consisting of one part sulphuric acid and three parts water, we shall be able to get a weak current of electricity. If a delicately poised magnetic needle be allowed to come to rest in its natural position, i.e., pointing north and south, and the wires connected with the strips be twisted together so as to be parallel to and over the needle, as shown in Fig. 1, the needle will be deflected out of its nominal position and out of line with the wire. If the needle be again allowed to come to rest, north and south, the battery having been removed.



FIGURE 2.

to rest, north and south, the battery having been remov-ed, and then the tumbler be held close over the needle as held close over the needle as in Fig. 2, so the needle points from the copper to the zinc strip, the needle will be again deflected out of its position, but in this case in the opposite direction. It is a well-known fact that if a wire or any other conductor, along which the ductor, along which the electric current is passing be brought over and parallel to a suspended needle after to a suspended needle after being magnified, pointing north and south, the needle is immediately deflected from this north and south position and assumes a new position more or less east

and west according to the quantity of current passing, and the nearness of the conductor to the needle. We will also find that the direction the needle swings depends also on the direction the current is passing. This is stated in Ampere's law which is briefly as follows:

"If a current be caused to flow over and parallel to a freely suspended needle previously pointing north and south, the north pole of

# **CONSUMPTIVE'S** BULWARK

# A Prevention and Cure For Consumption—Threatened Humanity

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Certain diseases kill their victims by gradually robbing them of bodily material—a manner of death slow, yet terrifying, and usually fraught with mental if not physical suffer-

Certain diseases kill their victims by gradually robbing them of bodily material—a manner of death slow, yet terrifying, and usually fraught with mental if not physical suffering.

Consumption actually consumes; it is a well named plague.

Four requirements must be met to cure consumption and other wasting ills, and Four also to prevent their attack. They are: First, to combat and forestall germs; Second, to nourish the body; Third, to tone and fortify the nerve power of resistance to disease, and Fourth, to meet the demands for local treatment.

### THE FOUR FREE REMEDIES



To combat and destroy germs, to nourish the loody, to fortify the system and to soothe and heal broken and inflamed tissues, in accord with the necessities in particular cases, and to thus cure and prevent consumption and all vitality-draining ills of persistent, chronic nature, the above wonderful, Free combination is unmistakably unmatched. It is Dr. Slocum's grand discovery and Free contribution to masterful, scientific medical progress which has marvelously reduced the consumption death-rate in the United States.

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To obtain these four free preparations, that have never yet failed to cure, all you have to do

#### DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 98 Pine St., New York,

and you will be at once sent the four free preparations, with full directions for use in any case. You may as well be one of the increasing army annually saved by modern medical science.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—When writing the Doctor, please mention Comfort, giving express and post office address, and greatly oblige.

the needle will be deflected to the left of the 4 inches long and one half inch in diameter the needle will be deflected to the *teft* of the entering current. If on the other hand the conductor be placed below the needle, the deflection will be in the opposite direction, that is the *right* of the entering current. In both cases the observer is supposed to be looking at the needle with the north pole toward himself. It will be evident that the zinc is *positive* to the copper strip in the tumbler, while from the outside the copper is positive to the zinc.

A property of current electricity which is the fundamental basis of all usefulness of electricity is that of conferring upon iron and steel

city is that of conferring upon iron and steel soft iron is a magnet so long as the current the power of attracting other bodies, or of rendering iron magnetic. If a soft iron rod say the iron loses its magnetic power and the nails

be wound evenly from end to end with three or four layers of cotton covered wire say No. 20 gauge and placed near a few iron nails, no attractive power will be noticed. If however the two finer ends of the wire be connected to the poles of a simple battery just described it will be found that the iron has become magnetic and will attract tacks needles nails etc. netic and will attract tacks, needles, nails, etc., and if the battery is sufficiently strong will sustain several ounces of weight, so long as the connection is maintained with the battery. The





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& expenses. No previous experience needed. W. B. HOUSE, 1020 Race St., Phila., Pa. IF SICK OUR New Electric Method WILL CURE YOU AT HOME, Book free, U.S. Electric Co., 358 Dearborn St., Chicago, III.

THE VOICE OF MINNIE MORANG.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

Minnie Morang jest vummed that she
If spunk could fetch it, was bound to be
An opery singer of high renown
And bring some credit to our old town.
And at it she hammered good and stout,
She squealed and hollered like all git-out;
She said that the big guns all agreed
'Twas about like workin' a hoss for speed,
—This trainin' a voice to make it stout,
And so she practiced like all "git out."
For she tooted it up, hurroo, hooray!
She squealed and squalled blame nigh all day.
She claimed that she done it to fill her tones,
But 'cordin' to notions of old Bill Jones
It wasn't a voice that ye'd want to fill;
"I sh'd have the darned thing pulled," said Bill.
But, ginger of Goshen, Min Morang
Jest minded nothin' but sang and sang.
She never attempted to sing a tune
But morn and ev'nin', night or noon,
She practiced her scale and run and trill
With squeals like the rip-saw in Hobson's mill.
So time slipped on till her Uncle Sile

So time slipped on till her Uncle Sile
Invited her up to the farm for a while.
For her mother had writ she was gittin' thin
And she reckined the farm would be good for Min,
But she failed to mention—and here's the harm—
That the voice Min had wa'n't good for the farm.
Fust night she was there, right after tea
Sile went to bed. "Beat out," said he.
"Twas a blame slick night in the month of June,
Warmish and lit by a lovely moon,
And Minnie concluded that voice of her'n
Needed some air; so she took a turn
Around the garden beneath the stars
And squalled her scales and notes and bars.

She'd jest got started in fust-rate style
When up to the winder piled Uncle Sile.
"Great Cephas," says he, "what's that 'erc touse?
Is there murder or fire around this house?"
Then he listened a while to the sharps and flats
And says he, "Gol jingo! Jest hear them cats!
I've heerd whole cartloads of tomcats squall
But I reckin them critters jest beat 'em all.
Consarn their ha'slets—sha'n't sleep a mite,
For I reckin they've started an all-night fight."
Then he grabbed his boot which has got a shank
A foot across it—sole thick's a plank—
And he fired it straight as a ten-inch bumb
Where the squalls were thickest.—It knocked her
dumb!

It kinked her neck in some tom-dinged way
And 'twill never unkink, so the doctors say.
Wal, of course they lighted on Uncle Sile
For a-doin' her up in that 'ere style.
Sile said right off 'twas a thund'rin' sin
And he wouldn't have slung if he'd knowed 'twas
Min.
But says he, "Don't jaw, for I won't stand that,
Ye ought to have warned me that Min plays cat.
It's reelly a wonder to me," said he,
"That she wa'n't shot dead for a loucivee.
There hain't no call for your gettin' mad
For the case could have been jest twice as bad.
Ye'd better be thankful I slung that boot,
For my first idee was to up and shoot.
Men allus is lookin' fur wives that's dumb,
But they don't marry angels from Kingdom Come."
And then old Sile jest shoved right in
A bill for improvements performed on Min.

etc. drop off at once.

Any piece of soft iron of whatever shape if covered with a layer of insulated wire is called an electric magnet.

FIGURE 3.

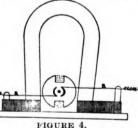
wire is called an electric magnet. If instead of using a soft bar of iron, we had substituted a steel bar, we would have found that the steel retained its magnetism after magnetism after the current or connection had been broken and

power still remains, although considerably weaker than when the current was flowing around it.

around it.

A piece of iron covered like Fig. 3 constitutes a horseshoe magnet and a straight piece as in the same cut is called a bar magnet. These must be of hardened steel and treated as just described after which they will retain their magnetism for a long time. If we sprinkle iron fllings on a bar or horseshoe magnet we will find the particles arrange themselves in definite positions along the lines of force. The space affected by or acted upon is called the field of influence. It is found that if a body be moved before the poles of a magnet in such a direction as

a direction as to cut the lines of forces electricity is developed. The ordinary telephone bell is an example. This consists of a company the consists of a company the consists of a company telephone to the consists of a company the consists of a consist of a consist of a consist of pound horse-shoe magnet in front of which tate by means of appropriate



of appropriate FIGURE 4. gearing or wheel and band an iron bobbin or bobbins coiled with insulated wires. The ends are brought out and fastened to insulated parts on the spindle, and revolve with it. Two springs a. a. press against the spindle as in Fig. 4 and pick up the current generated in the bobbin. If we use an electro magnet described, we make a Dynamo, which will be described in our next chapters. Continued in May COMFORT.

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SAFE DEPOSIT WATCH CO. New York City



WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



The following suggestions for the care of china have come to us from S. J. H.:

"In washing china and glassware avoid a too sudden change a too sudden change from cold to heat. One can wash the old family china and pre-serve the gilt bands longer by wash in g them in a warm suds of rain-water and dissolve a teaspoonful of gold-dust washing powder into it. Stir it up well and wash your pieces quickly; rinse in clear warm water and wipe dry on a soft linen towel. If

water and wipe dry on a soft linen towel. If you desire a high polish rub with a cloth dipped in alcohol and then whiting. Let the whiting dry before rubbing them, rinse in clear warm water and wipe dry with soft old linen towels. You can make cut-glass and chinaware look beautifully clear and give it a high polish by adopting this method.

No soap should be used about hand-painted china, as it has a disastrous effect upon the colors, and leaves the glaze cloudy.

The cement for mending china is made of gum-arabic and plaster-paris, equal parts of each. It makes a paste which you apply to the broken edges with a camel's-hair paint-brush, and after mending set away to dry perfectly before using it.

and after mending set away to dry periectly before using it.

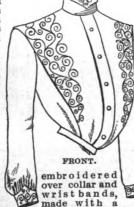
For mending stoneware china mix the plaster-paris with water, but it must be used as soon as mixed, as it hardens quickly.

I hope the readers of this paper will profit as I have done by knowing of these excellent recipes. Cements for mending are expensive and often not satisfactory, but this is perfect.

S. J. H."

We have had so many requests for some suggestions for practical fancy work, that we are going to illustrate the embroidered shirt waists which the ladies are making for the carrier which the ladies are making for the coming season. The designs are stamped on linen of the right quality and weight for waists. Some of the designs are conventional and some are of

flowers and leaves. The one shown herewith is of white linen embroidered in white linen floss in a conventional design. This design is stamped on that part of the linen which forms the deep plait used so entirely this season which storts at which starts at
the shoulder
seam in front.
The design is
heaviest on the
shoulder and
tapers to the



shoulder and tapers to the waist. Strips are for the turn-the latter being with a point, instead of going straight around the wrist as in previous seasons. The back of the waist is simply stitched in double rows from the shoulder and little way down the back. These waists embroidered in forget-me-nots, using blues, greens and yellows to follow out the natural coloring, are particularly attractive when worn with a light blue pique or cloth skirt. Other designs are sprays of pink flowers, also yellow buttercups. When making shirts plain, use the Gibson model, which has this broad plait on the shoulders and is a particularly pretty pattern for heavy material such as pique, heavy linen and canvas. For the thinner materials, such as allower embroidery, dimity and lawn, make solid tucking, very fine, for six to eight inches from the shoulder seam down the front. Tuck the full sleeves, where they finish in the cuff, and make a tucked stock. Make all wash waists a little large, to allow for shrinkage, unless you have already shrunk the goods.

We have been asked how to make a good bath bag.



Take one pound of fine oatmeal, one half quart of new bran, two fifths pound of powdered orris root, two fifths pound of almond meal. one fourth meal, one fourth pound of white castile soap, powdered; one ounce
of primrose
sachet powder.
Bath bags
dipped in tepid

BACK.

the skin and fine.
about the high collars easily be rehol baths. After the regulation soap and water scrub, wipe thoroughly with alcohol.
A family medicine chest is one of the necessities in the household, and every housewife should understand how to use its contents. There should be a place for keeping all the bottles and packages together, although it be nothing better than an upper shelf in the eloset or pantry. Then they can be found without loss of time, which is not the case where the bottles are left scattered about on

the windows and mantels all over the house.

The home medicine chest should contain a bottle of camphor, some good liniment, a few doses of quinine in capsules, sweet oil, castor oil, paregoric, flaxseed, mustard, sulphur, vaseline, limewater, and various other things that have been tried and found good.

Should any member of the family be severely burned, cover the burned portion with linseed oil and limewater; then wrap it with cotton wool. Allow it to remain 24 hours.

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No More Stooping, Rubbing or Boiling of Clothes.

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quired, a child can operate it.

No more stooping, rubbing, boiling of clothes. Hot water and soap all that are needed. It will wash large quantities of clothes (no matter how soiled)



ENGINEERS

\*\*BUDGET EVENION IN 18.

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\*\*S. A. G. Speed Cath, Ol. J. Oct. 29, 1901

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Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to discover.

roree.

Any yearly subscriber to COMFORT fully paid in adAny yearly subscriber to COMFORT fully paid in adrance is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possitile, will be answered in this department. If any reader,
ther than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this
privilege, it may be done by sending treenty-five (25)
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seribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one year.

Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any legal question, privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing the same to "THE EDITOR, COMFORT'S ATIOME LAWYER," Augusta, Maine, and in reply a carefully prepared opinion will be sent in an early mail.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column, but not necessarily for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

F. O. G.—Under the so-called "Stock Law," the owner of animals which are prohibited from running at large is conclusively negligent if they so run at large, and he is liable for their trespass on premises which are sufficiently fenced to turn away animals which are permitted to run at large.

Itable for their trespass on premises which are sufficiently fenced to turn away animals which are permitted to run at large.

Farmer.—A highway may be shown to be a public road by evidence of long-continued use, assignment of hands to work it, by the proper authorities, and other facts tending to show its occupation by the public. A road recognized and used by the public for some twenty-five years would undoubtedly be heid to be a public road. Acquiescence in such continued use amounts to implied consent by the owner.

Wash.—Between the separate states, the thread of a boundary river is the line of separation without reference to the line of navigation. By the term "thread of a stream" is meant the line midway between the banks at the ordinary stage of water, without regard to the channel, or the lowest and deepest part of the stream.

Kansas.—An insurance policy providing that the company shall not be liable for damages occasioned by hall, but only for such loss as results directly from tornadoes or windstorms, does not cover a loss for the breaking of windows and other damage by hail caused by a high wind driving the hail against them.

P. J. L.—A note dated on a week day but signed on Sunday is void, as between the parties to it, but is valid if in the hands of a third party who has had no notice of the actual time of signing. If the note is signed on Sunday but delivered on some other day which is a secular day, it is valid.

K. H. G.—By the term "a reasonable doubt" is meant such a doubt as when interposed in the graver transac-

but delivered on some other day which is a secular day, it is valid.

K. H. G.—By the term "a reasonable doubt" is meant such a doubt as when interposed in the graver transactions of life would cause a reasonable man to hesitate and pause. In other words, if you are not "dead sure" (to use an ordinary expression), you have a reasonable doubt. A. P. D.—An oculist or surgeon who treats a patient must exercise the ordinary care and skill usually employed by oculists and surgeons in good standing, and he is liable for gross mistakes which he may make, in any action for damages on the part of the injured party.

G. N. L.—Where a brakeman is injured by disobedience of orders in riding outside with the last section of a logging train, and would not have been injured if he had taken his proper position, and had remained on the rear of the last car instead of the footboard, he cannot recover damages.

damages.

T. O. E.—No one can be required to attend court as a witness in a law suit unless summoned to appear by competent authority and served with a writ for such purpose. In a civil action it is necessary to pay a witness fee to compel attendance but this is not so in criminal cases. Failure to attend after proper legal notice may subject the offender to possible imprisonment for contempt of court.

court.

Jonson.—A claim for a legacy never outlaws. Such a case is looked upon as a trust fund and the so-called statute of limitations does not apply to it. You can bring suit to fecover such a legacy at any time and from any one who illegally withholds it from you.

Mary.—A wife may sell and convey any personal property which she may own, without her husband's consent. If she should die, without children, the husband will be entitled to one-half of the estate which she may leave; in case she leaves children, the husband will inherit only one-third in the absence of a will. This is so under the laws of the state where you live.

P. T. L.—In case a parent becomes naturalized before his son is of age, the son need not take out naturalization papers himself. The fact that the father is a citizen at the time the son becomes of age of itself makes the son a citizen on reaching his majority.

Helr.—If the heirs to an estate cannot agree on the compensation to be paid to an administrator of such estate the compensation is fixed by the Court. In determining the amount the Court is governed by the statutory law of the state where the estate is being administered. These amounts vary in different places, but, as a rule, are a certain percentage of the amount or value of the property in question.

#### To All Comfort Juveniles, Greeting. PRIZES! PRIZES!! PRIZES!!

COMFORT believes that among its thousands

Comfort believes that among its thousands of juvenile readers are many who have the gift of writing, and in order to develop this talent, not only for Comfort's benefit but for the benefit of all Comfortsubscribers not over twenty-one years of age, possessing the gift, we propose a plan herewith in which all who will may take a hand and receive a share if his merit is equalto it.

The subject for the Prize Essay for March was "George Washington", the first President of the United States. As there has not been time enough to hear from the juveniles on that subject, essays will not appear till next month, but in the mean time another subject will be given. This time it will be Theodore Roosevelt, not the last President of the United States but the latest President. All of the juveniles know something about this, the youngest of Presidents, and Comfort wants the best essays they can write about him in from one hundred to two hundred words. That is, an essay may not be less than one hundred nor more than two hundred words in length, and each essay is to be the best the writer can produce of his to two hundred words. That is, an essay may not be less than one hundred nor more than two hundred words in length, and each essay is to be the best the writer can produce of his own writing. The merit of the essay will depend and be judged upon its originality, its correct English, its correct spelling, its correct punctuation, its correct capitalization and its clearness of language and proper presentation of the subject. Each of these points will count so many, so that in this way the youngest and least experienced writer may have an equal chance with the older writers, who are not so painstaking as their younger competitors. Boys and girls are to be considered equally.

In order to make it an inducement for our juveniles to enter the contest a prize of \$2 will be offered for the best essay; \$1 for the second best; 50 cents for the third, and a yearly subscription to COMFORT for the fourth. As there are COMFORT readers in every state and territory in the Union and in British America, the writers from each state, territory and country will constitute a class and the writers in those casses will only have their own class to consend against. This will make a wide distribution of prizes and enable writers everywhere to share in the benefits. The only conditions are that you shall be a full paid-in-advance sub-

#### BOTANIC BLOOD BALM FREE! Cures Blood and Skin Diseases, Itching Hum-ors, Eczema, Cancer, Eating Sores, Blood Poison, Carbuncles, etc.

Send no money—simply write and try Botanic Blood Balm at our expense. A personal trial of Blood Balm is better than a thousand printed testimonials, so don't hesitate to write for a

ed testimonials, so don't hesitate to write for a free sample.

If you suffer from ulcers, eczema, scrofula, Blood Poison, cancer, eating sores, itching skin, pimples, old sores that won't heal, scabs and scaly skin, carbuncles, boils, bone pains, swellings, rheumatism, catarrh, or any blood or skin disease, we advise you to take Botanic Blood Balm. Especially recommended for old, obstinate, deep-seated cases of malignant blood or skin diseases, because Botanic Blood Balm kills the poison in the blood, cures where all or skin diseases, because Botanic Blood Balm kills the poison in the blood, cures where all else fails, heals every sore, makes the blood pure and rich, gives the skin the rich glow of health. Botanic Blood Balm, pronounced by the medical investigator the most perfect blood purifier made. Thoroughly tested for 30 years. Costs \$1 per large bottle by express, prepaid. To prove it cures, sample of Blood Balm sent free by writing Blood Balm Co., 24 Mitchell St., Atlanta, Ga. Describe trouble and free medical advice sent in sealed letter. This is an honest offer—medicine sent at once, prepaid.

# "YES, FATHER DEAD!"



It was his HEART, you know, it had been troubling him for a year. "How often we hear this story of neglected heart disease! It is increasing! 69 hearts in every hundred are wrong! Yet people won't seem to admit that it really is their heart but go on doctoring for something else when by the well known signs of Nervousness, futtering, palpitation, skipping beats, choking, nightmare, indigestion, pain in heart and side and many others, the poor heart is saying, "I am sick. Help me!help me!" And how strange that they don't send help when it means life or death to them and when the heart can surely be made right again. Not one case in 500 is incurable. How is your heart? You can tell better perhaps than a doctor, for you know your symptoms better than you can tell him. If you have one of them, or the least suspicion that your heart is wrong, don't wait! Find out! Even if you know that you have a settled heart disease which nothing has helped, don't give up! there is help!!

Send NOW for FULL FREE BOX of Dr. Fuller's Heart & Nerve Tablets, and book by our special heart physician, and get well! Both are free. This is not a box of a few tablets but enough for a good fair treatment, and to prove that they will give you back a good sound heart and nerves. This box cures many cases. The only remedy in the world which cures, not by affecting the heart alone, but also by restoring the delicate NERVES which control it. There is no other way to cure heart disease, and no other remedy takes this way. If we didn't know what the tablets will do, how foolish for us to make this offer. Isn't it worth trying, anyway?

A. C. Howland, M. D., one of New York's most noted physicians, says, "I have never known your tablets to fail in a single case." Write your full name and address plainly. THE HEART CURE CO., 77 MASONIC BUILDING, HALLOWELL, MAINE.

criber.
The winning essays, only, will be printed and The winning essays, only, will be printed and announcements of winners will be made in the newspapers nearest the postoffices at which winners receive their Comforts, and prizes will be deposited with the postmasters at those offices. These essays are to be in prose, but if any writer thinks he or she can present the subject better in poetry, he or she may do so, provided the poem is not over a dozen lines in length. Address all communications, and enclose money for your subscription if it has expired, or if you are a new reader, to Essay Editor, Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

Take Notice: New subjects will be presented each month, and all essays must be sent in before the twenty-fifth of the month. Otherwise they will not be considered.

The conditions are very simple and easy, and no boy or girl should be afraid to put his or her pen to paper. Remember you may earn a dollar or two dollars very easily.

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#### YOU JOIN THE MOTHER WRAY CHAIN CLUB? **ENDLESS** WILL

#### You Can Only Have One Mother.

"Remember, girl, where'er you roam, With sister, brother, lover, Your haven will be always 'Home,'— You can only have one mother."

-Louise Payne Wray.

The beautiful and pathetic song of five stanzas with chorus and music (from which of her now famous song? the above is a brief extract) appeared in full in the March number of "Comfort." It created a profound sensation. We know of no song since "Home Sweet Home" first appeared which has touched such a sympathetic chord in the human heart.

The public is always interested to know the great authors of the day.

May we introduce all those of our readers who did not secure the February and March for this purpose at the suggestion of her COMPORTS, to the wonderful old lady who friends, it has been arranged with her consent wrote this song and music?

She is Mrs. Louise Payne Wray, of Averill Park, N. Y. She was born in England, 77 years ago, and as mother, grandmother and great-grandmother is blessed with a numerous

should have written a song and composed the here printed in blocks of four. music which have attained such popularity, even eliciting letters of thanks from Mrs. Mc-Kinley, King Edward, the Emperor of Germany, Bishop Potter, and from many other

REVISIT THE LAND OF HER BIRTH.

hood, forever associbe called to another world.

To assist her in raising the funds necessary and through the

co-operation of her publisher, Mr. Saalfield, and A MAMMOTH ENDLESS CHAIN MOTHER WRAY CLUB.

the publisher of "Comfort" that she is to have

progeny. Is it not truly wonderful that at an | a royalty on all six months' subscriptions to | this amount to something to her, her friends, age which is usually the decline of life she "Comfort" which are sent in on these blanks have started an endless chain of correspond-Would you not like a copy of this song,

if you have not already had one (words and music), and this interesting family paper, "Com-FORT," beautifully illustrated in colors and so Maine. illustrious personages who had received copies full of nice things, for six months, all for the reduced price of 10 cts., and at the same time as- to attached one each to your friends with a re-Though she emigrated to America and has sist in promoting this masterly effort in favor resided here since her early youth, her hear of Mrs. Wray? If so, send 10cts. to Publisher fondly clings to the of Cowrons Angusta Maine with this blank the good work. Be sure to write your name fondly clings to the of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, with this blank scenes of her child- properly filled out and you will receive "Com-FORT" for six months beginning with the Febated with the tender memories of her dear ruary number containing sketch of Mrs. Wray's mother, and it is the one great desire of her life life and including March number containing to revisit the land of her birth before she shall the song and music, and she will receive the royalty.

If you are already a paid-in-advance subscriber to "Comfort" will you not extend your subscription for six months now by joining this Mother Wray Club? If so write the word extend on Coupon No. 1, and send in 10 cts. with your full address, also erase "beginning with February."

In order to obtain quick results and make

ence, of which you are invited to become one link; and if you are willing to do so, please:-

1. Fill out No. 1. blank and mail it with 10 cts. to Publisher of "Comfort", Augusta,

2. Send by mail or hand the coupons hereand address on the back or margin of each of the coupons which you send to your friends, so that we shall know who got the subscriptions for the Mrs. Wray Club.

3. It as many as three friends you send blanks to subscribe, we will send you as a reward a stick pin set with a beautiful Egyptian style Opaline lucky stone for your trouble. These talismans are now quite popular and great tokens of good luck.

We hope that you will lend a helping hand, and that you will urge the three friends to whom you send the coupons to fill them out and send their 10 cents in order that the chain may continue unbroken.

Please enter my	COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. name as a subscriber to Comfort.
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ary, 1902. I wish to join the Mother Wray
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State ary if you want subscription to begin any other month and say what month you want to start.

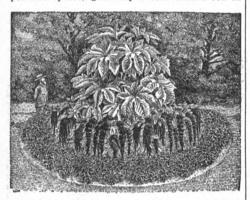


HOSE who live in the country often envy the city dwellers their pretty gardens, and they do this without stopping to ask themselves the question why they should envy them. Most of them notice a general effect and do not take the trouble to examine it closely enough to find out how it was brought about. Were they to do so, in many instances they would find that the effects they so much admire are secured by simple means, and that they could very easily have quite as attractive beds or groups of plants in the home garden, if they cared to make the effort. Now I believe that people living in the country ought to have prettier gardens than the city people, because it is much easier for them to do so, and they ought not to be willing to give their city cousins the monopoly of garden attractions. If they set about it with a will, they can speedily make "the other party" the envious one.

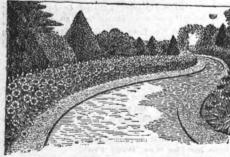
I find that beds of plants having attractive speedily one.

speedily make "the other party" the envious one.

I find that beds of plants having attractive foliage are greatly admired, but that most country persons are under the impression that they cost more money than they can afford to put into them. This is a mistake. Some very pretty beds are made with very little expense. Here is one; Plant three or four seeds of Ricinus in the center of a circular bed about eight feet across. These plants grow to be six or eight feet tall, and have immense leaves of green and coppery bronze, and are very suggestive of tropical climes by their luxuriant development. About these, plant a row of Amaranthus. This is a plant having dark red foliage, shaded more or less with green and bronze. In August, it bears profuse crops of flowers in long, pendant spikes, generally a rich Indian red in



color. There are several varieties of this plant, and by buying seed in which each variety is by itself, one may have a tall-growing sort next the Richnus, with lower-growing kinds near the edge of the bed. As an edging, use the annual Euphorbia, with green and white foliage. This will afford a most decided contrast in color with the Amaranthus, and bring out the dark, rich tones of red in the latter with fine effect. It also serves to separate the strong colors which characterize the Amaranthus and Ricinus from the green of the lawn upon which this bed should be located, to make it most effective. A bed of this kind will attract attention from persons who would hardly notice a flower because of its being something out of the ordinary, and it will be sure to afford its owner a great deal of pleasure. The cost of it? The Ricinus seed can be bought at five cents a packet, and each packet will have seeds enough for several such beds in it. The Amaranthus seed will cost the same. So will the Euphorbia. That brings the cost up to fifteen cents, unless you use more than one variety of Amaranthus, in which case each additional variety used will add five cents to the bill. You see, from this estimate, that the entire cost of such a bed is slight. And as to the care required, any one can give it who can grow a Petunia or a Poppy. Study the catalogues, and you will find many plants in them which can be combined charmingly in beds and groups where foliage is depended on to produce ornamental effects. Do not be afraid to experiment. Don't be satisfied to copy, but originate. Aim to have something a little "different from other folks." One of the greatest pleasures of gardening consists in making your own plans, and seeing what you can do along original lines. If there are evergreens in the yard, group the Amaranthus where it will have them as a background, and you will be delighted with the way in which the colors of the latter stand out against the dark green of their foliage. Yellow flowering plants, like the Coreopsis,



scarlet Geraniums, its green and white foliage heightening the vivid effect of the flowers, as only such colors can. Those who look into the matter will soon discover that we have a good deal of material available at slight cost, with which to produce effects quite as pleasing as those seen in many gardens belonging to wealthy people. Pleasing effects do not depend so much on cost as we suppose. It is the way in which we use simple material that tells most effectively.

No garden can afford to be without a bed of the new Petunias. Such beautiful things as they are, ruffled, and rayed with strongly contrasted colors, or veined and laced with them, in a network of lines that seem to stand out against petals of the richest velvet. And so large that you hardly recognize them, at first, as belonging to the Petunia family. No annual excels them in profusion of bloom, and if you go over the bed in August, and cut away at least half of each plant, new branches will soon be sent up in which flowers as large and fine as those produced during the early part of the season will be borne until the coming of cold weather.

season will be borne until the coming of cold weather.

Every garden ought to have a bed of Gladioluses. To the outdoor garden these flowers are what the Geranium is to the garden in the window. No flower is easier to grow, and no flower requires so little attention at our hands. Give it a rich and mellow soil,—preferably one containing considerable sand--plant it five inches deep, from the middle of the present month to the first of June, in order to secure a succession of bloom, and keep the weeds down about it, and it will ask no more at your hands. It has been a popular flower for the

last twenty years—though never grown as extensively as its merits would warrant—but the varieties of today are so far superior to the old varieties with which we are familiar that we are bewildered by them. Such rich and vivid colors, such delicate and dainty ones, such wonderful combinations of them, and such great stalks bending under their weight of bloom. No wonder we grow enthusiastic over them. Words fall us when we attempt to do them justice. The only way to find out how beautiful they are is to grow some of them. Grow a dozen this season, and I venture the prediction that next year you will invest most of your garden funds in them. It could not be invested to better advantage. Some of the florists who have been experimenting with this plant, told us that it was the "coming flower." Now that it has "got here," in all its splendor and prodigality of color, we have to admit that they had good ground on which to base their opinion. I predict that in a year or two the Gladiolus will divide the honors of the garden with the Sweet Pea.

A CURE FOR ASTHMA.

Asthma sufferers need no longer leave home and business in order to be cured. Nature has produced a vegetable remedy that will permanently cure Asthma and all diseases of the lungs and brouchial tubes. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases (with a record of 90 per cent. permanently cured), and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all sufferers from Asthma, Consumption, Catarrh, Bronchitis and nervous diseases, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail. Address with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Noyes, 847 Powers Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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"Comfort" has had numerous inquiries from readers from time to time as to the best stove polish that is manufactured and where it can be obtained. We take pleasure in informing our readers that Enameline (liquid or paste) is the very best polish on the market today. If one cannot obtain it at the grocery or drug store, write to J. L. Prescott & Co., New York City, and they will advise you where to get it. It costs only ten cents a box.



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# Sudden Death



disease you are You may die any minute—anywhere. Heart troubles, dangerous as they are, can be instantly recognized by all.

If you have heart

No doctor can tell better than you if your heart is out of order. If you have any of the following symptoms, don't waste any time. Get my Heart Tablets at once. Fluttering, palpitation, or skipping beats (always due to weak or diseased heart); shortness of breath from going upstairs, walking, etc.; tenderness, numbness or pain in left side, arm or under shoulder blade; fainting spells, dizziness, hungry or weak spells; spots before the eyes; sudden starting in sleep, dreaming, nightmare;

# leart Disease

choking sensation in throat; oppressed feeling in chest; cold hands and feet; painful to lie on left side; dropsy; swelling of the feet or ankles (one of the surest signs); neuralgia around the heart; sudden deaths rarely result from other causes.

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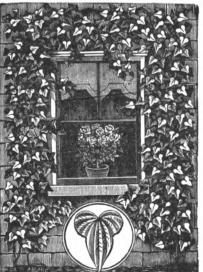
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THE PARROT HAS ESCAPED FROM THE CAGE—TRY TO FIND HIM Boys and girls twelve years of

who will cut out this picture and mark plainly with pencil or pen the missing bird (if they can find it MAY SHARE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY IN FIVE MONTHLY PREMIUMS for doing a little work for us. This is a contest where both brains and energy count. We are determined to make the name of our charming monthly magazine a household word, and we take this novel plan of advertising. This and other most liberal offers are made to introduce one of the most entertaining New York magazines into every home of the United States and Canada. WE DO NOT WANT ONE CENT OF YOUR MONEY. There is only one condition, which should take less than one hour of your time, which we will write you as soon as your answer is received. After you have found the missing parrot, send it to us at once. It may take an entire \$1,000.00. A sample copy of our MAGAZINE WILL BE SENT FREE to everyone answering this advertisement. Try to solve this puzzle. Do not delay. Send your answer in immediately. We positively guarantee that this Missing Parrot can be found. Of course, like all problems, it will require some thought, patience and time. But the reward is well worth striving for, especially when we do not ask you to send us any money with your answer. The golden prizes of life are being gained by brains and energy nowadays. Lazy people and the drones and idlers are always complaining of bad luck. Now here is a GOLDEN CHANCE for anyone who will strive hard, and the pleasing part of it is that it does not cost you one cent outside of the letter you send us. Our magazine will please you. It delights us to please our readers. We are continually giving away large sums of money in different contests, as we find it is the very best kind of advertising. Try and Win. If you find the parrot and send the silp with it marked thereon to us at once, who knew hout what any now yill are to not want any money from you, and a puzzle like this is very interesting. As soon as we receive your answer we will at once write you and you will h



The Cinnamon Vine—from the Oriental land, is one the most charming of climbers, and will quickly surrou your arbor, window or veranda with a wonderful profusion the most charming of climbers, and will quickly surround your arbor, window or veranda with a wonderful profusion of vines covered with handsome, glossy, heart-shaped leaves and sweet-scented flowers, making it a perfect bower of beauty. PERFECTLY HARDY-thriving everywhere, and once planted will grow for many years, and be a source of constant delight to the possessor. The vines often ran 25 to 40 feet, and when trained over and about a window or veranda is universally admired, while its many clusters of delicate, unique white flowers, send out an amount of delicous fragrance that is as truly wonderful as it is indescribable. NO PERSON of refinement and taste should fail to plant these lovely vines. No home is complete without them. They stand the hardest winter without injury, and burst forth in all their marvelous splendor very early in the spring—as fine a climber as any lover of beautiful flowers can wish. (Plant any time up to June 15.)

CINNAMON VINES may also be grown indoors in winter, and make one of the most attractive of window climbers.

Make Home Beautiful. There is nothing will gire a cosy appearance, or is a surer index of refinement and culture than these ornamental, fragrant vines twining and climbing about the porch, windows and trellises. They are God's own natural drapery, from the Oriental land where graceful beauty is most highly prized.

Lydia and M. J. Clarkson, Authors of "Art Studies" writes:—No vine ster gave us so much continued pleasure. The growth is truly phenomenal its handsome foliage and fragrant blossoms commend it overy love of flowers. If its merits were more widely known you would be overwhened with orders.

S. Wilson, Pa., writes:—The Cinnamon Vine blooms as freely in the house as out doors, and will fill a room with a delightful fragrance in the cold and dreary winter months.

Mrs. F. Allen, Mystic, Ct., says:—The Vine is beautiful and so fragrant in perfumes the whole house.

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Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

#### **GUN CLUBS.**

#### Practical Rifle Practice and How to Gct It.



HERE was never a time when the people of the world were so much in-terested in rifle shooting as they are today. On the continent of Europe rifle clubs are adding large numbers to their membership every year, while throughout Great Britain throughout Great Britain rifle clubs are springing up everywhere. The same wave has crossed the Atlantic and in the United States today, on a thousand ranges, young men —yes, and young women, too—are perfecting themselves in the art of shooting.

too—are perfecting themselves in the art of shooting.

The American people have ever been known as a nation of sharp-shooters. The grim look that our ancestors took adown the barrels of their flintlocks in the days of the Revolution, left an impress which years have not worn away. And, again, those awful years of Civil War, when brother across bristling bayonets, taught Americans the value of knowing how to handle a rifle.

In the long peace that followed the Civil War interest in rifle shooting died out and little was heard of target work. Men had but too lately been using powder and ball in earnest. Since then, however, and especially of late, rifle shooting has been forging to the fore and today there is no more popular pastime than target shooting.

The "cheese-box on a raft," as they derisively styled the little Monitor when she went forth to battle with the Merrimac, settled for all time the question of wooden ships. Commenting on that memorable engagement, the London Times said; "Whereas, Great Britain had available for immediate service 149 first-class warships, she has now but two, the Warrior and her sister ship the Ironides."

In precisely the same way the battle of Sadowa—when the Prussian armies drove the Austrians

sides."

In precisely the same way the battle of Sadowa—when the Prussian armies drove the Austrians from their chosen position and began a rout which did not stop till the Prussian standard was planted within sight of the Austrian capital—settled the fate of the old-time musket. That battle was the first real test of the Prussian "needle gun" which was the father of all the guns that today arm the soldiers of Europe and America.



The fighting today is long range work. No longer do the armies clash together, musket to musket, bayonet crossing bayonet. The range and penetration of the modern rifle is too great, for before an army could get within bayonet reach the magazine guns of the opposing force would mow them to the earth.

army could get within bayonet reach the magazine guns of the opposing force would mow them to the earth.

The United States troops learned this in Cuba. They found out what the "Krag" would do. Soon after the Cuban campaign was ended, a body of troops were sent into the Northwest to quell an Indian uprising. The Indians adopted their old tactics of shooting from behind trees. But the soldiers simply smiled and took aim at the trees. The result surprised Mr. Indian. The bullet went unconcernedly through the tree and drilled Mr. Redskin on the other side.

The wonderful carrying power of the rifle of today has made marksmanship of prime importance. The modern soldier must be able to meet his opponent with a well-aimed bullet when he is yet a long way off. If he doesn't, his opponent will drop him. This condition has been met in the armies by more liberal allowances of ammunition for target practice. It is making the soldier a sharpshooter and reckoning his value to his country, largely upon his proficiency with the rifle.

Interest in rifle shooting, as has been said, has spread over Europe and America. Rifle clubs are flourishing everywhere.

Some of them are favored with a small rifles and light charges but it matters not what the arm, so long as the interest is there. There is just as much sport with a small rifle as there is with a big one. The small one trains the eye and the hand and the muscles of the back and shoulder and makes it easy for the rifleman to do effective work with a heavy rifle should he be called upon. It isn't the distance the bullet travels nor how far it cuts its way into solid oak that makes the successful rifleman. It is the power to hold the piece on the bull's-eye and the eye to tell when to pull the trigger. These can be as well learned in the house as on the prairie.

Recognizing the great revival of interest in target shooting, and realizing how impossible it is for the average person to secure range facilities for work with a heavy rifle, Comfort has met the difficulty with a rif





# "COMFORT'S" MAGIC CONUNDRUM PICTURES. PRIZES FOR ANSWERS.

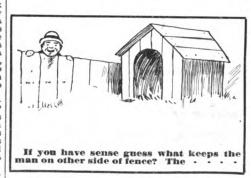
COMFORT" here prints several marvelous partly invisible conundrum pictures. The point is for you to first guess what each one represents and write down the answer to the question asked under each picture. Then you lay the paper on a smooth surface and take a lead pencil, or a common silver spoon, and carefully Rub Over the blank spaces and immediately the answer and balance of picture will appear to tell you if you have guessed

PRIZES. To all paid in advance subscribers who send the pictures to us after making their guess we will give prizes of Games, Books, Jewelry, etc., awarding them according to skill displayed and talent shown in making the best-looking pictures after above directions and







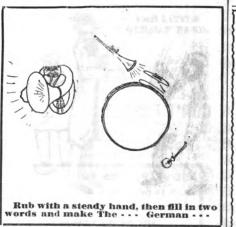








and it will still be a · · in a box.



coming the nearest in their answers to the questions asked under each picture. Every one who is a paid in advance subscriber will receive a prize of some kind who send in the pictures. It is only a question of the quality of your work in developing them and the number of correct answers given to questions.

only a question of the quality of your work in developing answers given to questions.

We not only want to reward you for your trouble but desire to see what results can be obtained from this sort of work. Remember do not send any pictures to us on this Prize Offer unless you are paid in advance subscribers, as these contests are gotten up to please "COMFORT'S large army of subscriptions if it has or is about to expire, as we have another entirely new feature in Magic Pictures to be published in the May issue.

Address all letters under this offer

COMFORT CONTEST 77, Augusta, Maine.

Address all letters under this offer COMFORT CONTEST 77, Augusta, Maine. Every one receives a Prize under this offer as per above simple conditions.

each club assembles at its usual place of meeting and shoots the stipulated number of shots. At the conclusion of the shooting, each club will mail to its opponent a copy of the scores. Thus, the scores will cross on the way and neither side will know which has won till it receives the report from the other. It will add greatly to the interest if clubs are named after some of the famous generals of the army. the army.

The illustrations accompanying this article show soldiers in the various positions adopted by the leading armies of the world. The same positions will apply in using the air rifle.

# \$25.00

AIR RIFLE FREE.

Chance for Boys and Girls to join our Gun Club and learn to shoot correctly.

\$5.00 for 1st Prize in the Sharpshooter Contest. \$3.00 for 2nd Prize.

\$2.00 for 3rd Prize. 15 Prizes of \$1.00 each.

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We want to introduce these Wonderful Air Rifles and to show how much superior they are to all others we are going to offer Prizes to the best shots. We furnish Guns, Targets, etc., all PREE.

JOIN OUR GUN CLUB.

furnish Guns, Targets, etc., all FREE.

JOIN OUR CUN CLUB.

If you want one of these Guns and desire to see the beautiful colored Target get our complete list of prizes and learn all about how men and women as well as boys and girls are taking up this Air Rifie practice. Hit the bull's-eye at once if you are interested in military or rifle practice in any form. It is desirable for outdoor target practice or parlor amusement or it can be used in any part of the house with perfect safety, making a practical and entertaining form of evening amusement for the boys and girls as well as older folks. There is mo smoke, odor or dust from this gun, it is endorsed by army officers as the best mechanical rifle ever produced and the possession of one of our accurate shooting rifles makes a boy manly and affords him an excellent means of successfully competing with his chums for marksman's honors as well as teaching him the use of a rifle. Remember this is a combination gun, so your boy should have one be he old or young. If he is sick in the house he can shoot darts and keep out of mischief or go into the woods for game and get robust and healthy besides.

All that is required of you to join the "COMFORT" Gun Club and enter for the Prizes is to secure and send us Thirteen trial six months' subscribers to "Comfort" at 10c. each. As soon as we receive them we forward you, all charges paid, one of these elegant King gall steel nickle plated Air Rifles together with full directions and instructions in rifle practice. So you will have a complete outfit and your way easily mapped out to go right ahead and try for a Prize. This is the chance of a lifetime tor you not only to learn how to shoot correctly but enter for the \$25.00 Prizes as well and get a valuable Air Gun and full outfit free. Get up your list of 13 six months' subscriptions at once and address

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THREE

NEARLY CET LONG.

GUN

The popular "Goo Goo" Winking Eye is what you must wear on your coat or vest if you want to cut out all the other fellows and mash the pretty girls. You can engage in conversation and slyly turn back your coat lapel and wink your "Goo Goo" eye so easily you will win the girl and fool the other fellow or if a ga funny story that is old and stale or not can bring your winking eye into play

A NOTTY WINK.

and turn him down without any hard feeling. The eye is strongly made of metal, the front is painted in natural life-like colors and the wink is produced by pulling an invisible string from behind and there is a long strong pin to fasten through your clothing. The whole thing is strong and durable and the most talked about novelty today. Every one is wild for one, every young man in the big cities has one and all the girls too. "Just because she made dem Goo Goo eyes" is why you should have one, so send 12c. today for a special sample. 6 for 50c.; 1 doz.

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Adjustable Reclining Chair.

It is made of the finest Oak and so arranged by a simple device in the back that it can be adjusted to either a lounging or upright position. It is the most useful and popular Easy Chair on the market. They seem to just fit the irrice body after a busy day's work in fact it fits one's every mock.

We are giving these Chairs away as Premiums for selling our Remedies. Lace Curtains Free.

Sell only six Electric Plasters at 25c. cach, which we trust you with and we will send you a pair of these elegant Nottingham Lace Curtains, each Curtain is nine feet of Curtains in the pair, and as they are four feet wide for the two, they gather up nicely and furnish an elegant drapery for even the very broad windows, in fact in many instances one pair would do for several windows, and just what any one needs to adorn the home with. Every one of taste will tell you that there is nothing which "dresses up" a room so much as a pair of lace curtains. The finest effects are obtained by these draperies. They show from the outside as well as from the inside. They are of the real Italian pattern and delivered free to yet all an arges pair. Donn and send on the \$1.50 you get the Curtains and learn all about the Morrise Chair inducement. It will surprise you in liberality. We do not give the \$1.5.00 Chair for selling only \$1.50 worth of goods as some firms profess to do, but we make you the most liberal, honest and straightforward offer ever put out. We are paying our agents over two dollars for selling only one dollars's worth of goods in order to get them advertised. We want to prove there is a sure prevention and cure for Lame Hack, Rheumatism, La Grippe, Coughs, Colds, Procumonia, Malaria, etc., etc. Send for the six Plaster to-day. Address

The Ginnt Plaster Co., Box C., Augusta, Maine.



An April greeting to you all, my dears, and may its showers that bring the flowers typify the tears that you may shed which will bring something brighter and sweeter to your lives. Now let us talk together awhile.

The first letter is from Leonora, of Hayes, Ills., who asks a lot of questions about beaus and she is only fifteen. I can only say to her that girls of fifteen are too young to even think about beaus, much less ask questions about them. Wait five years, my

Helen, Hendrun, Minn.—Your dentist friend may be quite sincere and honest in his admiration of you. Let him call on you but treat him with dig-nity, as he is evidently inclined to be too familiar.

nity, as he is evidently inclined to be too familiar.

Pansy, Myra, Pa.—Ask your brother to invite the young man to call, or ask him yourself some time when he is with your brother. Of course he is not in love with you. (2) A mole is a dangerous thing to tamper with. Ask a doctor. (3) "P. S." stands for "Post Scriptum." Latin for "writing after."

Rice Bird, Abbeville, S. C.—If the young man is poor and he will have you and your mother to support, don't marry him. You can support your mother better yourself. If she is young enough to help you in the house and the man wants her there then you might marry. It would take a column article on love to answer the other questions you ask, and then you wouldn't be sure.

Peggy, Lansing, Mich.—Wait until she is twenty,

Peggy, Lansing, Mich.—Wait until she is twenty, and get some other fellow. You may stay at your fiance's home with his mother and sisters. It is proper to ask a man to call. The escort who is inattentive should never have another chance to be

Friend, Mountain City, Tenn.—In writing to your sweetheart you may address him as you please. But remember when you write anything that it is in black and white, and may make you ashamed some time.

Violet, St. Louis, Mo.—It seems to me that your only plan to educate the young man in English, is to teach him yourself. If he cannot learn under your teaching he cannot learn anywhere.

Broken Heart, Maysville, Ark.—Forget the young man. You will not find it so hard, I think, when you try. (2) It is hospitable to ask anybody to call again, and customary with a great many people. (3) If she can play she ought to play.

Daisy, Mars, Pa.—It is proper to go to dances with a chaperone, if the dances are all right. (2) Yes, girls may travel any distance in this country alone. But they should be very careful not to make acquaintances indiscriminately. (3) Sixteen is most too young. Don't wear a man's picture in a button unless you are engaged to him.

L. M. Z., Toledo, O.—If the young man wishes to postpone the engagement for a year it is your duty to postpone the kissing for the same length of time.

Sweat Violet, England, Minn - Introduce the

time.

Sweet Violet, Englund, Minn.—Introduce the man to the lady. (2) Haven't space to answer about the basket trimming. Use your own taste. (3) You might occasionally ask to be taken out walking or riding, but don't do it very often, and know the young man pretty well. Men don't like that kind of thing, as a rule. (4) It is no disgrace not to have beaus. It is a great comfort, at times. Angle, Senior, Texas.—You are too young even to be writing to me. Ask your mother.

Triplets Burston Kass—You sentertain the

be writing to me. Ask your mother.

Triplets, Burrton, Kans.—Yes, entertain the young man on the front porch in suitable weather.

(2) He should not object to your going in a sleighing party. Still, if he does not want you to go, you should not. Nine o'clock is early for sleighing.

(3) It seems to be the custom to go home from church with a girl who has gone there without him.

(4) Don't marry an unworthy man, simply because you love. Be frank with the other man, who loves you.

Blonde, Anson, Me.—School girls may let the boys go home with them from school, but merely as boys and girls. Boys in school are not beaus, and fourteen-year-old girls should give their thoughts to their books. You'll have trouble enough when you are older.

Emillie, Marak, Texas.—Write a postal to Rand & McNally, Chicago, for the information you want.

(2) The bashful girl is always more attractive than the flirt, except for the moment. The former improves, the latter does

the firt, except for the moment. The former improves, the latter does not.

Roxey, Nashville, Tenn.—Don't write to the man you do not know, even if he is a friend of your girl friend. (2) It is the custom in the country for a couple to drive long distances at night to parties. (3) Don't chew gum in the parlor, no matter how many others are doing it. The more the worse. (4) When a man fails to keep any kind of an engarement it is his duty to explain as soon as possible. (5) She might answer his letter immediately after he had gone, referring pleasantly to his visit.

Dove, Daisey, Md.—It would have been better not to have put your hand in his coat pocket, and when he offered you the cigarette you should have given it back to him, with the advice that he quit using the vile things and smoke cigars like a real man. Answer his note, but you are too young yet for anything but a pleasant acquaintance as you meet. A sixteen-year-old girl of your size should wear longer dresses than a small girl. Not long, but below your shoe-tops.

low your shoe-tops.

low your snoc-tops.

Sunflower, Froubleville, Miss.—Don't marry the young man who will get drunk in your house.

C. L. W., Wicomico. Va.—I know of no way of discovering how to find out who owned the quarter before you got it. The initials are mere chance.

before you got it. The initials are mere chance.
Violet, Columbus, Neb.—Trained nurses do not
have to have a college education. (2) Certainly,
don't tell the man you love him, unless he tells you
first. (3) If he wants to write to you he will ask.
Olive, Edgar, N. C.—There is nothing in the Bible
against second cousins marrying. In some states
it is legal. (2) If you like the young man your sister did not marry, and he likes you, it is all right.

Lucile, Kunkle, O.—Girls should not marry be-fore twenty, nor men before thirty, in my opinion. (2) He does not. (3) It is permissible. (4) No.

Brown Eyes, Peoria, Ills.—Wear as many of the roses as you can and leave the others at home. (2) Thorough massaging night and morning with your hands will develop your neck and give it better color. Also gentle exercise of the muscles by moving the head from side to side and back and forth.

There, all of your questions have been answered, and nearly every question asked was indicative that my cousins are learning a good many things they ought to know without asking me. May we all be happy till we meet again. By by.

COUSIN MARION.

WRITERS WANTED to do copying at home. ART INSTITUTE, Lima, Ohio. Ladies make big money; the latest thing out. Send 25c. for sample or 50c. for complete outfit and start in business. Paul S. Baker, 1363 Sherman St., Muscatine, Iowa,

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under which you were born, just as the tides l with the moon. I point out the dangers and success in love, marriage and business. My e truly wonderful—to many worth a fortune, you a trial reading free. Send date of birth amps. Prof. C. O. Zadkiel, Box 1187, Philada.

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	199	Bridal March from Lohengrin Carter	284	Come Back to Our Cottage . Estabrooke	
)	321	Brunette Waltz Bragg	294	Crown of Glory Tours	
	307	Cavalry Parade Polka Sampson	286	Darling I Shall Miss Von Cohen	-
'	255	Cavaleria Rusticana. Four hands. Mascagni	176	Darling Nellie Gray Hanby	
•	289	Cadences and Scales in all Keys	244	De Ban jo am de Instrument Rutledge	(
	327	Celestina Mazurka De Lasaide	362	Dear Little Heart 'Neath the Daisies Rutledge	-
'	297	Charokee Roses Waltz, 4 hands. Reh	304	Don't drink my Boy tonight Temp House	
)	335	Chinese Serenade	290	Dream of Love Elson	(
	340	Clayton (Adjusted) March Two Sten Wissed	310	Dream of Spring. A. Op. 1, 2 . Curschmann	-
,	269	Coppelia. Valse Lente Deibles	256	Dwelling with the Angels. Chorus. Turner	'
6	21!	Corn Flower Waltzes Coote, Jr	220	Ever Sweet is Thy Memory Hosfeld	(
	235	Day Dawn Polka Cook	180	Far Away	
,	163	Dewey's Grand Triumphal March . Marcel	182	Father is Drinking Again. Temperance	-
5	299	Eastlake Waltz Daggett	156	Flag. The. Quartette Fox	(
	303	Edelweiss	144	Far Away Far Away Far Away Far Away Father is Drinking Again. Temperance Flag of Our Country. Patriotic. Mathiot Flag, The. Quartette. For Filirting in the Starlight Delano For a Dream's Sake From our Home the Loved are Going From our Home the Loved are Going From Our Home the Loved are Going	
)	355	English Maypole Dance	166	For a Dream's Sake . Cowen From our Home the Loved are Going Percy	(
)	151	Corn Flower Waltzes Crystal Dew Waltz Day Dawn Polka Dewey's Grand Triumphal March Diamond Valley Waltz Eastlake Waltz Edelweiss Eglinton Quickstep Eglinton Quickstep Eglinton Quickstep F. W. M. English Maypole Dance Evergreen Waltz Fantastic Schottische Fatinitza Galop Faust. Selections Fifth Nocturne Evezer Levezer Levezer Fifth Nocturne Evezer Levezer Fifth Nocturne Evezer Levezer Fifth Nocturne Evezer Levezer Fundaria	336	Frost upon the Pane Walterstein	-
	241	Fantastic Schottische . Gabriel	202	Give a Kiss to Me Percy	
)	29!	Fatinitza Galop Ludwig Faust. Selections Durkee Fifth Nocturne Leybach	178	God Bless My Kind Old Mother Jewell	!
,	77	Fifth Nocturne Leybach	262	Greeting Duet . Mendelssohn	-
	233	Flirting in the Starlight. Waltz . Lasaide	150	Gypsy Countess. Duet Glover	ľ
)	351	Forest Home Waltz Smiley	198	Heart of My Heart Robinson	(
)	283	Forestville Waltz Zahn	272	How can I Leave Thee. Duet . Greenwood	٠.
	îżż	Frolic of the Frogs Watson	248	In Shadowland Pinsuti	•
)	353	Gavotte in F. Major , Josseffy	266	In Summer Time Marzials	(
	147	Fatinitza Galop Faust. Selections Durkee Fifth Nocturne Filitting in the Starlight. Waltz Flower Song. Op. 39. Forest Home Waltz Forestville Waltz Forestville Waltz Foreisch nutz. Selections Frolic of the Frogs. Gavotte in F. Major Golden Rain. Nocturne Grand Commandery March—Two Step Missud Heel and Toe Polka Her Bright Smile Haunts Me Still Richards	188	Filtring in the Starlight  For a Dream's Sake From our Home the Loved are Goling Frost upon the Pane Gathered Roses Glive a Kiss to Me Gloden Moon Greeting Duet Glypsy Countess. Duet Glypsy Countess. Duet Heart of My Heart How can I Leave Thee. Duet In Shadowland In Summer Time In Starlight. Duet Jensies It Is a Legend Old In the Starlight. Duet Jennie with the Sweet Brown Eyes Juanita. Ballad Kalliee Mavourneen Lister Lister Lister Rutter Ruttlege	,
	28!	Heel and Toe Polka Her Bright Smile Haunts Me Still Richards Hobson of the Merrimac Waltzes Hobson of the Merrimac Waltzes Home, Sweet Home. Transcription Jenny Lind polka. Four hands Le Petit Bal. Polka Mazurka. Lee's (Gen'l) "On to Cuba" galop Lolengrin. Selections London March—Two Step Love's Dreamland Waltzes Madden's Prayer, The Martha Selections. May Broe zees. Four hands Krug  Kru	328	Jennie with the Sweet Brown Eyes Rutledge	,
)	173	Hobson of the Merrimac Waltzes Jewell	242	Kathleen Mayourneen . Crouch	(
,	139	Home, Sweet Home. Transcription Slack	196	Killarney Balfe	,
'	157	Last Hope. Meditation . Gottschalk	išó	Kiss that bound my Heart to thine Keil	,
)	253	Le Petit Bal. Polka Mazurka Behr	164	Larb oard Watch. Duet Williams	(
,	249	Lollengrin. Selections Durkee	146	Listen to the Mocking Bird Hawthorne	,
	141	London March - Two Step . Missua	.48	Little Boy Blue. Solo or Duet . Estabrooke	,
)	99	Maiden 's Prayer, The Badarzewske	96	Lost Chord, The Sullivan	(
,	240 207	Martha Selections Johnson	326	Love Divine, all love excelling Stainer	,
	263	May Day Schottische Keefer	234	Margaretta Balle	1
)	225 55	McKinley and Hobart March Turner Memorial Day March Hewitt	112	Massa's Sleeping in de Churchyard . Keefer	(
,	357	Midnight Bells Galop Ludwig	172	Mother's Welcome at the Door Estabrooke	,
'	131 201	Music Box. The. Caprice Liebich	222	Musica I Dialogue. Duet Helmund Must the Sweet Tie that binds Estabrooke	,
	125	My Old Kentucky Home. Variations Cook	344	My Happy Childhood Home Allen	(
,	305	National Songs of America Blake	176	My Old Kentucky Home . Foster	,
•	135	Nightingale's Trill, op. 81 Kullak	216	Oh, Sing Again that Gentle Strain Dinsmore	,
)	123	Napoleon. National Songs of America Parlou National Songs of America Blake Nightingale's Trill, op. 81 Kullak Keefer Old Folks at Home. Transcription Old Oaken Bucket, The. Variations Durkee One Heart One Soul Mazurka Strauss	342	Kathleen Mavourneen Küllarney Kathleen Mavourneen Küllarney Kiss me, but don't say goodbye Kiss that bound my Heart to thine Larb oard Watch. Duet Larb oard Watch. Duet Listen to the Mocking Bird. Listen to	(
			270	Old Village Church	,
'	219	One Heart, One Soul. Mazurka . Strauss On the Wave Waltz Dinsmore	104	On the Banks of the Beautiful River Estabrooke	,
)	<u> </u>	Oregon, Queen of the Sea. Two-step Robinson	90	On the Beach. Most beautiful ballad Robinson	(
	191	Orvetta Waltz	160	Out on the Deep	,
			174	Outcast, An. Character Song. Fritz Parted from our Dear Ones . Keller Peace to Thy Spirit. Duet . Verdi Peal of the Village Bell. Chorus . Rkelly Picture of My Mother, The Poor Girl didn't know. Comic. Private Tommy Atkins . Potter Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep . Keight	,
)	265	Psyche. Gavotte Mattei	814	Peace to Thy Spirit. Duet Verdi Peal of the Village Bell. Chorus Skelly	(
	167	Red, White and Blue Forever. March Blake Richmond March—two-step Missud	254	Picture of My Mother, The Skelly	,
'	245	Rustic Waltz	274	Private Tommy Atkins Comic. Cooke	
)	245	Rustling Leaves. Idylle Lange	208	Private Tommy Atkins Potter Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep . Knight Shall I EverSeeMother's FaceAgain? Adviance	(
	352 149	Ruth, Esther and Marion Schottische . Cohen Salem Witches March—Two-Step Missud	332	She's Drean ing of the Angels . Estabrooke	,
1	189	Schubert's Serenade Transcription List	194	She's Drean ing of the Angels . Bstabrooke She Sleeps among the Daisies . Dinsmore Son's Return, The Fritz Storm of See Description	9
)	309	Shepherd Boy. Idylle	120	Storm at Sea. Descriptive Hullah	(
	169	Smith's (General) March Martin	278	Summer Shower	1
1	295 259	Spring Flowers Polka Devrient	206	There's Sure to be a Way Delano	9
1	279	Stephanie Polka . Fahrbach	158	Thinking of Home and Mother Cohen	(
	151	Storm The Imitation of Nature Weber Sultan's Band March Brown	334	Storm at Sea. Descriptive Hullah Summer Shower Marstals Sweet Long Ago, The Estabrooke There's Sure to be a Way Delano Thinking of Home and Mother Cohen Tits years since I parted dear Mother I win Titania's Cradler Tread a offly the Angels are calling Tweet	1
	209	Sweet Long Ago Transcription Blake			9
	223 113	Twilight Echoes. Song without words Jewell Under the Double Fagle March Wagner	252	Warrior Bold Adams	(
	205				1
	203 93	Warblings at Eve	186	Whistling Wife. The. Comic Why am I ever Watching Why do Summer Roses Fade  . Randall deLasaide . Barker	9
	26 I		218	Why do Summer Roses Fade . Barker	1
	25 I I I 9	Winsome Grace. A perfect gem llowe Woodland Whispers Waltzes	338	Wish A—	1
	301	Yacht Waltz Dinsmore	322	Zelma Lee. Chorus Estabrooke	9
	-	HIE FARAFE that you only have to	eecn v	one new yearly enhanther to COMFORT	1

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44444444444444



Italy has a population of 32,900,000.

In China the year begins in February. The bay of Bengal is 420,000 square miles in er-

A whale can remain under water for an hour and a half.

A negro in Demerara has unearthed a gold nug-get weighing 871-2 pounds. Out of 454 locomotives on the standard gauge railroad of Roumania 203 have oil burners.

Ice one and one-half inches thick will support a man; eighteen inches thick a railroad train. A machine is in use in the pension office Washington which will seal 25,000 envelopes it day.

The total production of crude petroleum in the United States during the past year was 63,362,704 barrels

The Emperor of Germany has offered a prize for a motor car controlled for the purposes of the farmer.

It takes about 17 1-2 years for a dollar to double itself at four per cent. interest compounded semi-annually.

An electrical top is one of the newest inventions. Inside is a tiny toy dynamo which is driven by a toy battery.

There are over three thousand firms in the world manufacturing munitions of war. Nine hundred are in America.

Ninety-five tons of gold and five hundred and twenty tons of silver are mined in a single year in the whole world.

A Baltimore engineer has put the whole alphabet on the head of a common pin. The work only took an hour and a half.

Yellow stains in either timber or lumber are an indication of dry rot, and are regarded as an injury to the tree or wood.

It is estimated that by taking one foot depth from Niagara Falls, power might be obtained to the value of \$1,500,000 a day.

James Chalmers, a Scotchman, invented government postage stamps in 1834. The plan was adopted by the postal authorities in 1841.

All the transportation in Venice is done by gondolas, big and little. They are used by merchans and by all classes, rich and poor.

The silken thread is spun from two orifices in the nose of the silkworm, the two threads being united by a gelatinous substance.

American pine when green weighs 44 pounds 12 ounces to the cubic foot. When seasoned its weight is reduced to 30 pounds 11 ounces.

Not less than seven hundred photographs of the German emperor are extant. There are three hun dred photographs of the King of England.

A German botanist is said to have discovered that out of over 6,000 species of flowers cultivated in Europe only 420 possess an agreeable perfume.

The Union stockyard in Chicago in one day last year received 2397 cars, containing 34,785 cattle, 38, 456 hogs and 22,234 sheep, and the total value was over \$50,000.

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Free Trial Package of this New Discovery Mailed to Every Man Sending Name and Address— Quickly Restores Strength and Vigor.

Free trial packages of a most remarkable remedy are being mailed to all who will write the State Medical Institute. They cured so many men who

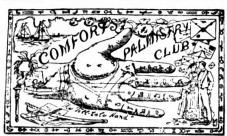


A. E. ROBINSON, M. D., C. M., Medical Director.

had battled for years against the mental and physical suffering of lost manhood that the Institute has decided to distribute free trial packages to all who write. It is a home treatment and all men who suffer with any form of sexual weakness resulting from youthful folly, premature loss of strength and memory, weak back, varicocele, or emaciation of parts can now cure themselves at home.

strength and memory, weak obox, temselves at home.

The remedy has a peculiarly grateful effect of warmth and seems to act direct to the desired location giving strength and development justifuction in the seeds of the constant of the con



CONDUCTED BY DIGITUS.

### CONDITIONS.

CONDITIONS.

To have one's hands read in this department, by Digitus, one of the finest living palmists, it is necessary to observe the following conditions:
Impressions of both hands must be sent, fully postpaid and having the name, address and nom de plume of the sender enclosed in the package also.

The package must in every instance be accompanied by the names and addresses of eight new subscribers at twenty-five cents each, the whole amount, \$2.00 being remitted, with the package, addressed to COMFORT PALMISTRY CLUB. Augusta, Maine.

No notice will be taken of impressions and requests for readings unless the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank

for readings unless the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank paper over a candle or similar flame, until they are heavily coated with the smoke. Then lay these pieces down, smoke side uppermost on a pad of cotton. Now place the two hands, palms downward, one on each sheet of paper, pressing firmly and steadily down, but taking care not to move the hand. Keep them so for one minute and lift carefully, so as not to disturb the impression. Have ready some fixatif, which can be bought at a drug store or an art store or made with gum arabic and water in an atomizer. Spray this over the impressions before they are moved and allow them to dry. Then they are ready to send.

Smoked paper impressions are the best. But if it is desired to send a plaster cast, take plaster of Paris and dissolve in water to the consistency of thick cream. Pour this into a large shallow dish and when it is hardening place the hand, well-greased, palm downward, in the plaster, pressing downward. Several minutes will be required to get this impression and great care must be taken in removing the hand, not to break the plaster. Casts are exceedingly difficult to send without breaking and should be very carefully packed in a box with the name of the sender written on it. Putty is sometimes successfully used in place of plaster. A good photograph if sufficiently well taken to bring out all the lines, can also be read, although in all cases the smoked paper is the best, if properly treated with fixail;

Bear in Mind that all the above conditions must be observed.

Also, that letters not complying with them will go into the waste-basket. Readings cannot appear for several months after impressions are sent.

READER of this department sends in a READER of this department sends in a long letter describing her hand and asking me to give her a reading from her description. That is an impossibility. The only way to have a hand read in this department is to comply with the above conditions and send on a good print of

conditions and send on a good print of the hand.

"Eliza" sends me a good smoked paper impression from which I infer that she is a person of steady nerves and reliable character. She is a generous, open hearted person, very versatile in accomplishments and also in her intellectual qualities and a great favorite with all who know her. She will marry young, perhaps at the age of eighteen or twenty but she will grow apart from her husband and by the time she is thirty-five will have separated from him. There was considerable opposition to her marriage and some trouble which really affected her heart quite seriously, but she has been protected from any evil consequences thereof. She is a person of great tact and strong will, well fitted to be a leader wherever she lives. She will be a great favorite with the opposite sex,

being bright and vivacious, with a slight tinge

being bright and vivacious, with a slight tinge of coquetry. She will have a successful life, although she will not live to be much over fifty, and her success will run to the way of riches. She will not have any children.

I have had a great many inquiries as to the best way of determining questions relating to love and marriage. I have studied the leading authorities in palmistry and have read many of the less well-known writers, and I think the deductions drawn by Cheiro are the safest for the average student to follow. According to deductions drawn by Cheiro are the safest for the average student to follow. According to him: "the hand does not recognize the mere fact of a ceremony, be it civil or religious—it merely registers the influence of different people over our lives, what kind of influence they have had, the effect produced, and that is in accordance with such influence. Now, marriage being so important an event in one's life, it follows that, if events can be foretold by the hand, marriage should certainly be marked, even years in advance, and I have always found that such is the case in respect to all important influences; and it is also natural that affaires de coeur, liasons, and such, can thus be singled out and divided from what is known as marriage, except when the liason is just as important and the influence on the life just as strong. Why there should be a time set apart in one's life to marry, or not to marry, as the case may be, can only be answered by referring to the other mysteries that surround us. If anyone can explain why a permanent magnet brought into an or signary room, has the power. anyone can explain why a permanent magnet brought into an ordinary room has the power to magnetize every other bit of iron in the room, what that power is, and what the connection is then be

answer the question; but until all the secret laws and forces of nature are known, we can take no other standpoint than to accept these strange anomalies withanomalies without having the
power to answer
the cry of the
curious, the perpetual, parr otlike'Why?'of the
doubting."
We will now
proceed with the
marks in connecti

ELIZA. marks in connection with these lines of mar-riage on the Mount of Mercury.

The line or lines of marriage may rise on the side of the hand or may be only marked across the front of the Mount of Mercury.

A wealthy union is shown by a strong, well-marked line from the side of the line of fate next Luna running up and joining the line of fate, when the marriage-line on Mercury is also well marked.

Wein marked.

When, however, the line of influence rises first straight on the Mount of Luna and then runs up and into the fate-line, the marriage will be more the capricious fancy than real affection.

When the line of influence is stronger than

when the line droops with a small cross over the curve, the person the subject is married to will die by accident or sudden death; but when there is a long gradual curve, gradual ill health will cause the end.

When the line has an island in the center or at any portion, it denotes some very great trouble in married life, and a separation while

the island lasts.

When the line divides at the end into a When the line divides at the end into a drooping fork sloping towards the center of the hand, it tells of divorce or judicial separation. This is all the more certain if a fine line cross from it to the plain of Mars.

When the line is full of little islands and drooping lines, the subject should be warned not to marry. Such a mark is a sign of the greatest unhappiness.

When full of little islands and forked, it is again a sign of unhappiness in marriage.

again a sign of unhappiness in marriage.

When the line breaks in two, it denotes a sudden break in the married life.

When the line of marriage sends an offshoot on to the Mount of Sun and into the line of sun, it tells that the possessor will marry some

one of distinction, and generally a person in some way famous. When, on the contrary, it goes down towards and cuts the line of sun, the person in whose hand it appears will lose position through mar-

riage.

When a deep line from the top of the mount grows downward and cuts the line of marriage there will be a great obstacle and opposition to

with and almost touching the marriage-line, it tells of some deep affection after marriage on the side of the person on whose hand it ap-

Do not be discouraged, for it takes a good while for your readings to appear after they have been sent. I shall come to them all in have been sent. I shall come to them all in good time and give you all a chance, meanwhile be careful about complying with the above conditions on sending names and impressions. Of course many people do not understand the different mounts and lines above described, and "Comfort" with the help of Cheiro has issued a plain, brief Palmistry Guide that fully illustrates all of the things you want to know about Palmistry. To any

A WOMAN'S DISCOVERY.

I have discovered a positive cure for all female dis-eases and the piles. It never fails to cure the piles from any cause or in either sex, or any of the diseases peculiar to women, such as leucorrhea, displacements, ulceration, granulation, etc. I will gladly mail a free box of the remedy to every sufferer. Address MRS. C. B. MILLER, Box 106, Kokomo, Ind.

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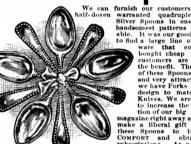
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equal for time any Solid Gold Watch made, send us your name and address at once and agree to sell only 8 boxes of our famous Vegetable Pills at 25 cents a box. It's the greatest remedy on earth for Constipation, Indigestion and all Stomach Disorders, and they sell like hot cakes. Don't miss the chance of your life. Send us your order and we will send the 8 boxes by mail. When sold, you send us the money and we will send you the WATCH with

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For the benefit of our readers who live in the smaller towns and remote communities, Comfort proposes the organization of Comfort Clubs whose object shall be to add to the comfort of living by bringing people together for their mutual instruction, improvement and amusement.

Knowing that social pleasures are lacking in the smaller places more because people do not know how to organize and what to do that is interesting and pleasing, than because they do not care for such things, Comfort will undertake to suggest ways and means by which the young people, at least, may pass many winter evenings which would otherwise hang heavily.

First: The clubs, to be known as Comfort Clubs, are to have their membership from among subscribers to Comfort, and ten persons or less may constitute a Club. In communities where there are more than ten eligibles, Clubs A, B. C etc., may be organized, the objects of these divisions being to make it possible for sets of persons to make up their own crowds, for such meetings as they may wish to have. But each month there must be a regular meeting of the whole Club at which all members may attend and take part in the exercises.

Second: The monthly meeting should be held in some large room (church or town hall) and members are to read, rectie, sing play on some instrument, or act a short piece, the whole to conclude with some interesting game which Comfort will present. Comfort will also provide the program each month for the monthly meeting, so that members need only carry out the program which will be furnished them. Division meetings may be held at private houses of members of the divisions, and once a week if so desired.

Third: The officers of Comfort Clubs shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, four

once a week if so desired.

Third: The officers of Comfort Clubs shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, four in all, and to be elected by the Club, once a year. There are to be no fees of any kind, but if at any time the Club wishes to raise money for any charity, small admittance may be charged at the usual monthly meeting. This can only be done by vote of the Club. Every member shall be entitled to invite two persons, not members, to attend any meeting, general or division.

Fourth: Each member shall wear a badge or button indicating membership, COMFORT agreeing to furnish appriate badges without cost to members.

These general rules, which will be modified and improved as the needs of Clubs develop, are now given as a basis upon which to organize the pioneer Clubs, and Comport will be pleased to hear from our lady readers all over the land concerning their willingness to undertake the good work. Comport will also be glad to render all the assistance in its power to ald the cause of making life cheerier and brighter and increasing good will and good fellowship among mankind. A special prize will be awarded to the first club organizing and reporting to this office, which organization may take place immediately upon receipt of this notice. Various annual prizes, to he determined later, will be awarded to Clubs for excellence in attendance, numbers, &c.

Address all communications to Comfort Club Editor, Comport, Augusta, Maine.

### Method of Organization of Clubs.

Method of Organization of Clubs.

Let the person undertaking the organization notify six or more subscribers to COMPORT at the same postoffice to meet at a designated house, or room, and when they have come together, simply state the object of the organization of the club, as announced in COMPORT and get the sense of the meeting as to organization by naming two or more persons, male or female as candidates for President, first. Then pass slips of blank paper around for each person to write thereon the name of his or her choice for the office, and the one receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared president. Proceed in the same way for Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Then the person who has called the meeting will retire and the new officers will take charge, the President in the chair, conducting the minutes. The President will announce the program and call off the order of business naming those who are set down as taking individual parts.

The main idea is to have this part of the club's work as simple as it can possibly be, so that members will find the club being the greatest comfort to the greatest number.

Commfort Club Programs.

- Comfort Club Program.

  1—Meeting called to order by President.

  2—Reading minutes of previous meeting; by Secretary.

  2—Admission of members.

  4—Other business, if any.

  5—Intermission of five minutes—conversation.

  6—Recitation.

  7—Vocal selection—solo or concerted number.

  8—Instrumental selection—any instrument.

  9—Intermission of five minutes—conversation.

  19—Comfort Club Game, for all present. (See below.)

  11—"Aud Lang Syne," sung by the entire meeting.

  12—Announcements for following month by the Vice resident.

  13—"The Star Spaugled Banner," sung by all present, tanding.

standing, 14—Good Night.

### GAMES FOR COMFORT CLUB. Distinguished Persons.

An amusing game is played by giving the names of distinguished persons.

An amusing game is played by giving the names of distinguished persons to various members of the company and having them guess who they are by the remarks made to them by others. To play this game, the President of the club, assisted by whomever he may select, writes on slips of paper the names of the very best known people living or dead and putting them in a hat or box where they may be readily got at. Then all the company is invited to go out of the room, and as each one is asked to come in, a slip bearing the name of some one is pinned on his back without his knowing who it is. Then another is saked in and another until all are in and each one has a slip pinned on, and at last the remaining slips are pinned on the president and his assistants by some of the company. All go about now looking at the slips on each others back and addressing some remark to each one indicating who he is and he must guess his name and character. For instance, if the name Alexander the Great were on some one and another should step up and say to him: "How do you do, are you weeping for more worlds to conquer?" he would be pretty sure to guess that he was Alexander. This would, of course, be on a man. If the slip were on a lady, and it was "Mrs. Carrie Nation", let us say, and some one should say to her: "Oh, you haven't got your hatchet with you", she would be pretty likely to guess who she was the first time. A great deal of fun may be had with this game, and when it has narrowed down to a very few who fail to guess who they are the company can have a lot of sport with them by asking them all manner of funny questions. The names of persons of local character, and every place has one or two characters of that kind, add to the amusement. This game may be continued for an hour, and the names may be used over again.

Charades.

Charades are always excellent for filling in the time

### Charades.

Charades.

Charades are always excellent for filling in the time with, as they may be played for any length of time, and a whole evening may be given to them, so that everybody can have an opportunity of doing something. No paraphernalia or previous study is required. A word is chosen and two or more people come before the audience and act it out, the audience guessing at what the word is, Let us take the big word metaphysician, as an example. A young man walks in from one side and a girl from the other and they meet. She says to him: "How do you do. Doctor?" and they peas out. You see she has met a physician, and it takes pretty good guessing to say what the word is, if you don't know. A word of two syllables (not a pun as this other) is.—"Announce" becomes a little girl by her first name "Ann," and the mother talks to her on any subject, let us say it is the young men. In the course of her talk, a young man comes in and calls the girl by her first name "Ann," and the mother becomes indignant that the young man should be so familiar with her daughter. That is the first act—Ann. The second is a store, let us say its atc—Ann. The second is a store, let us say, and various people come in to buy, One gets rice, another sugar, another potatoes and so on asking for any number of pounds, and findly a little girl one say, and warious people come in to buy, One gets rice, another sugar, another potatoes and so on asking for any number of pounds, and findly a little girl of the girl by the rice, another sugar, another potatoes and so on asking for any number of pounds, and findly a little girl of the girl by the girl of the girl of

A woman's discovery By many years of constant study and experiments, I have perfected a simple, harmless vegetable remedy that will quickly cure all femile diseases, as well as the piles. It is nature's own remedy and will not only relieve, but will absolutely, thoroughly and permanently cure the ailments peculiar to women, such as falling of the womb, leucorrhea (whites), displacements, ulceration, granulation, painful or scanty periods, irregular menstruation and all the pelvic ills of women. It positively cures rectal ulcers, piles, hemorrhoids, tumors, itching, blind or bleeding piles in either sex. It cures promptly, privately and permanently without the repugnant methods in general use by physicians. You can escape embarrassing examinations, avoid humiliating exposures, cheat the surgeon's knife out of baptism in your blood.

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Consider well the above offer and act upon it at once. It is made in the sincere hope of alding you and spreading the knowledge of a beneficent boon to sufferers. Earnestly, hopefully, faithfully, MRS. CORA B. MILLER, 329 Comstock Bldg., Kokomo, Ind. ounce. The third act, the whole word "announce." may be done by a young man who stands up and as each per-

ounce. The third act, the whole word "announce," may be done by a young man who stands up and as each person comes to him an! tells him something in a whisper he announces it to the company. If he is a bright young man he can make any kind of announcement he pleases about any person present, which always provokes merriment. There are so many words that may be acted in charades that we will not attempt a list here, as every Comfort Club has a dictionary at hand. Charades should be used principally to extend the time, if the game of the evening is not quite as long as the company wish to remain.

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Any paid-up subscriber who desires to make a change in their present situation or are in any way uncomfortable in their abode and want is formation about any particular location in any State in the Union can address "The Comfort Home Finder," Augusta, Maine, and we will try and serve them.

Mrs. Margaret W., Rockport, Ind.—A chicken farm near Washington, D. C. in Virginia would undoubtedly pay if it were conducted properly. Land may be had within from five to fifteen miles of the city at from \$40 to \$75 an acre and on all of the city at from \$40 to \$75 an acre and on all of railroad or trolley. The section is healthy, best from the Potomac, and the climate is about the average of what it is where you now are. Churchen and schools abound and some very nice people have their homes in that locality. The Washington market is one of the finest, especially if you devote yourself to handling the highest grade of produce. \$2,500 ought to buy a farm large enough for your purpose with a good house on it to live in. The roads through that section are only fairly good.

Frank B., Americus, Ga.—Western New York is rapidly coming to the front, iff it is not ilresty there, as a peach growing section, though Georgia peaches may now have more prestige than New York peaches. If you want to come North year probably could not do better than to apply our knowledge somewhere in the beautiful coordinatout the lakes of the western part of the Empir State. You will probably find land prices higher than they are in your section, but there are other advantages that will offset that. S. I. Patterson, Albany, is the State Commissioner of Agriculture and he is prepared to answer any questions you may ask.

Mrs. K. T., Harrisburg, Pa.—An inexpessive town in which to live while you are educating your sons is Emory, Va., in which is situated the long established Emory and Henry College, which han now about 125 students and a library of 11,000 volumes. It is a quiet old town, under good Methedia influence, such as you seek, and your income of a thousand dollars would provide you with all the comforts, and educate your boys.

John S., North Loup, Neb.—The so-called "abhadoned farms" of Massachusetts are no more than farms which the owners have not found it possible to make a living on sufficient to satify them, and have put them in

Michmond, va., ne will give you the information you seek, and what he tells you may be relied upon.

Z. D. H.—See answer to above for information concerning Virginia lands. (2) Land in northern Ohio may be had at fair prices, and it is fairly productive but very generally flat and the drainage is not good. There are much better farming sections than this in the southern part of the state. Write for information to Hon. W. W. Miller, See'y State Board of Agriculture, Columbus, Ohio.

G. E. C., Farina, Ills.—See answers above for Virginia lands. (2) There are no lands for sale in Florida for taxes, we believe. At least not in any amount. Write to Hon. L. B. Wombwell, Commissioner of Agriculture, Tallahassee, Fla., and he will give you information that will cover your inquiries. B. F. H., Cardiff, Ala.—Probably no better section for weak lungs can be found than Arizona, and the future of the territory in agriculture is extremely promising. If you will write to Hon. Mark Smith, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., he will be glad to tell you all about climate, health and future of the territory he represents in Congress.

W. D. W., Watertown, Tenn.—Circulars will be

W. D. W., Watertown, Tenn.—Circulars will be sent to you as soon as later ones are received. In the mean time write to Hon. A. W. Harmon. Jr., State Treasurer, Richmond, Va., for general information.

State Treasurer, Richmond, Va., for general information.

F. W. S., Waupaca, Wis — is between the Columbus, Ind., neighborhood and Madison County, Iowa, we would recommend Columbus for your purpose. The land is rolling prairie, very rich for wheat and corn, and good for poultry raising, but you cannot get it cheap, prices going from \$50 per acre up, according to improvements. Columbus is about sixty miles south of Indianapolis, with Louisville, Ky., and Cincinnati, Ohio., as additional markets. Write to W. A. Stevens, P. M., Columbus, Bartholomew Co., Ind., for particulars.

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CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.



HE Moon overtakes the Sunthis month at about twenty-three minutes of six o'clock in the afternoon of the 7th day, Washington Mean Time. In passing the Sun this time, the Moon partially covers the Sun's face making what is known as a Partial Eclipse of the Sun, to the inhabitants of that part of the Earth where it can be seen. It is not visible in Washington, our seat of

Earth where it can be seen. It is not visible in Washington, our seat of government, and in the United States anywhere, but it will be seen in New Zealand and the islands in the Southern Pacific ocean between Australia and South America. The central path of the eclipse begins at Van Dieman's Land and passes southward towards the South Pole, thence northeasterly to the 20th degree of south latitude.

An eclipse falling in an earthy

the earth" in the regiqns where visible and in those ruled by the zodiacal sign in which the eclipse occurs.

A figure of the heavens erected for the moment of the eclipse, shows the first degree of Scorpia rising, with Mars, Sun, Moon and Mercury setting in the western house of the figure. Venus has gone below the horizon and is in the 5th house; the great benefic Jupiter is in the 4th house; Saturn is in the 3rd, and Herschel is in the 2nd.

The conjoined luminaries in the 7th, so near the contentious Mars, is a feature of disquiet which is not agreeable. It points to some contention in the western part of our country in which our Administration joins, thereby inviting severe criticism by the people there, giving unpopularity to the Chief Executive and those in authority under him. Labor and granger organizations are vigorously recruited in those regions and controversies and dissensions are likely over railroad matters affecting the agricultural and cattle interests of portions of the west. There will be some unusual disturbance in prices of railway securities and incidentally of general stocks through the middle days of May and about the 1st of June.

Jupiter, in the 4th house, promises well for the agricultural classes of the country, indicating temperate growing weather with, however, rather more than usual heat and thunder and lightning for the season around the 20th of the month especially.

On the whole, the promises of the figure are good for the general welfare of the country, notwithstanding sectional differences and some inharmonies in the West. Our President should be on his guard during this lunation and near the 20th of the month. He should be careful of hurts from fire-arms and animals in all sports and recreations and be careful of the eyesight throughout the month. The Eclipse falling in the sign found to be in sympathy with Ireland and the Irish people prom-

month.

The Eclipse falling in the sign found to be in sympathy with Ireland and the Irish people, promises unfavorably to them. There will be more than usual excitement if not some turbulent outbreaks among the people in the emerald isle. The indications are likewise poor for the agricultural interests there. Vegetation will be likely to be tardy or more than usual depression will result to their interests through political action. We trust that nothing serious will be the outcome of this eclipse in that section of the world.

### CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR MAY, 1902.

MAY 1-Thursday. This month opens with an excellent day which should be fully improved for urging all honorable undertakings; buy goods for trade and have dealings with banks, persons of wealth, and all kinds of corporations, make collections, adjust accounts and solisit money accommodations.

solist money accommodations.
2-Friday. Give preference to this day in dealing with metals, machinery, cutlery, drugs, and chemicals, also for mixing and compounding; urge the pursuit of the mechanical trades and inventions; have dentistry done and surgical operations performed, except such as require incisions at the abdominal regions.

require incisions at the abdominal regions.

3.—Naturday. Begin the day earnestly and improve it vigorously for all commercial transactions; urge correspondence and literary matters generally; sign writings of all kinds except those pertaining to patents or trade marks; the evening is baffling and unsatisfactory.

4.—Sunday. The forenoon is the best part of the day and particularly invites communion with the poet, musician and gives special appreciation to the beautiful in religion, nature and art.

5.—Monday. Another excellent day, being particularly fortunate for all commercial pursuits; buy goods for trade; speculate in stocks and securities, especially if thy nativity also favor at this time; seek favor and money accommodations from banks and persons of means; deal with railway authorities and other large corporations or organizations of men.

6.—Tuesday. The forenoon is not to be chosen for

G-Tuesday. The forenoon is not to be chosen for inauguration of any important venture and is more likely to bring hindrances or disappointments to progress of matters in hand; have no dealings with real estate men, builders, agriculturists, lumbermen or traders in such commodities as wood, coal, timber, lead, agricultural products, and boots and shoes; the afternoon is the better part of the day.

part of the day.

7—Wednesday. Partial Eclipse of the Sun, visible in New Zealand and the South Pacific occan. Be very cautious in thy money undertakings of this day; beware of speculation as bad losses are threatening; bad failures occur in business circles about this time and fraud and defalcations of magnitude come to light. The day is evil in a financial sense for persons born about the 9th of August or 9th of November of past years, and they will do well to husband their resources and depend upon mental and manual exertions alone without use of eash capital, to gain worldly goods or advantages. See that no fire gains headway in the early hours of the day and that disputes are not born of the passing influences.

hours of the day and that disputes are not born of the passing influences.

S-Thursday. Actively pursue thy several avocations during all this day, giving preference to the foremon for dealings in real estate, boots and shoes, wool, lead, coal and all classes of building materials; sign writings; execute wills, leases and trusts; deal with printers and publishers, civil engineers, surveyors, lawyers, trustees, and superintendents of corporate affairs; use the day generally for artistic and decorative work and dramatic engagements, and the afternoon particularly for social and musical entertainments and engaging the mind with politic literature of all kinds. The day is peculiarly fortunate for persons born about the 19th of March or May and the 21st of September or November, of past years; as such persons are likely to be now having more agreeable business experiences and improved mental conditions. The contrary is noted for persons born about the 18th of January or April or the 21st of July or October of past years, and they should beware of making changes in their business, should avoid the execution of writings pertaining to houses and lands and take good care of the ligestive apparatus.

ligestive apparatus.

9-Friday. The forenoon is not recommended as benevolent, being likely to give disappointment or hinirances to progress of matters in hand; but as the noon is passed let every energy be put forth and honorable transactions will meet with more than ordinary success. Repleniah thy stock in trade; have dealings with banks and other moneyed institutions; solicit money accommodations and urgs all commercial contracts to the utmost.

events of the carly morning unless the tongue be held well under control; the middle hours of the day are the best ones; the elegant pursuits are adversely affected in the afternoon, when no purchases of apparel or fancy or artistic wares should be made; the evening does not promise much satisfaction from musical or dramatic en-tertainments.

utterances.

12—Monday. Use the early hours of this day for the more important transactions, but as the noon approaches and passes adverse influences are likely to arrest progress of matters or bring disappointment to hopes or plans. The afternoon is better for literary and artistic pursuits, study, mathematical and scientific labors as well as social and dramatic entertainment; do not have any dealings with builders, plumbers, lumbermen, or those engaged in buying and selling houses and lands, in the middle hours of the day.

those engaged in buying and selling houses and lands, in the middle hours of the day.

13—Tuesday. Urge all the literary undertakings in the early part of this day, when also give attention to the fine arts and all matters that tend to the pleasure and gratification of mankind. As the noon is passed and during the latter part of the day let all avoid rashness of word and act and be not easily moved to wrath; The day is peculiarly dangerous for surgical operations, especially when performed by the use of anesthetics or if incisions are made at the throat or groin or the urinary organs; some bad accidents come at this time; the day after it in the forenoon is mischievous for speculators and will conduct to bad losses of money. In fact, the middle ten days in May are likely to produce sharp fluctuations in prices of stocks and general commodities and persons in the markets will need to be unusually watchful not to be caught between the millstones. Do not make any purchases of goods for trade during the afternoon; keep watch of sudden impulses, not permitting the judgment to be warped by sudden rumors or developments.

14—Wednesday.—Give no offence to thine employer during the forenoon nor seek promotion or favor in public positions. Use the afternoon most vigorously for the affairs of life and particularly for great public organizations of men or women.

15—Thursday. An indifferent day in nearly all respects, though the evening and night hours are especially evil for all classes of literary work, mental labors, and mathematical investigations.

mathematical investigations.

16-Friday. Active and energetic throughout the morning, baffling in the noon hours, and excellent again in the afternoon; begin the day early for dealing in metals, machinery and cuttery and the pursuit of the mechanical trades and inventions; make no applications to public bodies for favor or advantage in the noon hours, but urge all undertakings to the utmost in the latter half of the day, especially if they pertain to building matters or transactions concerned with houses or lands or mining or agricultural products.

17-Saturday. Not particularly

or agricultural products.

17—Saturday. Not particularly conducive to success in any of the great undertakings in life; look out for the pennies in the forenoon when no purchases should be made for trade or speculation.

18—Sunday. The best Sabbath day in the month; the efforts of the clergy will be especially happy and effective and minds dwell with earnestness and zeal in the contemplation of religious subjects; the day also gives special enjoyment of literary works of scientific and philosophical character.

philosophical character.

19—Monday. The forenoon is less to be depended upon than the balance of the day for assistance in conducting the major affairs of life; do not use it for buying such commodities as coal, wood, iron, petroleum, lead, wool, or grain. Nor should any contracts for building or repairing be made from 10 in the forenoon to 1 in the atternoon; urge all general business in the latter half of the day.

the day.

20—Tuesday. The conditions of this day are of little importance until the late afternoon and the affairs of life are conducted regularly and with no great success or much hindrance. As the night approaches, see that special precautions are observed against fire and explosions for we are now in the midst of a time when some very serious losses are likely to result from the flery element. Fires prevailing in these days will be furious and destructive of values and inflict unusual harm upon human beings. The fire losses of the month are likely to average more than usual and money values will be subject to sudden and marked changes.

man beings. The fire losses of the month are likely to average more than usual and money values will be subject to sudden and marked changes.

21—Wednesday. Be cautious in drawing thy purscrizings on this day, being sure that necessity rather than temporary fancy invites expenditures: money transactions do not promise well for the forenoon and the days hereabouts are likely to be extremely unfortunate in a financial sense for persons born about the 7th of May or the 10th of August or November, of past years. Such persons should avoid all species of speculation unless they wish to lose heavily. Those so born who are subject to troubles in blood circulation or in the heart's action will be wise to have care not to excite themselves or indulge the appetite too freely for rich and stimulating foods and drinks. Have nothing to do with patents or patented goods at this time.

22—Thursday. This day bids thee avoid quarrels with thine employer or superior: do not make any application for position in government employ and shun contact with principal officers of great corporations; the afternoon is the best part of the day for all matters.

23—Friday. A peculiarly happy day for the musician and artist. REGULUS advises his friends in all the elegant avocations to take advantage of the bright prospects for the inauguration of their most important works. Those matrimonially inclined who were born about the 4th to 7th of February, 8th of April, 6th of May, 9th of June, or 10th of December, of past years, would do well to improve this day towards the consummation of their heart's best wishes. Marriage now entered into in such nativities will be attended with a full degree of comfort and happiness unless it should happen in some individual cases the radical promises for such a step is generally adverse. Let all persons engaged in business handling the nice things of life—articles of dress or adornment of the gratification—fully improve this day for increasing the nice things of life—articles of dress or adornment of the gratif

24—Saturday. An inauspicious day; make no contracts, sign no deeds or writings of importance and have as few dealings as possible with persons engaged in the literary pursuits. Press-writers, students, mathematicians, and those engaged in the publication of books, contend here with temporary annoyances and unsatisfactory work; business contracts are not favored and are best postponed until the 29th of the month.

25—Sunday. The conditions of this day are generally favorable though the afternoon and evening conduce more appreciably than the early hours to successful or agreeable mental efforts and intellectual conversations.

agreeable mental efforts and intellectual conversations.

26—Monday. Conflicting testimonials prevail this day, though the forenoon is really evil for the fine arts and in dealing in artistic goods; nor is it profitable for musicians, actors, jewelers, or caterers to public amusements or entertainments; as the noon is past give preferances to transactions concerning machinery, chemicals, drugs, and the mechanic and manufacturing interests; trade in cattle, glassware, electrical apparatus and supplies, hardware, cutlery, firearms and explosives.

27—Tuesday. Do not engage in business connected with houses and lands in the forenoon and concern thyselves with persons in the dirty or laborious avocations. The late afternoon is the best part of the day, particularly for transactions with persons in authority or who are in charge of public works.

are in charge of public works.

28—Wednesday. Be in no haste to execute contracts in the forenon which is in general less to be depended upon than the time after the noon hour; mental labors will be less satisfactory and the literary affairs less successful; but as midday is reached let all enter vigorously upon their several pursuits; make purchases of goods for trade, deal with commercial men, bankers, judges, lawyers, and persons of prominence in public life; solicit favor or advantage from those having charge of public or corporation funds and concern thyself with patents and patented goods.

29—Thursday. An excellent day particularly for the contraction of the cont

patents and patented goods.

29—Thursday. An excellent day, particularly favorable for travellers, merchants, literary men and scientists, and the forenoon should be used especially for the elegant pursuits and for the study of music, art, and the drama, also for dealings in decorative and artistic wares, dress, and apparel. Literary productions launched at this time will be more than usually successful.

30-Friday. Expect no favor at the hands of thine employer nor from public officials and avoid dealings with persons in trade handling furniture and furnishings of all kinds; give thy landlord a wide berth in the after-

noon.

31—Saturday. Choose this day for chemical experiments and for urging all works of construction, also the mechanical pursuits; make contracts pertaining to masonry, electrical enterprises, excavations, and railway construction; have dentistry done at this time.

ligestive apparatus.

Professor Edison, the world's most famous Astrologer, increased to progress of matters in hand; but as the noon is passed let every energy be put forth and honorable transactions will meet with more than ordinary success. Replenish thy stock in trade; have dealings with banks and other moneyed institutions; solicit money accommonations and urge all commercial contracts to the utmost.

10 Saturday. Disputes are likely to mar the early

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ing men."
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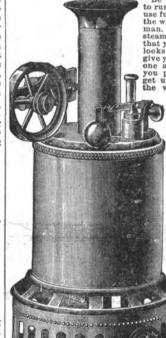
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YOUNG WIDOW: no children; owns fine farm and the property; also \$10,000 cash; wants kind, reliable husband. HART, 47 Park-av. Chicago.

MARRY 10,000 MANY RICH MARRY STANDARD COR CLUB, Stan R, Chicago, III.

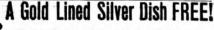
### Real Steam Engine FREE. EVERY BOY AN ENGINEER.



Be an engineer, learn to run an engine, how to use fuel, oil up and blow the whistle, just like the man. You never saw a steam engine in your life that you didn't like the looks of. Now here we give you a chance to have one all your own that you put on a table and get up steam and blow the whistle and watch the wheels go round fast or slow just as you wish, and every lad you wish and every lad you wish envy.

A Gen u in o Yankee Engine has the following parts and can be taken down and put up as often as you wish: Cylinder with Spring, Balance Wheel, Drive Wheel, Drive Wheel, Drive Wheel, Brokes, Safety Valve, Whistle Complete, Boiler with Heater, stands & inches

# Chain and Charm, six double plated Tea Spoons, ne Butter Knife and one Sugar Shell. Any one can easily earn a beautiful gold plated. Iadles' or gent's size, hunting case, stem wind and stem set Watch and other valuable premiums by selling our Remedy. We want good agent's and are willing to pay them liberally to introduce our goods. We have a reputation for honest dealing and to prove it any person that will sell only Six boxes of our Headcach Tablets at 25c. per box, will receive a beautiful gold plated Watch-Chain and Charm, six double plated Tea Spoons, one Butter Knife and one Sugar Shell. Remember, we guarantee our Watches to be perfect timekeepers, and equal in appearance to many Gold filled watches that are sold as high as \$30 guaranteed for 20 years. Don't send a cent. Order to-day and Wen sold send us the money and we guarantee prompt shipwe send Tablets by mail. When sold send us the money and we guarantee prompt ship-uent of all your premiums. Address, OVEE REMEDY CO., Watch Dept. E 324 New Haven, Conn

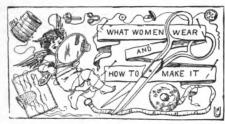


To introduce our famous little Giant Oxiem Pills, giving all the chance to derive the wonderful benefits from these new life-giving wonders, we send two boxes absolutely free, all charges paid. You sell the Pills for 25c. per box, send us the money within 20 days, 50c. in all, and we give you as a premium this wonderful Gold Lined Silver plash free. These dishes are warranted quadruple plated silver; they are fluted top and beautiful and useful ornaments; they are suitable for dining table use, or used as side dish for bon bons they are elegant and will last for years. Send your name and address at once so your friends can derive the great benefits To introduce our famous little Giant Oxien once so your friends can derive the great benefits

once so your friends can derive the great benefits coming from the use of Oxien Fills and you get the profits as the dish can be sold in a minute for 75c. These Pills are noted for their quick action on Liver, Stomach, Heart, Bowels, and special organs of either sex. All ills vanish as if by magic if you use these Pills. Send quick so as to be sure of a dish before they all go, and get full particulars of our great money-making agency proposition, where you get hundreds of dollars from a one dollar investment. Address,

THE GIANT OXIE PILL DEPT. M, Augusta, Maine.





WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HE complete tailor-made suit after suffering a par-tial eclipse, promises to shine out brilliantly again this spring. Never-theless, outer garments will continue to be worn a great deal. Not only such as can be included under the elastic term "wraps," but smart coats, paletots and capes, be-sides many fancy gar-ments.

ments.

Tailored skirts are made quite long all around, and on many a slight train is affected. Gored breadths and fitted tops finished with a flounce, promise to be equally fashionable. The former are sometimes cut so as to widen out from the knees, at each seam, so as to provide sufficient material in the lower part of the seam to make a plait. Very similar to this skirt is one plaited flat, the plaits stitched down to the knees and then hanging loose.

Some coats of the tailor-made suits are cut with a long basque, others with the jacket having rather short basques. Louis XVI. or straight-fronted coats, promise to be much worn. Then there is the Eton, with long points in front, and little habit, basque or "postillion"

The new coats and jackets, whether they belong to a suit or are intended as separate garments, will be made so that they may be worn ments, will be made so that they may be worn open or closed. Many have the wide shaped collars, more or less covering the shoulders, and all garments have the necks cut very low. Revers are very wide and trimmed with silk or otherwise fancifully ornamented. Great

wise fancituity or namented. Great diversity of opinion exists in respect to sleeves. For costumes, the favorite style will be the double sleeve, the under one tight fitting and reaching down over the wrist, the upper one moderately wide, open or draped, and falling some way below the elbow. The new paletot sleeve, rather wide, is gathered in half way down the foreway down the fore-arm, beneath bands

arm, beneath bands of trimming, and finished by a reverse gauntlet or funnel cuff. Some of the boleros or more fanciful jackets will have straight sleeves trimmed or with turn-back cuffs, hardly reaching below the elbow, and showing half the blouse sleeve or ruffles of lace. Evening wraps and dust coats will generally be made with immense draped sleeves. Homespun is a favorite material, and many costumes will be made of cashmere, but for the more useful kind of suits serge promises to be used.

Weilings are to divide favor with washing materials, some of the veilings have a slightly rough surface and resemble homespun, only much thinner, and some are almost as fine and smooth as Swiss muslin; between these two extremes there are many different thicknesses and textures. Small checks of the shepherd's plaid description are being shown, and the hair line effects are also resorted to.

The buttons for fastening coats are of many different sorts, some of them being extremely ornate,—those inlaid with gilding on dull silver and black steel grounds will be the most favored—also enamelled buttons, and for dressy garments, cabochons, formed of clusters of spangles, white pearls and pink coral beads.



Gimp buttons are shown with tassels pendant from the center; these are for ornament only

and not for use.

and not for use.

Scarfs, made of soft silk gauze or chiffon, ruffled with lace, sometimes entirely of white and black lace, and again of spotted silk net and chenille are a pretty addition to many smart coats. They are fastened under the collar, and knotted in front like a cravat, or drawn

through rings of silk passementerie.

The monotone idea is going to force itself very strongly into the front in millinery mat-



A HOME DOCTOR

THAT NEVER FAILS TO CURE CTRADE MARKJ RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA

Sciatica, Lumbago, Colds, Coughs, Grip, Bronchitis, Asthma, Catarrh, Liver and Kidney Troubles, Nervousness, Backache, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Croup, Nervous and Neuralgic Headache, Earache, Toothache, Heart Weakness, Malaria, Paralysis, Creeping Numb ness, Sleeplessness and Blood Diseases.

Such testimony as we print below from grateful people who have been returned to perfect health after all hope was given up is certainly sufficient to convince any one that "5-DROPS" is the most remarkable medical discovery of the century. Its effect upon disease is incomprehensible, and in many cases seems incredible. Many of its cures border on the miraculous.

HATTIE SMITH, Wausau, Wis., writes: "I suffered with catarrh for the last five years. No doctors could help me. Sometimes I was unable to hold up my hand, and was deaf for five years. After taking three bottles of your '5-DROPS' I feel better than I ever have before, and am able to work all day. I can truthfully say that '5-DROPS' is the best medicine for catarrh, and no household should be without it."

catarrh, and no household should be without it."

CURED OF NEURALGIA BY "5-DROPS."

MINNIE WATSON, Rowland, N. C., writes: "We have used your '5-DROPS' in our family and find it the best medicine we have ever had. My mother has been cured of neuralgia of the stomach of about ten years standing. She thinks it is the best medicine she has ever used. I know that your '5-DROPS' will relieve any form of pain, no matter what the cause may be, and I hope I shall have the pleasure of recommending it to many poor sufferers. May God bless you in your good work."

TWO BOTTLES OF "5-DROPS" CURED HIM OF RHEUMATISM.

J. V. WHEELER, Lyons, Mich., writes: "I would say that your '5-DROPS' is the best cure for rheumatism I ever used. When I commenced using it I had not laid down in bed for two months. Two bottles of '5-DROPS' cured me, I recommend it to every one, as it cured me sound wall."

### WAS UNABLE TO WORK BECAUSE OF RHEUMATISM.

G. A. BARNES, Elizabethtown, Tenn., writes: I have been suffering with rheumatism, and was unable to work for over three weeks. My wrists were so swollen I could not get my gloves on. I tried everything I could hear of, but got no relief. I saw your advertisement for 5-DROPS and sent for a sample, and then for a large bottle. I used them as directed, and have not been bothered with rheumatism since. It is all you claim for it, and worth one hundred times the money I paid.'.



cured thousands and thousands of people who have been given up by physicians as beyond help; many were treated by so-called specialists and pronounced by them incurable.

help; many were treated by so-called specialists and pronounced by them incurable.

It is powerful in its action, yet absolutely harmless. It kills the germs which cause disease. "5-DROPS" is a cure for indigestion. "5-DROPS" is healthful. "5-DROPS" makes new blood, and plenty of new blood. "5-DROPS" builds up a weak stomach with walls strong as steel. "5-DROPS" cures your backache, makes your kidney trouble disappear, dispels that sick headache. "5-DROPS" renews your heart action. It is the greatest heart trouble remedy discovered by man. "5-DROPS" cures nervous prostration. You will have no sciatica if you take "5-DROPS." "5-DROPS" will make eczema vanish as if by magic, leaving you with a clear, white skin. "5-DROPS" is the best remedy known for gout. The worst chronic case of dyspepsia disappears at once before regular doses of "5-DROPS." You should always have "5-DROPS" in your home. "5-DROPS" cures earache, headache and toothache. The long train of diseases caused by malaria are powerless to your system the moment you begin long train of diseases caused by malaria are powerless to your system the moment you begin taking "5-DROPS."



# POSITIVELY CURES RHEUMATISM IN ANY OFITS

"5-DROPS" will cure Rheumatism in any of its forms or stages of development. It does not matter whether you are suffering from Inflammatory, Nervous, Muscular or Articular Rheumatism. "5-DROPS" If used as directed will give instant relief and effect a permanent cure.

"5-DROPS" is both an internal and external remedy, which acts quickly, safely and surely, never failing to cure this dreaded disease. Swanson's "5-DROPS" taken internally will dissolve the poisonous acid, remove it from the system and cleanse the blood of all impurities, thereby effecting a permanent cure. An application of "5-DROPS" to the afflicted parts will stop the rheumatic pains almost instantly, while the cause of the disease is being surely removed by its internal use. Aches, pains and soreness disappear as if by magic when "5-DROPS" is used. No other remedy in the world will stop a pain so quickly or effect a cure of rheumatic trouble as soon as "5-DROPS." It is the greatest blood purifier in existence, and is a remedy that every family should keep on hand ready for use in case of emergency.

CATARRH AND ASTHMA

If you are suffering from catarrh or asthma, secure a bottle of "5-DROPS" at once. It will afford quick relief and effect a permanent cure of these distressing diseases. Unlike almost any other remedy it is used internally, and also inhaled, thus giving a thorough systemic treatment, which effectually kills the disease germs, and removes from the system all of the poisonous matter which tends to continue and aggravate these ailments. "5-DROPS" quickly stops the unhealthy and offensive discharge from the nose, clears the head, and breathing immediately becomes easy and natural.

TEST "5-DROPS" FREE AND CONVINCE YOURSELF OF ITS GURATIVE POWER.

A trial bottle will be sent free of charge to every reader of this paper who is a sufferer from any of the above named diseases. All that we ask in return is that you take it as directed, and you will find it all that we claim. It costs you nothing, and you need feel under no obligations whatever in securing the trial treatment which we offer.

NOTE.—Large size bottle (300 doses) will be sent prepaid to any address for \$1.00. If it is not obtainable in your town, order of us direct. Agents Wanted.

WARNING. If any unprincipled dealer offers you a substitute for "5-DROPS" don't accept it. No other remedy will do its work. It contains no oplates in any form, No alcohol; no salicylates to ruin the stomach, or any drugs which only deaden the pain and never effect a cure. "5-DROPS" is perfectly harmless and can be taken by a child as well as an adult.

SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO.,

NOTICE—Swanson's "5-DROPS" is a household remedy that every family should have, and we advise our readers to take advantage of the liberal offer made by SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO., and secure A TRIAL BOTTLE FREE OF CHARGE. Cut out the coupon and write them at once.—

ters this season. We will have hats made in a material in one color and trimmed with materials that will exactly match it in tone. In these cases white and red will be the most popular colorings, although black of course will be seen, as will also light blue and pink to a limited extent. White will be the most prominent of all. It assuredly is going to be a white season, and in millinery as well as in dress effects is this the case. It makes no difference what the style of the hat is, white will be the favored color. Materials, braids, chiffons, flowers, ornaments, and even fruit and foliage will all be seen very much in white. Hats made entirely in flowers are very much in vogue. I saw one made of red geraniums, Tricorne in shape, and relieved simply by a cockade of self material, a bit of wide red ribbon and standing out in bold relief, a cabochon of pearls and rhinestones. A stylish walking hat was made of straw braid of a fine quality. The crown was round and mediumly high, being flat on the ton. The brim was wide with The crown was round and mediumly high, being flat on the top. The brim was wide with a slightly upward flare all around and bound with black velvet ribbon about an inch wide. Around the crown was some soft fancy silk slightly draped and more than half covering the brim the whole was then topped off by the brim, the whole was then topped off by a simple black quill. This is a very desirable and practicable hat besides being effective and chic in appearance. Quills are in vogue again and on certain forms are very effective and tak-

veilings with a hemstitched border are in favor. Especially the chiffons, which really require and will stand far more ornamentation than the fancy meshes. Chiffon veiling draped around the hat will be seen to some extent; besides the hemstitched border these are adorned with little figures and designs in various colors, light shades being the most favrious colors, light shades being the most fav-ored. Diamonds and double diamonds, the double effect being obtained by the use of two colors, are figures that will be used very much. Other geometrical effects, such as circles and double circles, the one interlapping the other, are also favorite forms.

Everywhere we go those little linen embroidered turn-over collars force themselves upon our attention. White is by far the most popu-lar body tone, but besides this, light shades are seen, these being the same as are employed for

embroidery on the white ground. Blue, pink, yellow, green, all light and having a pastel tint, are the favorites, together with black. There are a variety of ideas in the shapes of the turn-over. Some show the turn-over portion in a single piece, while in others it is split in the middle; again, it is shown in three pieces, and even in four, two on each side. They are not meant for particularly dressy wear, but for every day use they are most effective and pretty; besides they can be readily laundered and thus kept in perfect condition until worn out.

Now a word or two of the strongest Fashion Now a word or two of the strongest Fashion tendencies in jewelrydom. In gems, the turquoise still comes in for a good share of favor. The novelty of the season, however, is the cameo; this beautiful Greek gem is inexpensively imitated and is adapted to jewelry of all sorts. After the cameo come the large cut imitation amethysts, emeralds, rubies, sapphires and After the cameo come the large cut imitation amethysts, emeralds, rubies, sapphires and rhinestones, all are used both singly and combined with small pearls and imitation diamonds. The very latest buckle is called the "Dolly Varden." It consists of three oval medallions with black center, ornamented by hand-painted and enameled flowers in natural colors, and surrounded by a rich gilt border. It is in the popular dip-front shape, and the general style might be called either Colonial or Pompadour.

### Curious Things to Know.

We know very well that we are born, and all of us are interested in ourselves enough to know what kind of a start the fates have given us at birth. Therefore this rule is something to remem-ber, whether it will always exactly come out, or

Monday's child is fair of face,
Tuesday's child is full of grace,
Wednesday's child is merry and glad,
Thursday's child is merry and sad,
Friday's child is loving and giving,
Saturday's child must work for its living.
Those who think Friday is an unlucky day will
have to change their minds if they believe in the
rest of this prediction.
Another form of the prediction is as follows:
Monday for health,

Monday for health, Tuesday for wealth, Wednesday the best day of all; Thursday for crosses,

No. 11000

CUT THIS OUT

Write Today.

CTRADE MARK.

and send it with your name and address to Swanson Rheumatic Cure Co., Chicago, and you will be sent a bottle of "5-DROPS" Tree, postpaid Write Today

Friday for losses,
Saturday no luck at all.
So much for the days; now for the months in which we may happen to be born if we are girls. The boys are not counted in this table.
If a girl is born in January she will be a prudent housekeeper, given to melancholy, but good tempered.

housekeeper, given to melancholy, but good tem-pered.

If in February, a humane and affectionate wife and tender mother.

If in March, a frivolous chatter-box, somewhat given to quarreling.

If in April, inconstant, not very intelligent, but likely to be pretty.

If in May, handsome and likely to be happy.

If in June, impetuous, will marry early and be frivolous.

If in June, imperious, if in July, passably good looking, but with a sulky temper.

If in August, amiable and practical and probably marry rich.

If in September, discreet, affable and much liked. If in October, pretty and coquettish, and likely to be unhappy.

o be unhappy.

If in November, liberal, kind, and of a mild dis-

to be unhappy.

If in November, liberal, kind, and of a mild disposition.

If in December, well proportioned, fond of novelty, and extravagant.

Here is another sign that every one ought to remember who wears shoes, and most of us do.

Worn on the side,
Some rich man's bride;
Worn on the toes,
Spends as she goes;
Worn on the keel,
Think a good deal;
Worn on the vamp.
Surely a scamp.

Here is something about your fingernails which is worth treasuring:
A white mark on the nail bespeaks misfortune.
Pale or lead colored nails indicate a melancholy disposition,
Broad nails indicate a gentle and bashful nature. Round nails show a love of knowledge and liberal sentiments.

Narrow nails mean ambitious and quarrelsome disposition.

Small nails mean littleness of mind, obstinacy and conceit.

Red and spotted nails indicate a warlike temper.

Nails growing into the flesh at the sides indicate luxurious tastes.

How much may be in these signs that is trustworthy cannot be stated positively, but many of them have been handed down to us from time immemorial and though implicit reliance may not be placed in them, a sufficient number of them have come true to prevent the entire discrediting of the prediction. Put them in your scrap book and make a note of their correctness as you go along.







Copyright, 1902, by W. H. G. CHAPTER I.

"BUT WHERE IS THE BODY?"

N the 24th of June, 1898, Mansfield village was shocked and bewildered by the most perplexing and sensational affair in its history-a case that became ere its untangling one of the greatest criminal mysteries of the nation, even though it occurred in an obscure village in Maine.

I refer to the "Squire Brett Disappearance, or The Purinton Mill Mystery.'

At one o'clock of that day Squire Brett's middle-aged hired man was unconsciously doing the first detective work on the great case. The hired man was simply hunting for the Squire to tell him to come home to dinner. First of all he visited the Mansfield bank. He plunked clumsily up the broad stairs, half opened the door and leaning on the knob shouted this question at the treasurer, the only man in sight behind the grill-work.

"Squire hain't in here, is he?"

"Nop," returned the treasurer shortly, his finger on a column of figures.

"Well, it beats time where he is," said the hired man. "Here it's one o'clock and he hain't been home to dinner."

The treasurer cocked his head sharply and peered over his glasses.
"He was in here a while this forenoon at a

"He was in here a while, this forenoon at a meeting of the trustees," he volunteered rather impatiently. "He 'tended to some business and then he went off. I heard him say something about going down to Purinton's mill but I reckon he hasn't been there all this time. He's probably hung up around the village somewhere." The treasurer went to adding again and after the hired man had surveyed his absorbed countenance for a time he slammed the door and chunked down stairs.
"I don't know where in the Dutch to look for

the door and chunked down stairs.
"I don't know where in the Dutch to look for him," he growled as he stood on the sidewalk and peered up and down the street. The hush of a silent June noon brooded. Several farm teams were hitched in the village square. The horses were flirting their nose bags, looking for the remnants of their dinners. One farmer sat shielded from the glare of the sun in a store front's shade, eating his lunch out of a paper bag.

bag. "Hain't seen anything of Squire Brett, have

"Hain't seen anything of Squire Brett, have ye?" asked the hired man. . "Seems's if the Square was round town somewhere this forenoon," replied the man through the jumble in his mouth. "I heerd him gabblin' away about the silver question somewhere but that was early."

Ordinarily the Squire could be easily located on the Mansfield streets. He was usually hot in discussion with some one and always talked in a high-pitched cackle and with disputatious energy.

The foreman of the Mansfield Mirror office, situated opposite the bank, was just back from dinner and was unlocking the front door. He leisurely shifted his toothpick and called across to the hired man.

to the hired man.
"Was you asking about Squire Brett? Well, he was in the Mirror office along in the forencon sometime. I didn't see him 'cause I was runnin' the big press but I heerd him and the old man and Arthur havin' some kind of a talkin' match in the front office. What's the trouble?"

"He hain't come home to dinner and Mis' Erskine is some worked upabout it," explained

the hired man.

the hired man.
"He'll show up all right; nobody ever heared
of the Squire gittin' lost yet," laughed the
foreman disappearing through the dingey glass
door of the Mirror office.
The hired man walked back down Main

The hired man walked back down Main street looking into the wide-open portals of the few stores and peering at screen doors of the scattered houses. He expected to see the Squire's little, nervous figure come popping out at any time. Though almost eighty years old he was, as the people of Mansfield village expressed it, as spry as a weasel and at most times of day the tails of his frock coat were snapping along the street and his roughened, old-style beaver was nodding as he cornered this and that one in vigorous argument. But now the hired man saw only dinner-filled burghers leisurely betaking themselves to the occupations of the afternoon. The only sounds emphathic enough to be noticed, were the clashing of the dinner dishes in the sinks near the screened windows in the houses along the

The hired man walked along the grassy path by the side of Main street until he arrived at Hawkes' general store, junction of Main, Water and Elm streets. Water and Elm fork from the end of Main. Water street ends a few hundred yards from the junction, at Purinton's mill. Elm street forks from the right and leads past

the Squire's house over the hills to the railroad village of the town—Mansfield Corner.

Mr. Hawkes was tilted in a basket-bottom chair on the shady side of his store and was taking advantage of the noon let-up to smoke a pipeful of cut-plug. His head was bare and his his was cocked on one knee. The hired man pipeful of cut-plug. His head was bare and his hit was cocked on one knee. The hired man barried in the draught from the open door and for-nothing girl. He is aggravatin' your

inhaled the mingled odors of kerosene, ground coffee and tarred rope. "Hain't seen the Squire, hav' ye?" he asked, hoisting his foot to the platform and leaning his elbow on his knee. "See him 'fore dinner if that's what ye mean," said the storekeeper, expectorating over the edge of the store platform. "He hain't been home to dinner and that's what's ailin' us," returned the hired man. "Don't say so?" commented Hawkes with only a faint show of interest. "Squire's us'ly pretty reg'lar in gittin' home past here to his meals. Let's see! I noticed him goin' down to Purinton's mill. "Twas in the forenoon, 'long 'bout ha'f pas' ten. Quite sure I hain't seen him sence then. I reckoned p'raps he'd gone up 'crost lots to the house."

The hired man declared that he hadn't and started along toward the mill. "I don't b'lieve you'll find him down there," called Hawkes after him. "One or two people have been down to look for him sence he went past here—wanted to see him 'bout business, I reckon. But I let on they didn't see him 'cause they come right back."

"I'll take a look," said the hired man and he trudged down the rutted road.

come right back."
"I'll take a look," said the hired man and he trudged down the rutted road.
Purinton's mill hadn't been running for two weeks. Purinton had been making some repairs on the dam. The mill, saw mill and grist mill combined, was open, so the hired man discovered. He entered on the upper floor which is nearly on a level with the road.

covered. He entered on the upper floor which is nearly on a level with the road.

Looked at gable on from the road, the mill seems to have only one story. But the ground slopes away toward the bay and the rear of the structure is three stories from gable peak to earth. And beneath all is a gloomy pit, its end open toward the bay, into which are sluiced the sawdust, slabs and refuse from the upper part of the mill. In the lower, floored sections of the mill the villagers of Mansfield store wagons or sleights, according to the season.

or sleighs, according to the season.

The hired man looked all about on the upper floor, peered through the dusty glass of the little office, shouled once or twice into the half gloom below stairs and then went out into the sunshine.

He looked doubtfully at the yellow water

frothing against the rocks below the dam, muttered a moment and then started across lots toward the Squire's house up amongst the

Mrs. Erskine, the Squire's widowed daughter, a woman of fifty years, met him as he slowly mounted the piazza.

"For mercy's sake, did you find the Squire?" she demanded in a tone of mingled impatience

and alarm.
"I can't seem to find hide nor hair of him,
Mis' Erskine," said the hired man.
"He must be down there in the village somewhere," she returned rather crossly.

where," she returned rather crossly.

"I didn't make no house canvass and I didn't know as you wanted me to stir any especial touse," said he doggedly. "I reckoned it would fret the Squire up if he should hear about it. I don't want him in my hair."

Mrs. Erskine looked at the man a moment, her eyebrows wrinkled in thought. Then she turned to a window that opened on the piazza.
"Grace—Gracie," she cried. Grace Erskine, her daughter, a tall, handsome girl of twentyone, fresh and attractive in her filmy summer gown, came to the door.

"Horace says he can't find your grandfather high nor low."

"Horace says he can't find your grandfather high nor low."

"Of course he is in the village somewhere," the young woman replied. "Have you been everywhere, Horace?" The hired man wiped his red face with his big handkerchief and made reply in about the same words he had used in answering the mother.

The little group stood in the sunshine for a time without saying anything—Horace stolid and puzzled, Mrs. Erskine looking alarmed and the girl apparently not believing there was anything to worry over.

"Grace, you'd better slip on your hat and run down to the village," said Mrs. Erskine at last. The girl fetched her hat from the cool entry-

The girl fetched her hat from the cool entry-way and half descended the steps. Then she stopped. "Oh, I—" she exclaimed, and a singular expression came into her face. One looking at her could scarcely determine whether it was relief or anxiety.
"What is it?" asked Mrs. Erskine hastily.

"What is it?" asked Mrs. Erskine hastily. Grace with the curious expression still on her face stepped back to her mother and said, "I do believe granther has gone over to the Corner. Cousin George rode up to the house this forenoon and asked for him. It was when you were down in the garden, mother. I told him that granther was down street somewhere and he went away. George seemed to be very anxious to see granther. Don't you suppose they got to talking about—about that matter and granther rode over to the Corner to see—her?"

"Cat's foot! I don't believe the Squire would "Cat's foot! I don't believe the Squire would go off like that without letting us know," said Mrs. Erskine. "He wouldn't—still, if some-thing came up—and George got to pestering him! How was George this morning. How did he seem?"

"He had been drinking, mother." the girl

said in low tones. "He was cross and he talked about granther just as he did the other day." The two women looked at each other for some moments. Then the elder said with bitterness

The girl started Horace off to Dr. Martin's to see if by any chance the Squire had stopped in there to dinner. She parted with the hired man opposite the Mirror office after they had called without results at the drug store, the back room of which was the village forum for the discussion of all local and national questions. She paused irresolutely on the sidewalk and then with a blush on her face turned the grimy knob of the printing office, "M. Wing & Son, Props." A young man was sitting at a desk in the outer office reading a long galley proof. The girl started Horace off to Dr. Martin's to

"Why, Grace," he cried, leaping to his feet and advancing. Then his cheeke colored as he glanced down at his rolled-up sleeves and ink-stained palms. "Pity the smooches of the country printer," he said half bitterly. "You see I'm even prevented from shaking your hand."

"Arthur the smile in your dear eyes is to me

"Arthur, the smile in your dear eyes is to me an embrace," said the girl looking at him with the steady gaze of an affection bold in its innocent absorption. But her cheeks were crimson. As he was about to speak, after a glance at the door leading to the composing room, she went on hastily, "But I haven't time to trouble you now, Arthur. I know this is the day you print your paper. I have just dropped in to ask about granther. He—"

"I am almost afraid to talk with you, Grace," he broke in with deep emotion in his tones. "I am afraid you will not understand me in what I have made up my mind to say. Grace, my love. I know hat sent you to ask for your freedom. I am going to give it back to you, Grace, without obliging you to speak the word."

"But I—"

"I know, Grace, that I have been a fool to dreen that a country printer could ever heve "Arthur, the smile in your dear eyes is to me

"I know, Grace, that I have been a fool to dream that a country printer could ever have a girl with your prospects, but love blinded

"Arthur. I-

a girl with your prospects, but love blinded me."

"Arthur, I—"

But evidently fearing to allow her to speak he broke in again. "I say, dear, now that I realize the sacrifice that my folly was dragging you to, I am resolved to spare you explanations. I will give you up. Don't consider me a coward, Grace. May I not say to you that self-sacrifice is the best part of heroism. Will you not do me this justice, to feel that in doing what I do I show my love for you as few men would be willing to show it? I will not embitter your whole life. As you estimate me in what I do, so shall I estimate you. You cannot help it, Grace,—you are forced, even as I."

Again she attempted to speak, stepping to his side but he rushed on impetuously. "I want you to tell the Squire for me that I am sorry for what I said to him this forenoon. I tried to hunt him up and tell him so after it was over, but I could not find him. Yet it was hard, Grace"—the tears came into the brown eyes of the young man, "it was hard to stand and be called a cheap fellow that was chasing you only to get his money. And because I had dared to love you he has threatened to ruin father. He has notified the trustees of the savings bank that he as president of the institution orders them to foreclose the mortgage on the plant of the Mirror. That means that we must get out, after my poor old dad has slaved here all his life."

"But, Arthur," cried the girl, seizing his arm impulsively, "I don't know anything about this. Granther hasn't mentioned the subject for two weeks."

"But, Arthur," cried the girl, seizing his arm impulsively, "I don't know anything about this. Granther hasn't mentioned the subject for two weeks."

"Didn't he say anything about it at dinner time?"

"He hasn't been home to dinner. I am searching for him. That is why I have come

time?

"He hasn't been home to dinner. I am searching for him. That is why I have come

"I am sure I don't know where he can be." "I am sure I don't know where he can be," said the young man. "He came in here along about ten, I should say. He called father and me into the office and said his say. He declared that unless I kept away from you, relinquished all claim on you, he would order the trustees to foreclose on the mortgage. And trustees to foreclose on the mortgage. And that unless you came to me and ordered me to release you from our engagement he would make a will disinheriting you. I supposed you came here to ask for that release." 'I did not, Arthur," declared the giftl firmly. "Grace, I'll admit that I talked rough to your grandlether when he made those therets not

grandfather when he made those threats—not on account of myself but on your account and because he dragged my poor old father into it. The Squire then said that he should foreclose

I because he dragged my poor old father into it. The Squire then said that he should foreclose on the mortgage, anyway. After he had gone I saw that father felt so bad about our little property I resolved he hunt the Squire up and apologize for what I had said and entreat him to leave my father out of it. I resolved to sacrifice myself for both of you, but I could not find your grandfather. I will see him, Grace. If I take myself out of the way matters will be smoothed, Grace, darling, I—"

The young man was just reaching out his ink-stained arms towards her when the composing room door was thrown open and the apprentice rushed in with fluttering proofs, "Your father says hurry up and correct them things," chirped the apprentice, rolling an appreciative look on them as he rubbed a grimy finger under his nose. Embarrassed and stammering commonplaces, the lovers stepped apart. But as Grace left the room she turned on him such a look as showed that her heart belonged to him, even though an irascible old man was trying to shoo Love from their garden by pelting him with gold pieces.

The situation in her love affair was certainly absorbing enough but ere that day closed Grace Erskine was confronted with something that drove even Arthur Wing from her mind.

Her grandfather could not be found.

The hired man came back from Mansfield Corner and reported that the Squire had not been there. George Brett, his grandnephew, declared that he had not been able to find his uncle on his trip to the village in the forencen and had returned to his store at the Corner. It was some time before the quiet village of Mansfield was thoroughly awake to the fact that its richest and most prominent citizen had been whisked away in some astonishing fashion.

been whisked away in some astonishing fashion.

But the deputy sheriff and a few volunteers finally decided that the case required some looking after.

At nine o'clock that night Jason Dustin, local deputy sheriff, stood in the mellow light of the June evening on the post-office platform and summed up the case for the benefit of the crowd of fellow eitizens that surrounded. crowd of fellow citizens that surrounded him.
"It's sartin the most sing'lar biz'ness that



ever happened in this place," he declared, setting his segment of cheese in brown paper on the top of the stone hitching post. "This place has had a blame good hunting over but to my mind the whole thing is bottled right up down there in Purinton's mill." He extended his finger in that direction and the crowd looked down on the sombre clump of shedows marking the location of the mill and felt queet thrills along the spine. "The Squire was known to go into that fiill," Justin proceede, "but up to date no one has been found whose him come out. Grocer Hawkes says that a bout ha'f past ten he come along past his store, bought an orange and started along toward the mill, peelin' and eatin' the fruit. Treasurer of the bank says that Squire Beet hinted that he was goin' down to the mill of bus'ness with Purinton. Drawed \$1300 from the bank before he started. Now, as I say, no one ever see him come out. All of ye know what we found in that sluice that runs from the upper floor to the slab pile under the mill. There was snips of cloth stickin' to the slives in that sluice. On the slab pile seventy-five feet below at the end of the sluice we found the Squire's tail hat flattened flat's a flounder and down among the slabs was about ha' of that orange he had been eatin' when he went into that mill. Did he fall down that sluice? Mouth of it is level with the floor! But he has allus known it was there."

"It don't seem likely that a man of the Squire's smartness would tumble down there, does it?" commented one of the bystanders. "Now if George Brett had fell down there when he was teeterin' 'round the mill drunk this forenoon lookin' for the Squire—" the man of the squire's smartness would tumble down there, does it?' commented one of the bystanders. "But if Squire Brett went down there," continued Dustin, "if he fell that seventy-five feat and struck that slab pile where is he now?"

"Would it kill him?" asked a man.

"Deader'n a nail in a hearse," chorused half a dozen. "All ye have to do to know that is to look at the pla

Yes, he was killed, I reckon," said Dustin, "and there wa'n't no place for him to bounce



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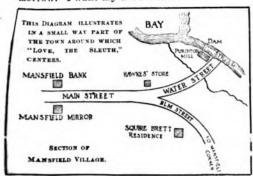
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to. Three men were there at the mill after he to. Three men were there at the mill after he went in so fur's we've heard up to date. Arthur Wing didn't see him. Daniel Purinton went down into the lower part of the mill and didn't see him. George Brett went in and looked and didn't see him.

"Who was it moved that body and who got that \$1300," said Dustin. "You can think them things over. I'm goin' home and go to bed, for the high sheriff is goin' to be here tomorrow. I want my head clear!"



Thus on the 24th day of June, 1898, Caleb Brett, eighty years old, leading business man of his section, ex-state senator, richest resident of his section, ex-state senator, richest resident of the town of Mansfield, disappeared in broad noon from his life-long friends, leaving for clues as to his whereabouts only snips of cloth that some declared were from his garments, his well-known beaver hat and a bit of an orange that he had not had time to finish, so sudden was his taking-off. The intensely interesting solution of this fascinating story can only be solved by at once sending your subscription to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Next month we have another dramatic story to announce, and by subscribing or renewing your subscription now either for six or twelve month, you can keep in touch with all of the good things being added to COMFORT from month to month. month to month.

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### Engineer Nettie.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY MANLEY H. PIKE

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ELLOWAY Junction. whence a short branch line leaves the S. R. & F. Railroad for Copper City, isn't much of a place. In fact, there is nothing of it except the station buildings and a water tank. But Jack Randall thought it the center of the universe and the dwelling of all delight just because Nettie Millett lived there with her Uncle Harvey, the station agent; while to Nettie no spot on earth could be more happily situated, inasmuch as

Jack's train stopped there sometimes.

Jack was engineer of No. 304, which hauled the fast freight from Metropolisville. His run was fifty miles west of Crodsham and return. Two or three times a week he pulled up at the Junction long enough to leave the few cars bound up the branch, and it was there that he fell in love with Nettie-which was the easiest thing in the world to do-but it wasn't there that he finally got her to confess that she "liked" him, which wasn't by any means so easy. This latter took place in the cab of No. 304, somewhere along the line from the Junction to Greenwood, the next station east, where Jack's train sidetracked to let the Metropolisville accommodation pass.

very early in his acquaintance with Nettie Jack had deliberately broken that one of the S. R. & F. R. R's. rules, which forbids "anybody, not an officer of the company, riding upon any engine belonging to said company; and very often he used to take her with him as far as Greenwood whence she could return by the 3.15 mixed. These trips were ostensibly devoted to the purpose of teaching Nettie to run the great engine of which Jack was so proud—and she did learn to run it and run it well—but she also learned in the course of her studies to love Jack. studies to love Jack.

Now Jack was a noble fellow, and almost good enough for her, who was too good for any mere man; so that all would have gone well if it hadn't been for Uncle Harvey, who, being a cross-grained, notional sort of person, took a dislike to Jack and wouldn't hear of any marriage or even engagement so long as his guardianship lasted, which unfortunately would last another year. So there was nothing to do except to wait.

But all the Uncle Harveys in creation cannot But all the Uncle Harveys in creation cannot keep a pair of lovers from communicating. Jack at once proceeded to break another of the company's rules, this time Rule No. XXIV, which prescribes the whistle signals. When he whistled for Jelloway Junction he should blow two long blasts followed by two short ones—and he did when the train was not to stop; but when it was he used a signal of his own, consisting of two short blasts and two long, thrice repeated and ending with another short one. Expressed in long and short dashes it was this: "———, -," which said to listening Nettie, "I am going to stop," So, when he did stop there

am going to stop." So, when he did stop there
Nettie was at the end of the platform waiting.
They seldom had more than five minutes to talk
in, but they managed to say a great deal in that

After a while Uncle Harvey discovered this arrangement and discovered it at the very worst pass ble time, as of course he would. One

morning, looking scowlingly up from the tele-graph instrument, he said to Nettie: "When your friend, John Randall, stops here this morning he won't use your private whistle

signal."
"This morning!" she exclaimed, flushing red.
"Why, it's only 9.15 and he isn't due here till

"He's off his run today," interrupted Harvey, impatiently. "He's to come through at 9.20, running wild, to help back a heavy special from Crodsham. I've got the order here to flag him to stop and sidetrack here till the up express passes. But what I was going to say was that there mustn't be any more of this platform flirtation business. Mind what I tell you. I'm your guardian now, at any rate, and I won't have it."

Well, that was enough. Nettie had a pretty privited here were and above the couldn't keep still.

spirit of her own, and she couldn't keep still any longer. Harvey retorted, saying things which weren't nice to hear, and in the midst of which weren't nice to hear, and in the midst of the excitement forgot his orders and everything else till No. 304 flashed by the window, roaring like a runaway earthquake, and was gone before he fairly understood what had happened. "My God!" groaned he, falling into a chair, his face positively blue with terror. "I've let him pass—I've let him pass—and the express has left Crodsham by this time!"

There was no telegraph station nearer. Noth-

There was no telegraph station nearer. Nothing could be done to prevent what would hap-pen when No. 304, the heaviest locomotive on the road, should plunge with full headway into

the road, should plunge with full headway into the express rushing at whirlwind speed in the opposite direction. The situation was hopeless. But Harvey, with all his faults, was a good railroad man. He instantly wired the facts to the train dispatcher's office in Metropolisville, and then called Crodsham. While he was doing this, hardly conscious where he was, he felt a hand seize his own, and heard a voice cry in his ear:

"Never mind that, uncle. Come quick-

his ear:

"Never mind that, uncle. Come quick—come-with me—it's the only chance!"

Nettie had seen in a second what to do. Up the Copper City branch stood No. 76, waiting for the Metropolisville local. No one was aboard, for the crew, according to custom, were taking an hour off at the roundhouse, some distance away. There was no time to call them. Fairly dragging her uncle after her, she made him understand by a few swift words what she wanted, and then, hastening to the engine and climbing upon the footboard she slightly opened the throttle and threw back the reversing lever a few inches. The ponderous machine, gathering way with slow, harsh coughings, glided backward to the switch. Harvey threw it to let it upon the side track to the main line. Then, still backing, the next switch was thrown, the engine swung out upon the main line, Harvey jumped aboard, No. 76 stopped, shivered and then began moving ahead. Quicker and quicker came the coughs of the exhaust till Nettie threw everything open, and the great locomotive almost leaped into the air as it plunged away over the rattling tracks after the vanished 304 which was rushing to destruction down there in the far distance, and four minutes behind!

Harvey, by this time recovered from his be-

and four minutes behind!

Harvey, by this time recovered from his bewilderment, stripped off coat and waistcoat, seized the scoop-shovel and began feeding the fire-box. On the engineer's seat Nettie held the throttle with one small hand and kept the

the throttle with one small hand and kept the other on the reversing lever, while she only let her eyes leave the track ahead to cast a quick glance at the gauges or into the furnace door.
"Not too much coal, uncle," she would cry at intervals. "Only a little at a time, but often, and spread it evenly."

Pretty soon she began to ask him to look at his watch and tell her the time; or she would call to him to count the telegraph poles for one minute and name the result. There are so many roles to the mile and the number you one minute and name the result. There are so many poles to the mile, and the number you pass in any given length of time will show you at what pace you travel. Another way is to count the rails as you go over the joints be-tween them—but this Nettie could do for her-

At first these calculations seemed to prove At first these calculations seemed to prove satisfactory, and yet Nettie seemed anxious enough. She could gain on No. 304 at present while the track was straight and her engine was doing its best, but soon she knew the line would enter a hilly region, full of curved cuttings and viaducts, where skillful John Randall could run as fast as ever, but where an inexperienced hand like herself must slow down or be ditched. Then again No. 76 was an old-fashioned machine, and not to be compared with John's in any particular. The only hope was to get on as fast as she could while the track favored her.

Harvey knew this also, and he labored des-

Harvey knew this also, and he labored des-perately at his fire. The engine swirled and swayed from side to side till Nettie could hardswayed from side to side till Nettle could hard-ly keep her seat with both feet braced against the boiler head; and her uncle more than once barely escaped being flung out of the cab. They no longer spoke, for the crash and roar of the flying locomotive made hearing almost im-possible. The cab was full of smoke and halfthe flying locomotive made hearing almost impossible. The cab was full of smoke and half-burnt cinders and the heat from blazing furnace scorched their clothes; but still Nettie drove recklessly ahead. Now they entered the hilly tract, and the terrible twisting lurch with which they rounded the first curve warned her that she must reduce speed at once. It was hard to do, for she reckoned John could be but a short distance off, and a few more miles of the straight track would have brought her up with him. Besides the express was all this the straight track would have brought her up with him. Besides the express was all this time running rapidly to meet 304, and she had already calculated the place where that meeting must occur. It was frightfully near—so near that she dared not think how near.

near that she dared not think how near.

If the noise had been deafening before, it was maddening now, when the rock-walled cuttings sent back the vaulting and crashing sound with intensified reduplications. Every curve was a fresh danger since she pressed the engine to the extremest limit she dared at each one, and even then chafed in her ardent each one, and even then chafed in her ardent little soul because she could not go faster. She was doing all that might be done. John must be but a very little way ahead—probably he was now leaving one curve while she entered upon the following one—and yet she could not gain that very little way upon him. He would never come in sight, and would die unwarned, with her only a mile away, just as inevitably as if she had never come in pursuit.

But at that very moment of despair she suddenly thought as something she m'ght still attempt to save John—of one last expedient which she had not tried—and, springing up, she seized the whistle cord.

Meanwhile, without a shadow of apprehension John Randall was flying along toward certain death. The very circumstances which had placed him in such peril had made his mind perfectly easy; for, when he found he was not flagged at the junction, he assumed

that the express was to be held at Crodsham to allow him to pass. Although this seemed a trifle singular it might be accounted for in a dozen different ways, so that all he thought of was to make his run as quickly as possible and thus shorten any delay he might cause the express. This was the reason why he, pressing No. 304 as hard as the difficult route would permit, had unconsciously prevented the rescuing en-gine from overtaking him.

There was only five minutes between him and the express now.
All at once he thought he must be going

All at once he thought he must be going crazy. Faintly above the racket of the hurrying engine he fancied he heard a whistle and—a whistle blowing a signal which no one but himself and Nettie knew the meaning of.
"For heaven's sake, Connelly," he shouted to his fireman, "get out on the tender and listen. Quick, there!"
Councily throwing a surprised glance at his

Quick, there!"
Connelly, throwing a surprised glance at his superior's pale face, obeyed promptly, and, climbing over the piled-up coal, stood leaning against the fierce current of air raised by their swift flight, harkening with all his might. He

against the heree current of air raised by their swift flight, harkening with all his might. He gave a start, listened again, and then made one tremendous bound back upon the footboard. "Yis, sor, yis, sor," he exclaimed, "it's from back behint us—it's the Jooction signal!"

"Hold hard, Connelly!" roared John, closing throttle, putting on the emergency stop, the reversing and opening all the escapes with what seemed like one motion, so rapid was the wrestle of his strong, trained hands with the machinery. The whole engine jarred and quivered and groaned through every joint as it slid on its motionless drivers along the screaming rails; Connelly, never looking out to see what the matter was, seized the rake and began drawing his fire the moment he could let go with one hand—for the sudden violent arrest of motion had nearly flung him through the window. But John shouted again:

"Take the flag and jump! Run ahead for your life, and stop whatever it is that's coming!"

As obediently as before, Connelly dropped off the board and bolted head over heels down an embankment. He was on his feet again and scrambling ahead almost before he had stopped

rolling.

As No. 304 came to a stand John seized another flag and began to rush back along the line. Without having an instant to think in, and being utterly ignorant of the situation, his engineer's instinct had told him that such a signal from behind must mean "danger ahead," signal from behind must mean "danger ahead," and also that his swift heeding of the warning might create a fresh peril at the rear. He had, however, not gone many yards, when a locomotive rolled around the curve amid a cloud of steam, and brought up with its pilot almost touching No. 304's tender-end. John leaped aboard just in time to catch Nettie Millett in his arms before she fainted away.

Almost at the same moment another great engine slid roaring and hissing around the curve ahead and stopped hardly ten feet away. It had been a near thing, indeed.

Well, of course there was a great deal of ex-

It had been a near thing, indeed.

Well, of course there was a great deal of excitement, explanation, confusion and confession, which afterward came to a climax in a long investigation; but nobody had been hurt, nor any damage done, and so the officials were more peaceable than they might otherwise have been. Somehow or other Uncle Harvey got full as much credit for his volunteer firing as he was entitled to (I am afraid Nettie embellished the facts a little) and, this being put in set-off against his culpable negligence, he was allowed to keep his position. He naturally made no further objections to his ward's marriage; and John was appointed assistant division superintendent, "partly," said the letter of notification, "as a reward for your extraordinary coolness and good judgment in a perplexing situation, and partly because you must be a more than good fellow, or such a girl wouldn't love you."

And Nettie's finest wedding recent

And Nettie's finest wedding present was silver loving cup containing one hundred shares of the company's preferred stock. It was marked, on one side, "To Engineer Nettie, from the S. R. and F. Railroad." And, on the other bore this mysterious legend:

### At the Rummage Sale.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY EVA L. SHOREY.

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merry party of young peo ple came trooping down the street, bringing with them a general atmosphere of jollity and fun. They had been lunching at a nearby restaurant, and were now homeward bound.

"What's going on over at the old Owen store?' asked Jack Dennison, a college boy home for vacation.

"Why, that's the Methodist Rummage Sale!" "What is a rummage sale, Lou?" said Bruce Cameron, a distinguished-looking man, somewhat older than the others.

"Well, anyone would know you'd been in Paris or some other foreign place for the past year, or you'd never ask that question," she answered, with a rippling laugh. "Why they're all the rage here and every church society for miles around has had one. You rummage' through your attic and store-rooms, and whatever you find you don't want, or think and whatever you find you don't want, or think nobody else would, you send to the sale, and the managers try and palm it off on the unsuspecting public. It's a sort of exchange of rubbish, and they use the proceeds for charity!"

"O, charity, what crimes are committed in thy name!" paraphrased Bruce.

"Let's go in," suggested one of the girls, and so, with laughter and jest, they crossed the street and soon stood in front of a window containing a most curious collection of odds and ends.

and ends. "Look at those ancient hats, and do see that old-fashioned cape! Looks as though it came over in the Mayflower!"

headgear, old furniture, books and magazines,

the effect being that of an old garret, with the trunks and chests emptied of their treasures. Behind the counters stood the lady managers,

Behind the counters stood the lady managers, with smiling faces, disposing of their wares for ludicrously low prices. As they saw the young people enter, they were all attention, recognizing willing victims.

"Here, Mr. Dennison, just what you want," said a society "bud," turned saleslady for the occasion, bringing out a dilapidated silk hat. "Think what a dash you'd cut at college with this on!"

"All right! How much?" he exclaimed, tak-

"All right! How much?" he exclaimed, taking off his felt hat and rakishly tilting the beaver over one eye, to the amusement of the

Each one made some comical purchase, and the fun grew fast and furious.

Bruce Cameron alone had taken no active part, and Lou, noticing it, volunteered to make a selection for him, searching about until she found a crimson necktie, which attracted her attention.

attention.
"Here Bruce," she cried, "I've found you college color, too," and she something; your college color, too," and she laughingly tied it through the buttonhole of

He looked down at the bright tie, whose coloring brought memories of his college days, and then into the laughing face so near his, and

accepted the gift with gay banter.

Having "done" the Rummage Sale, (and "been done" by it,) the crowd started homeward once more, soon separating with merry goodbyes at the various street corners.

Bruce Cameron and Lou Manning, whose

Bruce Cameron and Lou Manning, whose homes were in the same direction, walked on together. Lou had been chattering gaily, for she was a jolly, good-natured girl, who made friends wherever she went and was the life of whatever company she chanced to be in. Now that she and Bruce were alone she grew more serious, for they were old friends, in spite of the difference in their ages, and had been long separated.

serious, for they were old friends, in spite of the difference in their ages, and had been long separated.

"Bruce," she said, "it is so good to see you again after the long while you've been away. We've been so proud to hear of your success in Paris and to read of your beautiful paintings. Your life must have been so full of interesting happenings since I saw you. Won't you tell me some of them?"

"Well, Lou," he replied, gently placing her arm in his, "I left you a little maid, in short skirts and hair braided down your back; I return to find a young lady, but still the same jolly comrade. There's not much I can tell of my life abroad. You know soon after commencement, my uncle gave me a trip through the beautiful European countries of which we used to read, Then I settled in Paris, where I took up my art studies, which have been so delightful to me. You've been so kind to speak of my work that when you come to New York this winter we'll have a studio tea and you can see my curios and criticise my paintings!"

"O, won't that be great! And what stories conditions of clothing, bric-a-brac, paintings,











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old-fashioned cape! Looks as though it came over in the Mayflower!"

"Get on to the stove pipe and that old dress suit!" said another.

It was a motley display indeed. All sorts and It was a motley display indeed. All sorts and It was a motley display indeed. All sorts and It was a motley display indeed.

I'll have to tell the girls!" she said with her gay little laugh. "Here we are at home; won't you come in and see the people, Bruce? They'll think your decoration is from the Salon," pointing at the flowing necktie which still dangled like a streamer from his coat.

"I'll keep it as a souvenir, Lou," he said, laughingly. "It is like you, bright and cheery! I won't come in now, but will call later on. My regards to the family. Good night," and unlocking the door for her, he lifted his hat, and then walked on toward his own home.

Somehow his thoughts were not of his expe-

Somehow his thoughts were not of his experiences abroad, nor of the years he had been devoting to his studies. He was thinking of his vacations passed in the little city, of the friends of his boyhood, and finally, as they had done so often, they centered around a face of dainty brightness, Margaret Sherwood's, "that old sweetheart of mine!"

What good times they had enjoyed together!

old sweetheart of mine!"
What good times they had enjoyed together!
Their summers at adjoining cottages; the
moonlight paddles on the lake, the drives and
the many happy hours in one another's company. As they had grown older, how he had
thrilled with pride when she and her mother
came to Cambridge to attend the college festivities. And then the little "rift in the lute,"
his suspicion of a college mate, and finally their
estrangement.

estrangement.

There was one thing, trivial in itself, and it seemed to him now as he thought of days agone, such a very trifling matter, but which in his "salad days" had seemed very significant, and that was when at college one day he had gone into one of the fellows' rooms—Royce Manning's, Lou's brother—the one whom he had seen Margaret with more than he fancied, and a group of the boys were locking at a society pin Royce held in his hand. As he came in he thought he heard his name mentioned, and as they turned and saw him they stopped talking, and Royce quickly slipped the pin in his pocket. It was an exceedingly small matter but it had bothered him, and he remembered that Margaret had not worn his pin when he last saw her, nor, as he thought of it, had she for some time. He finally decided that in some way it was his pin which Royce had that day and that Margaret had allowed him to have it. Little by little, as he watched them, he decided that the there was some understanding between Little by little, as he watched them, he decided that there was some understanding between them, and so, gradually, the two who had been such close friends—yes, and more than friends—diffred aparts

-drifted apart.

His trip abroad had come to him as a surprise and he had left hurriedly, merely writing Margaret a formal note of goodby and giving no

address.

Through the years of separation he had thought of her often, and when gazing at some especially beautiful landscape, or before an exquisite work of art, his thought went out to her instinctively. Now that he was back again in the dear home city, his longing for her was even greater, and Lou had told him that Margaret was in California.

He was at his door before he realized it and

even greater, and Lou had told him that Margaret was in California.

He was at his door before he realized it, and putting aside his unhappy thoughts he ran up the steps, as he used to do, for he always felt like a boy again when at the old house.

His mother was dining out, so Bruce, throwing off his coat and hat, went into the dining room and ate in solitary state. As he came out, and was going up to his den for a smoke, the bit of color on his coat attracted his attention, and untying it, he took it with him upstairs. It had had a strangely familiar look from the first, but he had seen hundreds like it, so this caused him no surprise. "Why, it might be one mother had 'rummaged' from my cast-offs," he thought. He still held it in his hand, a long, narrow piece of crimson silk. Turning it over, his eye caught a faint initial, and taking it up nearer the light, he examined it carefully. He could make out part of a letter, which he called an L, then an S, and finally the first one, he decided was an M. "M. L. S.," he said slowly, and then with a start recognized the initials of the girl of whom he had been thinking: Margaret L. Sherwood!

He looked more closely. Yes, written with pencil on the white silk lining, were surely the initials he had repeated. But how could it be Margaret's tie? And then he remembered that her mother was one of the pillars of the Methodist church and probably was one of the chief instigators of the wonderful Rummage Sale, which had struck him as so extremely foolish. What more natural than that she should search through her daughter's belongings and seize upon this bright tie, which really was quite

through her daughter's belongings and seize this bright tie, which really was quite

upon this bright tie, which really was quite presentable.

Leaning back in his chair, his thoughts turned again to Margaret. How during the warm days she dressed so frequently in white, and had often, out of compliment to him, worn and had often, out of compliment to him, worn his college colors. He thought of the night of the float, when they had so gaily decorated his canoe with lanterns and flags, and she sat among the bright cushions, dressed in white, with crimson at her throat and a bright Tam O'Shanter on her head. That was the night he had given her the fraternity pin, with his initials and the name of his charge, and he had ne had given her the traternity pin, with his initials and the name of his charge, and he had told her how much it signified to him. She had pinned it on the crimson tie, and they had been so happy together out on the lake, after the carnival was over.

And then the other fellow had come between them. How fooligh it all seemed to him now.

them. How foolish it all seemed to him now.

And then the other fellow had come between them. How foolish it all seemed to him now. She was not engaged, so his little confidant had told him. If she were in the city tonight he would go to her and beg her forgiveness.

\* He had been fingering the tie when these thoughts went through his mind, and suddenly he became conscious that his fingers had come in contact with something hard, inside the lining. Turning it over he looked at it. Yes, there was something there. He noticed a little rip at the side, and taking his knife he made it larger. Pulling out the lining something fell out and rolled under the couch. Quickly pushing it aside, a faint glitter met his eye. He picked up the object, and caught his breath sharply, as he recognized the well-known outlines of the shield, the symbol of his college fraternity. Hastily turning it over he read with rising color his own initials, and those of his college and charge.

He stared at it a moment in blank amazement. "My pin, and in Margaret's tie," he said bewildered. "I don't understand it."

He walked across the room and leaned his head on the mantel, looking into the blazing fire, and pressed the tie and pin to his lips.

On the shelf was a piece of bric-a-brac, a foreign bit some of his friends had sent him, and which he had used as a receptacle for his mail. The maid had been accustomed to take it from the postman, and, when he was in the city, leave his personal mail there. As he glanced

the postman, and, when he was in the city, leave his personal mail there. As he glanced up, this happened to catch his eye. Almost unconsciously he picked it up, and gave it a little shake as he used to do. To his surprise something, the corner of which was wedged captain's vigorous pinch on his neck and

into a crease, rattled round inside. He pulled

into a crease, rattled round inside. He pulled it out, thinking it was a piece of waste paper, and was more than astonished to find it a little box, directed to himself. With a start, he recognized Margaret's well-known hand.

"What in Heaven's name is this," he said, tearing off the wrappers, and there glittering among the cotton was another society pin, the exact duplicate of the one he had found in the

tie.
"Well, this is getting a little creepy! Two
pins just alike. This seems to be a night of
surprises," he gasped, as pulling at the cotton
he found a tightly folded note.
Rushing to his desk and turning on all the
lights he read with quickly beating heart and

lights, he read with quickly beating heart and blurred eyes:

"Dear Bruce: I have something to confess "Dear Bruce: I have something to coniess. 1 lost the pin you gave me! Can you ever forgive my carelessness? Finding I couldn't buy one, I got Royce Manning to arrange it for me, and I send the new one to you, as somehow we seem not as good friends as we used to be, and I feel you may like it again. Is it something I have done, Bruce? I send this to your home address, as they tell me you're to be here this week."

And the date was four years old!

"My God!" he groaned, as he read the words again and again to grasp their full meaning.

"What bitter fate has kept me from getting this! It must have come just before I sailed for Europe and was overlooked in the rush and none of us have been here since. This is why she and Royce appeared such good friends. My dear, sweet Margaret, what must you think of me now. 'Is it something I have done, Bruce?" I know what those words cost her. My foolish, damnable pride has perhaps spoiled both our lives! O, my love, if you weren't so far away!"

Starting up with a sudden thought he rushed down stairs, and a moment after the outside door slammed behind him.

When Mrs. Cameron came home some hours

When Mrs. Cameron came home some hours later, she found Bruce hastily packing his suit

case.
"Why, Bruce, where are you going?" she ex-

"Why, Bruce, where are you going?" she exclaimed.
"I'm going to Chicago. Mrs. Sherwood tells me Margaret will stop there on her way home from California this week, and I thought perhaps she might be lonesome coming all the way alone. You know I haven't seen her in a long while, and, mother, I—want—to." Going over to her, in his old boyish way, he threw himself down on the rug and with his head in her lap, told the whole story.
"O, those careless maids!" she said, then added lovingly. "My dear boy, may God speed you on your errand."

It was several days later that two telegrams came to the waiting mothers, which read: "Rah! Rah! Rah! Harvard!"

"Bruce."

Though couched in college phraseology, they read between the lines, and knew that the lovers, so long separated, were at last united.

### Cupid and Cap. Gregg.

Love's Wandering Astray, being Episode Number Four and Last.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY. Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

SYNOPSIS.

SYNOPSIS.

(Synopsis. Cap. Skote Gregg of Hobb's Harbor, Me., master of the coaster Susan P. Gregg, meets a fascinating widow while visiting his cousin in Newport, R. I. He shows such attentions to her that his cousin's wife threatens to inform her old friend, Sophy Maxwell in Hobb's Harbor, to whom Cap. Gregg has been engaged for thirty years. The captain, on his next visit to Newport, sends his man of all work of the schooner to carry a message to the widow. The young man, who is offended because the captain is betraying Sophy Maxwell, returns with the alarming message that the widow is married again and that her husband is in full chase. The Susan is hustled out of Newport Harbor and all sail is made for the coast of Maine. On the way, after the captain asserts over and over that he is glad that he has found out in time what a deceiver the widow is, Seth, the crew, confesses that he "only made believe" go to the widow's house. He imagined from what the captain was saying that he was cured of his infatuation. But Gregg chases the boy up the mast and he is still clinging in the rigging when the captain works the schooner single handed into Hobb's Harbor).



HIS sudden panic Skipper Skote Gregg suspected that the knot of men at the corner of the lane were purposing to hold him up and deliver him over to the enemy, July Ann. He believed there were men in the village mean enough to aid and abet mischief in that manner. He swung his arms and velled as though he were shooting catamounts from his path.

"Dol bing ye," he clamored, "git out of my way or I'll squench ye like jelly fish in a whale's gullet!"

His mien was so ferocious as he came slamming down the street,—spatting the dust under his broad-soled boots, the men separated unceremoniously. They left Seth, the "crew" of the Susan P. Gregg, standing like a statue in the middle of the road.

Seth had expected neither of two things: first that the skipper would run away thus incontinently from a mere woman, nor that the crowd of men around him would disintegrate so suddenly. He was too surprised and too scared to run. He stood there stock-still with arms hanging at his side and his mouth open, staring like a fascinated bird at the skipper as he galloped up to him.

Without stopping a moment the skipper grabbed Seth by the collar and forced him along in flight. The terrified Seth made no

picked up his heels in good earnest. He feared to flee with this furious man, and yet he feared still more acutely to refuse to flee. At every step he was running away from all he loved and into unknown dangers but he dared not look back, even. The way of retreat was clear to the wharf. All the population of Hobb's Harbor had been assembled about the Gregg house. With the pursuers still rods behind, the skipper reached the wharf, ran along the uneven planking and jammed Seth down the wooden ladder leading to the dory float.

"Git into that bo't," roared Gregg. He threw off the painter, splashed the oars into the water and sent the yawl swooping with lusty strokes out across the harbor toward the schooner. Twas but a short distance to row and already

out across the harbor toward the schooner. 'Twas but a short distance to row and already he was driving the blubbering Seth up over the dingy bulwark when July Ann came marshalling her following out on the end of the wharf. "Skote Gregg," she shrilled, "stop right where ye be. I forbid ye to step foot on that schooner or to touch rope, sheet or halyard till the prop'ty rights of her has been settled. Don't you dast to make a move."

The skipper made no reply. With a growl

The skipper made no reply. With a growl and an oath he sent Seth forward to commence warping up the anchor. He threw off hiscoat and set to work shaking out the canvas. "Stop him, you men." screemed July App.

"Stop him, you men," screamed July Ann, dancing about in her frenzy, "I order you to stop him. He's runnin' off with my prop'ty."

But no one made a move. It was considered strictly a family affair and furthermore the skipper, treading his own quarter deck, was not the same individual who trudged modestly about the streets of the village.

skipper, treading his own quarter deck, was not the same individual who trudged modestly about the streets of the village.

"You're a thief and a pirut and a deceiver of poor women and a breaker of hearts and I tell ye not to dast to run away with my part of that schooner that was left to us, share and share alike," screamed his sister.

Gregg lent a hand and helped Seth make fast the anchor. The schooner was already drifting on the slow and heaving tide.

"Ye're a mis'able black-legged thief," shrieked his sister. "I'll hav'ye put into state prison if ye run away with my part of that schooner."

Cap. Gregg finished taking up the last slack in the fore-peak halyard, while Seth sagged on the line. The taunts evidently stung him a bit. He stepped to the rail and bellowed between his hands:

"I want ye to understand, Mis' Gregg, and all the rest of ye there that I'm actin' within my rights. I'm the oldest and I own one-ha't of this schooner. Bein' the oldest I have first ch'ice and I choose the stern end. I'm goin' to steer the starn end away from this dol-huttered pen of meddlers. If ye want to come out and anchor your bow end, come along and anchor it—if you can."

This bit of grim satire was answered by a yell from July Ann and by a shout of laughter from the spectators. Gregg lent Seth a swift kick to center the youth's attention on the hoisting of the mainsail, and then yeap—yeap! the black canvas swung up with the blocks creaking.

"I'll give any man that rows me out to that schooner taw dollers "cried July Ann July Ann schoolers and july Ann july Ann schoolers are in the place of the schooler they dollers "cried July Ann July Ann schooler and then yeap—yeap! the black canvas swung up with the blocks creaking.

creaking.

"I'll give any man that rows me out to that schooner tew dollars," cried July Ann, livid in her rage. "I'll give tew men tew dollars apiece!"

After a moment's hesitation a couple of After a moment's hesitation a couple of brawny fishermen accepted the wage and in a jiffy July Ann was sitting in the stern of a dory, rocking like a coxswain and inspiring the men to row by her shrill cries. The Susan had already got under some headway but the wind in the cove was light and baffling and the dory, propelled by the strong arms of the fishermen, speedily overhauled her.

speedily overhauled her.

When Gregg saw the dory plunging up with a bone in her mouth, he rattled down the com-

a bone in her mouth, he rattled down the companionway, and the next moment appeared at the rail with a gun across his arm.

"Row me right up to her," commanded the feminine captain of the boarders. "Row me right up close so I can hop aboard."

"Say, reckon ye'd better not come too close," remarked the skipper with a certain dryness in his tones that was ominous. The rowers held up and the dory rode along, the oars trailing in the water. They looked first at July Ann and then at the skipper standing grimly at the and then at the skipper standing grimly at the

and then at the skipper standing grimly at the rail.

"Row me up there, drat yer hides!" the sister screamed. "I hain't afeared of him nor of any Gregg that ever chawed codfish."

"I hain't makin' any loud talk about this," said the skipper, "but the' hain't nobody goin' to step aboard this schooner, not this eve. Them as takes warnin' don't git hurt."

"Look here, Cap!" said one of the fishermen, "we ain't tryin' to mess in too much and we don't keer to have ye p'ntin' no gun too promiscuous at us. But we do think ye're goin' back on your word a little mite. Ye said as how Miss Gregg might come out and anchor her ha'f of the schooner. Ye ought to stand to your word."

"Do ye pretend that ha'f the schooner haint mine by the will our father made?" cried July Ann.

"Ain't westendia! nothin' about it' retorted."

"Ain't pretendin' nothin' about it,' retorted the skipper. "I've changed my mind. I've been chased out of this town and mollowhopsed and abused and now I'm all done with all of ye.

and abused and now I'm all done with all of ye. I've turned pirut."

He straddled one leg over the rail and rested there calmly. "Don't never take no chances with piruts," he continued. "They're dangerous critters. I'm a pirut." He clicked back the lock of the gun and ordered Seth to trim sail and take the wheel. The sheets swung with clanking of the blocks and as the breeze filled her sails the Susan gathered headway. For a short quarter of a mile the dory followed spasmodically, July Ann entreating, commanding, shrieking. But she could not induce the men to let her near the schooner.

"We'd do as much for you as we would

"We'd do as much for you as we would for any one in the village," said one of them, "but we hain't ever been brought up, Mis' Gregg, to tussle piruts. I reckin ye'll have to hire some men that takes more to fightin' than we do."

we do."

They turned the dory and rowed solemnly back to the wharf. July Ann from the stern brandished her fists and screamed maledictions on the head of her brother until voice failed her and the Susan slopped around the head of the Cow Nubble and headed into the roll of the Atlantic

Cap. Gregg did not speak to Seth for nearly two hours. The youth sat disconsolately on the scuttle butt. Once or twice he dared to glance in the direction of the skipper and found that worthy glaring at him so ferociously that he dropped his eyes promptly and sat trembling. Finally Gregg growled, "I s'pose ye have got enough wit in that oakum ball of a head of your'n to realize that ye have turned me into a pirut, haintye?"

Seth nodded with a ierk and caught a sob.

Seth nodded with a jerk and caught a sob.
"Ye know that piruts are the savagest critters

that ever are, don't ye?"

that ever are, don't ye?"

Another nod and a shiver.

"And ye know what the piruts do to them that mutiny and them that get into their power, hey?"

Seth wriggled to his knees. "I didn't do it a-puppus, Cap'n Gregg," he wailed. "I meant all right, but 'twas dragged out of me by a woman, who kept at me till I didn't know which end I wasstandin' on." The boy broke out into blubberings. "Don't cut me up in inch pieces and make me walk the plank like the piruts do, Cap'n Gregg! Women is dretful deceivin' critters and they went and made me deceivin' critters and they went and made

The skipper looked down on Seth for a time (continued on PAGE II.)

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Countess Spottis-wood-Mackin.

# PORTRAITS AND PARAGRAPHS OF PEOPLE THE PUBLIC PRINTS.

















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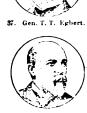




















1. The only American woman who holds a title from the Pope of Rome is the Countess Spottiswood-Mackin who was originally a Protestant. The Pope recently gave an audience to the Countess and expressed his satisfaction at the progress of Catholicism in America.

2. Arctic exploration will never lose interest or lack to brave its dangers as long as the North Pole remains undiscovered. The latest and best equipped expedition sent out is that under Evelyn Baldwin by William Zeigler, a millionaire of Brooklyn, N. Y., and known as the Baldwin-Zeigler expedition. This expedition sailed in June of last year, and word lately received from it says it has reached a point 80 degrees 24 minutes north, and that parties would be sent on north to establish supply stations every twenty miles. The expedition has 400 dogs for sledges.

3. One of the pretty girls of Washington City to make a national reputation for beauty is Miss Showalter, daughter of Representative Showalter of Pennsylvania. Miss Showalter is as popular as she is pretty.

4,5. On the first of January last the Reform administration began in New York City with Tammany Hall forced from power, and great promises were made. Already, however, the air is tilled with discord, and Mayor Low's policy of being easy on saloon keepers and not insisting upon their obeying the Sunday closing law which is opposed by District Attorney Jerome is making divisions among the reformers which Tammany looks upon with great satisfaction.

6. It is very seldom that one of the great ocean steamships between New York City and European ports has a serious accident and when one does occur it creates a great deal of talk. In the rough weather of March the great Cunard steamer, Etruria, broke her shaft at sea and was towed to the Azores Islands, 700 miles and the poetries and the search of the course by a passing steamer. sea and was towed to the Azores Islands, 700 miles south of her course by a passing steamer. The Etruria's passengers were brought home from the Azores by a steamer sent out from New York, chartered for the purpose. The accident cost the Company half a million of dollars or more, \$250,000 going to the lucky ship that picked the Etruria up. Captain Stevens of the Etruria is one of the oldest Captains of the line.

7. Thousands of the older people of this country remember the old time "nigger minstrel shows," and the names of the minstrels were known to all. Within the last few months were known to all. Within the last few months four of the best known of these have died (Billy" Emerson, "Billy" West, "Billy" Rice and Neil Bryant. When Billy Rice died in March, Bryant, then past seventy, said he would be the next to go and within a few days his prediction came true. He died at St. Mary's Hospital, New York.

8. Another American citizen has been honored by kingly recognition. This latest is John Anderson of *The Skandinaren* of Chicago, who has been created a Knight of St. Olaf, the only order in Norway, by King Oscar. Mr. Anderson was born in Norway in 1836 and came to this country in 1845.

9. Madame Nordica, one of our famous singers, is opposed to modern invention. She recently sang in a concert at Wichita, Kans., as she supposed to a Wichita audience, but the enterprising managers connected all the neighboring towns with the concert hall by telephone and Nordica sang to thousands and had no extra pay for it. She did not know about it until after the concert.

10. As Lord Pauncefote, British Ambassa-10. As Lord Pauncefote, British Ambassador to the United States, is soon to retire, there is considerable talk as to who will succeed him in his important office. The latest suggested successor is Hon. Alfred Lyttleton, eighth son of Lord Lyttleton. He is a bachelor of 45, a champion tennis player, a member of Parliament and has been on several government missions to South Africa. He is a nephew of the late Mrs. Gladstone, widow of the great Gladstone.

11. A youngster of fifteen who is creating some fuss in naval circles is George Molere, a grandnephew of William Hunt, Secretary of the Navy under President Garfield. Not withstanding the fact that he was born blind in one eye, he managed to pass all examinations after three trials, and is now on a two years' cruise, and his mother is trying to get him back home. He is a midshipman and in love with sea life.

• • • 12. When it was announced that Miss Alice Roosevelt, the President's daughter, would attend the coronation of King Edward in June, a great many American citizens had a great deal to say on the subject. So much indeed, that it has been decided that she shall not be there. Now there is almost as much talk should be there. there. Now there is almost as much talk about her not going, as no one at the White House will say why she has concluded not to go.

13. James M. Swift, a brother-in-law of the Republican director of New York politics, Senator Thomas C. Platt, died at his home in Tarrytown, N. Y., in March, in his eighty-third year. He had been postmaster of North Tarrytown for fifteen years, having been appointed first by President Cleveland. He used to sing in the church choir at Owego, N. Y., with

Senator Platt, and it was agreed between them, that whenever they visited the old church each one was to put a five dollar gold piece into the contribution box, and the agreement was religiously observed.

14, 15. The condition of the health of King Leopold of Belgium is such that he may reach the end at any time, and his successor is coming into prominence. Prince Albert of Flanders, the heir to the Belgian throne, is a nephew of the King, and is a young man of studious habits and a great traveler. He visited the United States in 1898. He is twenty-seven years old. His wife was the Duchess Elizabeth of Bavaria. She is a woman of pleasing manners and very fond of outdoor sports.

. . . 16. The most eccentric merchant in the United States, Charles Broadway Rouss of New York, died there in March, aged 66, leaving an estate of several millions made as a dry goods merchant. It was his custom to pay his clerks merchant. It was his custom to pay his clerks one dollar a day, each, and payment was made every day. All his buying and selling were strictly for cash. During the last few years he was blind and he had a standing offer of a million dollars to any one who would restore his sight. He employed a man, whose sight was affected as his was, for the doctors to experiment on. He was a Virginian and was buried at Winchester in that state, where he had a mausoleum costing \$40,000 and a monument costing \$15,000 at his family lot.

17. A rumor was circulated recently to the effect that Count Leo Tolstoi, the famous Russian novelist and writer on economic subjects, had died in that country, and that the authorities would not permit the news to be sent out. Tolstoi, though rich, lived as a peasant, working in the fields and trying to set an example to the higher classes of the equality of man. In this country he would have been called a crank.

18, 19. Much talk has been made in diplo-18, 19. Much talk has been made in diplomatic circles of Europe over the story that King Alexander of Servia had agreed to sell his throne, and retire from business in favor of some substitute banished by Russia. The rumor added that he was urged to the transfer by Queen Draga. The King has denied the story in a formal announcement and says he will remain King and that he and his wife are in love with each other and will rule the country together. country together.

20. At the coronation of King Edward and his Queen, Alexandra will not be crowned by the same archbishop that crowns the King, who will be the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Archbishop of York will place the crown on the Queen's head.

21. The latest change President Roosevelt has made in his Cabinet is the substitution of Congressman W. H. Moody of Massachusetts for Hon. John D. Long, Secretary of the Navy, who was appointed by President McKinley. Secretary Moody was born in Haverhill, Mass. in 1853, is a lawyer, and been two terms in Congress. Mr. Long will retire from politics and practice law in Boston.

22. Much discussion has arisen over the court-martial of Major Littleton Waller of the Marine Corps, charged with atrocities upon Philippino prisoners. Major Waller's record in the war with Spain was of the very best and it is believed that if the charges against him were true that he was not in his right mind, owing to the sufferings undergone by him and his command in the island of Samar.

23, 24. Notwithstanding Lord Kitchener's announcement to the British Parliament that announcement to the British Parliament that the Boer war was practically over, the Boers in March inflicted upon the British forces under Gen. Lord Methuen one of the most disastrous defeats of the entire war. Lord Methuen was twice wounded and captured, many of his officers and men were killed and captured and all his trains taken. The victorious Boers were commanded by Gen. Delarey.

25. One of the victims of the Park Avenue Hotel fire in New York City was Mrs. Rebecca S. Foster, known as the "Tombs Angel." Mrs. Foster was a widow with means, and she devoted her time and her money to ministering to the needs of women and girls who were so unfortunate as to become inmates of New York's prison, called "The Tombs." Mrs. Foster was in reality an angel to many an unfortuner was in reality an angel to many an unfortuner was in reality an angel to many an unfortuner was a second s ter was in reality an angel to many an unfortu-nate and her death has caused a vacancy which can never be quite filled.

26, 27. No government scandal ever attracted wider attention than that of the conspiracy of Captain Oberlin M. Carter of the U. S. Army Engineer Corps and members of the Atlantic Contracting Company to defraud the government out of more than two million dollars in improvements of the harbor of Savannah and other ports in Georgia and Florida, and Captain Carter went to the penitentiary for his part in it. Recently Col. John I. Gaynor and B. D. Greene, well-known New Yorkers, suddenly left the city to prevent arrest on charges supposed to have been forgotten, and the scandal came out into the airagain. Carter's friends believe he is innocent. He spent large sums in high living, but his father-in-law is a rich man, and liberal. 26, 27. No government scandal ever attracted man, and liberal.

28. Society leaders have their troubles like the rest of human beings, and recently the Countess of Warwick, one of the grandest ladies of English society, was thrown from her horse while hunting in Essex, and was badly bruised and shaken up. As may be seen by her picture she is a handsome woman.

29, 30. There seems to be a general desire among all nations to bring about peace between Great Britain and the Boers, but Britain is stubborn and will listen only to unconditional surrender. Holland, being the closest nation to the Boers, recently sent her Prime Minister, Dr. Abram Kuyper, to London, on their behalf, but Lord Lansdowne, the British Foreign Minister, would not agree to propositions made, and the war still goes on. 31. This is a peculiar country. Prince Henry

31. This is a peculiar country. Prince Henry had not been out of it two days before the newspapers were full of the story that Dr. von Holleben, the German Ambassador, had been asked by the State Department to leave because he had taken too active a part in the campaign of 1900 for Mr. Bryan. The Ambassador denied the stories and he is still representing Germany at Washington.

32. American women, wherever they appear in foreign countries, are almost sure to become leaders in whatever they undertake, especially in all social matters. In classic Greece the latest one has appeared and she is Miss Katherine Colfelt, daughter of Rev. Dr. Colfelt of Philadelphia, and her most devoted admirer is Prince Andrew, son of King George of Greece.

33. Christian Science is daily gaining converts in this country, and the most prominent convert recently reported is Miss Helen Griggs, the beautiful daughter of ex-United States Attorney General Griggs of New Jersey. Miss Griggs denics that she is a convert, but she has become interested in the subject. 34. During the visit of Prince Henry to this

country a baby camel was born at the Zoo in Central Park, New York, and Keeper Shannon, who is personally acquainted with one hundred thousand children who come to see the animals named the baby "Prince Henry." It is need-less to say that the children are all crazy to see the baby.

35. One of the best known radical politicians in this country was John P. Altgeld, a Chicago attorney, who was at one time Governor of Illinois. He was a powerful speaker and very daring in his almost anarchistic utterances. In March, just after a speech at Joliet, defending the Boers, in which he denounced the English Ambassador. Lord Pauncefote, he was stricken with paralysis, and died the next day. He was born in Germany in 1847 and came to this country when three years old. try when three years old.

36. One of the school inspectors recently appointed in New York City is Mrs. Anna V. Bolte, wife of Civil Justice Herman Bolte, and a great grand niece of General Lafayette, America's best friend in France during the Revolution. She had been a school teacher for six years before she married. She is yet a young

woman and handsome. 37, 38. No corporation in this country is more widely known than the Western Union Telegraph Company, and there are few of us who have not at some time sent or received a message over its wires. The President of the message over its wires. The President of the great company for many years has been Gen. Thomas T. Eckert, but he is growing old and resigned the cares of his office in March and became Chairman of the Board of Directors. He was succeeded as President by Col. Robert C. Clowry of Chicago, who began his service with the company as a messenger boy. with the company as a messenger boy.

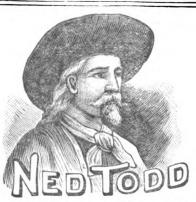
39. The people of Italy are eagerly looking forward to the arrival of an heir to the throne. Great solicitude is shown for Queen Helena whose popularity has constantly increased since her marriage to King Victor Emmanuel. The King and Queen of Italy are noted for their democratic ideas and life.

40. The only woman prison chaplain in the United States is, or was, Mrs. Mary Preston Slosson, chaplain of the Wyoming State Penitentiary. Owing to the impending removal of the prison from Laramie to Rawlings, Mrs. Slosson has resigned. She held the office two years and was very successful in reforming the convicts. Her husband is the Vice President of Wyoming University. She is the first woman to have taken the degree of Ph D. at Cornell University. University.

John Voepel is a fifteen year old boy who 41. John Voepel is a fifteen year old boy who is held on the charge of murdering his mother in New York City. She was a widow and she and her boy kept a news-stand and made money. She was found dead in her room by the boy, with eighteen knife wounds on her body. The boy denied all knowledge of the crime, and he was exonerated by the Coroner's jury, but was re-arrested by the police. His picture scarcely looks like that of a murderer.

42. An Englishman, who is likely to be at the head of the English government at no distant day is Lord Roseberry, who is not only a man of great ability as a statesman, but he is the son-in-law of the Rothschilds and is one of the richest men in England. He is also a "good the richest men in England." the richest men in England. He is also a "good fellow," as we say in America.





## The Oklahoma Detective,

The Strange Cabin in the Wilderness.

BY HENRY DALE.

Author of "Boomers and Cattle Kings," "The Cheyenne Outbreak," "Shadowing a Shadow," "Chepita," "Mormonism Unveiled," Etc.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

The opening chapters of this intensely interesting story appeared in February Comfort. Back numbers may be obtained by enclosing three cents to Comfort, Augusta, Maine., for each number desired.

During the past year portions of Indian Territory were opened to settlement by the Government allotment of lots by chance, and the scenes that were enacted in the years gone by, when Oklahoma weas the objective point of settlers from east and west, north and south, were again presented in a much more exciting manner. A Kansas telephone girl lucki'y secured a lot valued at \$17,000, and others were nearly as fortunate.

Because of the exciting events that have transpired in Oklahoma and Indian Territory, events that have attracted the attention of the whole country, the story of "Ned Todd" is presented to our readers in the hope that instruction and entertainment may be derived from its perusal.

### CHAPTER X. IN THE TOILS.

Again, when the emergency demanded it, were the nerves of the youth like steel. He was even astonished at his own coolness. Some one touched his arm. It was Todd. Miss Miller was near enough for them to bring her to their little group by a simple motion of the head.

Some one touched his arm. It was Todd. Miss Miller was near enough for them to bring her to their little group by a simple motion of the head.

"Come," the detective faintly whispered. The jungle was very dark. There really seemed no avenue of escape, but all determined to make one gallant effort for liberty.

A faint rustling of the bushes and grass on the other side of the house was heard, and Todd knew that they dare not wait any longer. Their foes, knowing them to be armed and dangerous, were a little backward about making the attack, but there was no doubt that it would be made soon. It would now require all the courage and skill of India scouts, to creep through the bushes and tall grass, and escape from the line of foes that was being carefully drawn around them. Unfortunately for our friends, they had been compelled to leave their rifles behind them and had only their revolvers.

By the greatest caution and skill they got from the old house and began making their way southward. They came upon a spot that was almost barren of vegetation which had to be crossed or gone around. There was only an occasional bunch of grass growing upon the open spot, to conceal anyone that would attempt to cross it. After a few moments, the detective whispered:

"I must make the venture."

"I am ready," said Archie, at the same time casting an inquiring glance at Miss Miller. She interpreted the look and in a whisper assured them that she was ready to make any venture that they might deem necessary.

Todd went first, crawling on the ground and keeping close to the earth. Archie and Miss Miller followed close after him. He kept close to her, that he might defend her.

"Whist!" the detective said. Archie and Daisy crouched behind a clump of bushes, the youth holding a revolver in his hand.

Todd lifted his head above the grass to look about him. Suddenly a sharp report rang out on the night air, awakening the sleeping echoes and sending a whistling ball close to the head of the detective. Todd raised his revolver and pointed i

man and did not dare risk a shot at random.

Again he dropped to the ground, and for a moment all three lay motionless.

Voices were heard talking in a low tone in the thicket, and the hurried tramp of feet could be heard in almost every direction.

"They are concentrating, Arch, we must make a dash for it," said Todd.

All three bounded to their feet and took to their heels.

"Crack, crack," rang out a pair of rifle shots, and though the bullets whistled uncomfortably near their heads, they escaped unhurt and reached the forest unhurt.

But the pursuit had now begun in earnest.

But the pursuit had now begun in earnest. The Oklahoma bandits were gathering from every direction and joining in the chase. The game had at last been started out and never vere fox hunters more determined to be in at

"Halt, hold on, and we will give you quarter!" shouted one of the pursuers nearest

them.

They were fleeing down a dark aisle in the forest, and the broken rays of moonlight sufficients, and the way for objects to be seen forest, and the broken rays of moonlight suffi-ciently lighted the way for objects to be seen some distance ahead. Archie and Daisy were before, and Major Todd following close after them. As they paid no attention to the com-mand, their pursuer fired at them, but the aim was too hasty to be accurate. The ball whis-tled harmlessly through the air, missing the mark by two feet.

"The scoundrels are having it too much their own way," said Todd, turning about, his re-volver in his hand.

Archie casta glance behind him, and through

Archie casta glance behind him, and through the whiff of smoke saw the foremost of his pur-suers drop his gun and fall upon his face, Not-withstanding the great distance, Todd had hit

the mark.
"It will be a lesson," said the Major, as he ran close behind Archie and Miss Miller.
Wild yells of rage filled the air. Their pursuers grew desperate and begun firing at every

opportunity that afforded itself. Having long range gans, and the fugitives being armed only with pistols, the contest was unequal.

Daisy grew faint, and Archie seized her in his arms and ran forward notwithstanding her protests and assertions that she could walk.

"You are not strong enough," he said.

"Then leave me. You can escape if you do not shamper yourself with me."

"I would die a thousand times rather than be guilty of such a cowardly act," he responded.

But it was evident the flight would be of short duration. The detective's dreaded revolver kept the human blood hounds at bay, but it was only temporarily.

Archie understood the situation, and realizathat a sacrifice must be made, said:

"or, we must separate. You are fresh take this girl and carry her, while word, may be the word, and they hang when we keton oo' our."

"I am not one of their men, and they hang when we keton oo' our."

"On't make no difference, we know to which side ye belong. We are at war with all the word, and don't show no quarter to no un."

"On't make no difference, we know to which side ye belong. We are at war with all the word, and don't show no quarter to no un."

"On't make no difference, we know to which side ye belong. We are at war with all the word, and don't show no quarter to no un."

"They were now at the house and the youthful prisoner was ushered into the front apartit.

CHAPTER XI.

"E HOREES ROUDD.

"At Hories Park.

"E HOREES ROUDD.

"Still lay upon the flow trance of the the began chuprevent it. He took the almost exhausted girl from the arms of the panting youth and hurried off with her.

Archie, with a revolver in each hand, wheeled about, and facing the foe opened a fire on them which checked their headway, until the detective and his precious burden were out of sight, and then turning off to the left drew the Oklahoma bandits after him down into a ravine and in quite a different direction from that taken by the detective and the maiden.

The pursuers were seven in number, when they had all got together. One had been killed by the detective's shot, and he was quite certain that he had disabled another.

"Stop! halt, ye scoundrel, or we'll bore ye through," yelled one of the pursuers, pressing close after the fugitive.

Archie turned about and fired shot with no effect, save to check the pursuer for a moment.

"I must be getting nervous," he thought

The crippled idiot still lay upon the floor, but, awakened by the entrance of the two brigands with their prisoner, he began chuckling and screaming with delight.

"Shet up, Snap, shet up," cried one of the guards.

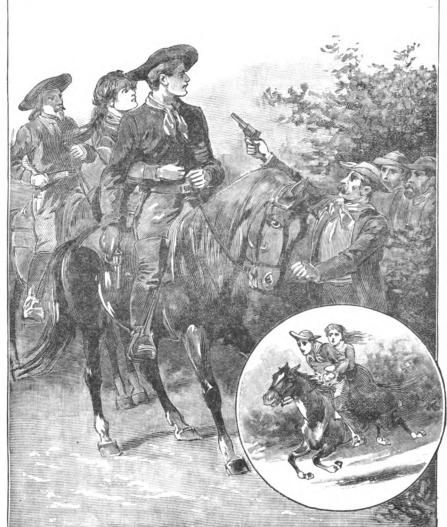
guards.

guards.

"He, he, he, he, he, he!" laughed the idiot, kicking and rolling and chuckling, as he held the sheepskin rug in his arms. The foremost guard at last administered a kick in his side, which monentarily silenced him.

"Snap's an idiot, he's a fool, an' he'd jest as soon eat ye up as not," said one of the guards.

Archie made no response, but suffered him-



BEFORE ANOTHER WORD COULD BE SPOKEN THREE OR FOUR DARK FORMS LEAPED OUT OF THE WOODS AND SEIZED THE HORSE BY THE BITS.

He ran at the top of his speed, but his strength seemed at last deserting him. His nerves had been so long strained that he realized that they could not hold out much longer. While flying down a rocky ravine with his pursuer close at his heels, he stumbled and fell. Before he could recover himself, they were on him. Wild, exultant yells filled the air, and Archie was quickly disarmed.

him. Wild, exultant yells filled the air, and Archie was quickly disarmed.

He expected each moment to be his last. The outlaws were furious at the loss of one of their number. They were a wild, ferocious set, and

many of them, having the blood of the Indian in their veins, were little better than Indians. Never had he seen a wilder or more motley

crowd. Some of them wore the slashed trousers and doublettes of the Mexican, and all attired in the frontier costume.

Their conversation was carried on part in English and part in Spanish, yet in such a wild, excited manner, that he could not understand any of it.

His hands were tied behind his back, and one of the outlaws raising him to his feet, said:
"Come on."

"Where'll we take him?" another asked.

"Come on."

"Where'll we take him?" another asked. These were the first words that he fully understood, the others were to him a hurried jumble of senseless jargon.

"To the house," the first speaker answered. Archie now discovered that but two men were with him, evidently a guard to take him to the house, while the others were going off in pursuit of his companions.

"You acted purty smart, youngster," said one of his guards. "Ye must a thought that ye war doin' suthin' smart, when ye went down inter the cellar and got the gal, but I guess the Cap'n will git her back. Ye war very brave, but it won't do yer any good. When Cap'n sets out to do anything, he does it, I guess."

"Who is your Captain?" Archie asked.

"Our Cap'n is Jim Snell."

"The Oklahoma robber and horse thief?"

"Well, ye put it purty strong, though I guess it haint fur from bein' right."

self to be tied to a chair with deerskin thongs,

self to be tied to a chair with deerskin thongs, so tightly that he could not rise.

Then the two outlaws sat down, after stirring up the embers, and gazed into the fire. The idiot, as was his singular custom, after being kicked, went to sleep.

"The night's a goin' away, an' we'll not git one wink o' sleep," said one of the guards.

"Yes."

"Why can't we sleep one at a time?"
The man addressed cast a longing look at the oor leading into the bed-room and said:

"I don't see why one o' us couldn't sleep, Jack." "No, nothin' to hinder it."

"Well who'll turn in fust?"
"Less draw straws an' see who it'll be."
"Well."

"Git the straws."

The idiot turned over and chuckled in his sleep, and the man called Jack rose and going to a broom that stood in the corner broke out a couple of straws.
"Here they are, Tom," said Jack, with a

"All right," the drowsy Tom answered.

"All right," the drowsy Tom answered. The idiot chuckled in his sleep.
"Eh, Snap, yer a fool, win't yer?" said Jack, touching the sleeping cripple with his foot. The idiot awoke, and laughed and chuckled, kicking his clubbed feet about in the air.
"Let him alone, Jack. Let's see who's goin' to git the fust sleep," said Tom, with a yawn.
"All right."
They drew straws, and Jack was the for-

They drew straws, and Jack was the fortunate man "Good," he laughed. "Luck's on my side at

Tom swore at his ill luck and told Jack to go

off to bed.
"Guess I'll git along some way," he growled.
"When'll the others come back?" asked Jack.
"When'll the other feller an' the "Soon ez they git the other feller an' the

gal."
"That's not likely tonight." "Did Bryce go with 'em?"

"An' thar's none o' the household up at this hour ter git a feller a drink o' liquor?"
"No."

hour ter git a feller a drink o' liquor?"

"No."

Jack rose to his feet again, and stretching his arms upward to their enormous length, yawned.

"Wall, good night, Tom," he said, as he went to the adjoining room, in which was a bed.

"Good night, and little good will all the sleep ye git this night do ye."

Jack laughed, but made no answer.

Tom was now alone with his prisoner. He leaned back in the large, old-fashioned recking chair and closed his eyes. He was almost asleep when a slight movement on the part of his prisoner caused him to awake, and snatching his pistol from its scabbard, he leveled it at Archie's head.

"Jist try it ef ye dare."

"I was not trying to get away," said Archie.

"Ye lie, ye know yer war atryin' ter git away from me," cried the angry guard.

"I am tied so tightly that my wrists are very painful, and I cannot sit long in one position."

"Wall, ye'll be quiet now, ef I hev ter shoot ye ter make ye do so."

Archie knew that it was useless for him to appeal to the wretch for mercy, and consequently he opened not his mouth.

The guard again closed his eyes, and in a few moments his regular breathing told that he was asleep.

"If my hands and feet were free," the youh.

moments his regular breathing told that he was asleep.

"If my hands and feet were free," the youthful prisoner thought, "I could soon escape from the wretches.

An hour passed, and the guard snored. The prisoner was in great pain, but so overcome by long days of fatigue and loss of sleep, that he was dozing, when he felt something touch his legs.

In a moment he was wide awake.

In a moment he was wide awake.

At his feet, crouching like some animal, was the mysterious, idiotic cripple. What was he doing? Bound as he was, the prisoner could not exactly see what he was about. But suddenly he felt his feet freed.

The idiot then raised himself to a crouching position, so that he could look into the face of the prisoner, and winked. Grotesque and distorted as those features were, there was something fine and noble and familiar about them. What was it?

The cripple calmly crept around to the rear and there remained for a moment. He could feel his hairy, scarred face against his wist and that he was gnawing the deerskin though that bound him.

In a few moments the captive's hands were freed, and the cripple gathering up the pieces of thongs put them in the prisoner's pocket, and crept noiselessly back to his rug and lay down to sleep. The prisoner could not but admire the cunning and courage of this remarkable cripple.

Who was he and what was there so strange.

of thongs put them in the prisoner's pockels, and crept noiselessly back to his rug and ly down to sleep. The prisoner could not but admire the cunning and courage of this remarkable cripple.

Who was he and what was there so strange about him? Often had he heard it whispeed when on the border, that there was a mystery in Oklahoma, which was beyond the power of man to solve. He had heard of a man there who was part animal and part human. Was this the Oklahoma mystery which had been magnified into such a fabulous description as was going all over the West?

When the cripple had reached his rug, he raised his head and pointed with his misshapen hand toward the door.

Archie Holland was not slow to follow his suggestion. He rose softly from the chair on which he was sitting and went to the door, which was bolted on the inside. Leaning against the wall by the side of the door was a rifle, which was outlined by the faintly smouldering fire. A belt containing two revolvers and a knife was hanging across the muzzle of the gun. When Archie reached the door, he paused with one hand on the butt of one of the pistols, and looked back at the sleeping guard. But his breathing was so heavy that there was no doubt of his being asleep, and there seemed but little danger of waking him.

He carefully raised the revolver belt and buckled it about his waist. It fitted exactly, and to his joy he recognized it as belonging to himself, and, thanking the fates and shrewd cripple who lay sleeping so innocently on the rug, the youth cautiously grasped the rifle, opened the door and walked out of the house.

Once more in open air, once more free. He seemed to regain some of his old strength with the thought. The moon was almost down, and by consulting his watch he discovered that the night was wellnigh spent.

Before he had gone a fourth of a mile be heard noises ahead of him, and coming to a halt listened.

"It's human voices," he said.

There was no mistake about it, for he could even hear some of the words that were spoken. "Well we'r

one said.
"It beats all how the fellers come to let Todd

git away, after they once had their clutches on him."

him."

"It was Jack an' Tom's fault."

"It was Cap Snell's fault. What do he want to take prisoners fur anyway? Ez long ez we didn't we never hed any trouble. 'Dead men tell no tales' ye know, an' now this feller an' gal's got away an'll spread the news fur an' wide, until we hev a hull army o' soldiers an' detectives down on us."

"Maybe we'll git 'em vit."

"Maybe we'll git 'em yit."
"No, we won't."
"Why?"

"Cos I know they'll not be cotched."
"But Cap an' some o' 'em are still out, an' as soon as it's daylight which won't be very long off neither, they'll git on their trail."
"Yes but the fools went off without a single hoss, and what's a man goin' ter do a foot?"
"Haint the others afoot an' won't we be back in time to help. 'em out with the hosses?"

in time to help 'em out with the hosses?"
"I think it's doubtful. Didn't Jack an' Tom
stay behind to guard that other prisoner?"
"Yee"

"Yes."

"Like ez not they'll let him git away."

"Ha, ha, ha! Dyke, yer out o' humor ionight!"

They had passed the fugitive, and were now so far away that their voices could be no longer heard. It was with no little degree of satisfaction, that Archie Holland heard the above conversation. It was very evident that the detection of the same satisfaction of the same satisfaction.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16.)



Author of Ragged Dick Series, Making His Way, Luck and Pluck Series, A Rolling Stone, etc.

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This story was commenced in the April Comport. Back | whose appearance led him to stamp as a young | numbers can be obtained of the publishers at two cents | rough.

### CHAPTER V.

DODGER.

The boy sprang to the side of Florence and seized her wrists in his strong young grasp.
"Don't you alarm the house." he said, "or I'll—"
"What will you do?" gasped Florence, in alarm.
The boy was evidently softened by her beauty, and answered in a tone of hesitation:
"I don't know. I won't harm you if you keep quiet."

"I don't know. I won't harm you if you keep quiet."

"What are you here for?" asked Florence, fixing her eyes on the boy's face. "Are you a thief?"

"I don't know—yes, I suppose I am."

"How sad, when you are so young."

"What! miss, do you pity me?"

"Yes, my poor boy; you must be very poor or you wouldn't bring yourself to steal."

"No. I ain't poor; leastways, I have enough to eat and I have a place to sleep."

"Then why don't you earn your living honestly?"

"I can't; I must obey orders."

"Whose orders?"

"Who, the guy'nor's, to be sure."

"Why, the guv'nor's, to be sure."
"Did he tell you to open that secretary?"

"Yes."
"Who is the guv'nor, as you call him?"
"I can't tell; it wouldn't be square."
"He must be a very wicked man."
"Well, he ain't exactly what you call an angel, but I've seen wuss men than the guv'nor."
"Do you mind telling me your own name?"
"No; for I know you won't peach on me. Tom Dodger."

Dodger."
"Dodger?"

Dodger."
"Dodger?"
"Yes."
"That isn't a surname."
"It's all I've got. That's what I'm always called."
"It is very singular," said Florence, fixing a glance of mingled curiosity and perplexity upon the young visitor.
While the two were earnestly conversing in that subdued light afforded by the lowered gaslight, Tim Bolton crept in through the door unobserved by either, tip-toed across the room to the secretary, snatched the will and a roll of bills and escaped, still without attracting attention.
"Oh, I wish I could persuade you to give up this bad life, and become honest."
"Do you really care what becomes of me, miss?"
"I do, indeed."
"That's very kind of you, miss; but I don't understand it. You are a rich young lady and I'm only a poor boy, livin' in a Bowery dive."
"What's that?"
"Never mind, miss, such as you wouldn't understand.

"That's very kind of you, miss, such that the that it. You are a rich young lady and I'm only a poor boy, livin' in a Bowery dive."

"What's that?"

"Never mind, miss, such as you wouldn't understand. Why, all my life I've lived with thieves and drunkards and bunco men and—"

"But I'm sure you don't like it. You are fit for something better."

"Do you really think so?"

"Yes; you have a good face. You were meant to be good and honest, I am sure."

"Would you trust me?" asked the boy, fixing his large dark eyes eloquently on the face of Florence.

"Yes, I would if you would only leave your evil companions and become true to your better nature."

"No one ever spoke to me like that before, miss," said Dodger, his expressive features showing that he was strongly moved. "You think I could be good if I tried hard, and grow up respectable?"

"I am sure you could," said Florence, confidently. There was something in this boy, young outlaw though he was, that moved her powerfully, and even fascinated her, though she hardly realized it. "I could if I was rich like you and lived in a nice house, and 'sociated with swells. If you had a father like mine—"

"Is he a bad man?"

"Well, he don't belong to the church. He keeps a gin-mill, and has ever since I was a kid."

"Yes; but not in New York."

"Have you always lived with him?"

"Yes, miss."

"And you have always had this man as guardian?"

"You've got a different father from me, miss?"

Tears forced themselves to the eyes of Florence as this remark brought forcibly to her mind the position in which she was placed.

"Alas! I am alone in the world."

"What! ain't the old gentleman that lives here your father?"

"He is my uncle; but he is very, very angry with me, and has ordered me to leave the house."

"When, and has ordered me to leave the house."

"When, and has ordered me to leave the house."

Florence Linden left her luxurious home knowing not what awaited her. She like Dodger was adrift in New York. "Mas! ain't the old gentleman that lives here your father?"

"He is my uncle; but he is very, very angry with me, and has ordered me to leave the house."

"Why, what a cantankerous old ruffian he is to be sure!" exclaimed the boy, indignantly.

"Hush! you must not talk against my uncle. He has always been kind to me till now."

"Why, what's up? What's he mad about?"

"He wants me to marry my cousin Curtis, a man I do not even like."

"That's a shame! Is it the dude! saw come out of the house a little while ago?"

"Oh, no; that's a different gentleman. It's Mr. de Brabazon."

"You don't want to marry him do you?"

"No, no!"

"I'm glad of that. He don't look as if he knew enough to come in when it rained."

"The poor young man is not very brilliant, but I would rather marry him than Curtis Waring." what awaited her. She like Dodger was adrift in New York.

spoke to him."

"You stand by him, you shameless girl! I blush to think that you are my niece. I am gilad to think that my eyes are opened before it is too late." The old merchant rung the bell violently, Dodger made no attempt to escape, but stood beside Florence in the attitude of a protector. But a short time elapsed before Curtis Waring and the servants entered the room, and gazed with wonder at the excited old man and the two young people.

"My friends," said John Linden, "I call you to witness that this girl, whom I blush to acknowledge as my niece, has proved herself unworthy of my kindness. In your presence I cut her off, and bid her never again darken my door."

"But what has she done, uncle?" asked Curtis. He was prepared for the presence of Dodger, whom he rightly concluded to be an agent of Tim Bolton, but he could not understand why Florence should be in the library at this late hour. Nor was he able to understand the evidently friendly relations between her and the young visitor.

"What has she done?" repeated John Linden. "She has introduced that young ruffian into the house to rob me. Look at that secretary! He has forced it open, and stolen a large sum of money."

"It is not true, sir," said Dodger, calmly—"about taking the money, I mean. I haven't taken a cent."

"Then why did you open the secretary! He has forced it open, and stolen a large sum of money."

"It is not true, sir," said Dodger, calmly—"about taking the money, I mean. I haven't taken a cent."

"Then why did you open the secretary! We has forced it open, and stolen a large sum of money."

"It is not true, sir," said Dodger, sollmly—"about taking the money, I mean. I haven't taken a cent."

"Then why did you open the secretary! We has forced the money is gone?"

"He hasn't discovered about the will," thought Curtis, congratulating himself. "If the boy has it, I must manage to give him a chance to escape."

"You can search me if you want to," continued Dodger, proudly. "You

ry brilliant, but I

enough to come in when it rained."

"The poor young man is not very brilliant, but I would rather marry him than Curtis Waring."

"I've seen him, too. He's got dark hair and a dark complexion, and a wicked look in his eyes."

"You, too, have noticed that?"

"I've seen such as him before. He's a bad man."

"Do you know anything against him?" asked Florence, eagerly.

"Only his looks."

"I am not deceived," murmured Florence. "It's not wholly prejudice. The boy distrusts him, too. So you see, Dodger," she added, aloud. "I am not a rich young lady, as you suppose. I must leave this house, and work for my living. I have no home any more."

"If you have no home, come home with me."

"To the home you have described, my poor boy? How could I do that?"

"No; I will hire a room for you in a quiet street, and you shall be my sister. I will work for you, and give you my money."

"You are kind, and I am glad to think I have found a friend when I need one most. But I could not accept stolen money. It would be as bad as if I, too, were a thief."

"But I am not a thief! That is, I won't be any more."

"And you will give up your plan of robbing my

more."
"And you will give up your plan of robbing my

"And you will give up your plan of robbing my uncle?"

"Yes, I will, though I don't know what my guv'nor will say. He'll half murder me, I guess. He'll be sure to cut up rough."

"Do right, Dodger, whatever happens. Promise me that you never will steal again?"

"There's my hand, miss—I promise. Nobody ever talked to me like you. I never thought much about bein' respectable, and growin'up to be somebody, but if you take an interest in me I'll try hard to do right."

At this moment Mr. Linden, clad in a long morning-gown, and holding a candle in his hand, entered the room and started in astonishment when he saw Florence clasping the hand of one

Curtis Waring beckoned Dodger into an adjoining room.

"Now, my boy," he said, smoothly. "give me what you took from the secretary, and I will see that you are not arrested."

"But, sir, I didn't take nothing—it's just as I told the old duffer. The girl waked up just as I'd got the secretary open, and I didn't have a chance."

"But the money is gone," said Curtis, in an incredulous tone.

"I don't know nothing about that."

"Come, you'd better examine your pockets. In the hurry of the moment you may have taken it without knowing it."

rough.
"Shameless girl!" he exclaimed, in stern reproof.
"So this is the company you keep when you think
I am out of the way!"

### CHAPTER VI. A TEMPEST.

The charge was so strange and unexpected that Florence was overwhelmed. She could only murmur:
"Oh, uncle!"

"No. I don't want to get him into trouble, or you get he felt that Florence had consented to accept him as a friend, and he was resolved to stand by her. "I say, old man," he bristled up, "don't you go to insult her! She's an angel."

"No doubt you think so," rejoined Mr. Linden, in a tone of sarcasm. "Upon my word, miss, I congratulate you on your elevated taste. So this is your reason for not being willing to marry your cousin Curtis?"

"Indeed, uncle, you are mistaken. I never met this boy till tonight."

"On't try to deceive me. Young man, did you open my secretary?"

"Yes, sir."

"And robbed it into the bargain," continued Linden, going to the secretary and examining it. He did not, however, miss the will, but only the roll of bills. "Give me back the money you have taken from it, you young rascal!"

"I thought you would be living with some such man. Did he come to the house with you tonight?"

"Yes."

"Where is he?"

"Her young companion was indignant. Already him and I will be your friend."

"You're a better sort than I thought at first," said Dodger. "The man I live with is called Tim Bolton."

"I thought so," quickly ejaculated Curtis. He had searcely got out the words before he was sensible that he made a mistake.

"What, do you know Tim?" inquired Dodger, in surprise.

"I mean," replied Curtis, lamely, "that I had heard of this man Bolton. He keeps a saloon on the Bowery, doesn't he?"

"Yes."

"I thought you would be living with some such man. Did he come to the house with you tonight?"

"He stayed outside."

"He stayed outsi

Curtis, congratulating himself. "If the boy has it, I must manage to give him a chance to escape."
"You can search me if you want to," continued Dodger, proudly. "You won't find no money on

"Do you think I am a fool, you young burglar?" exclaimed John Linden, angrily.
"Uncle, let me speak to the boy," said Curtis, soothingly. "I think he will tell me."
"As you like, Curtis; but I am convinced that he is a thief."

Curtis Waring beckoned Dodger into an adjoin

"With my father. Leastways, he says he's my father."

There was a growing suspicion in the mind of Curtis Waring. He scanned the boy's features with attention. Could this ill-dressed boy be his long-lost and deeply-wronged cousin?

"Who is it that says he is your father?" he demanded, abruptly.

"Do you want to get him into trouble?"

"No. I don't want to get him into trouble, or you either. Better tell me all, and I will be your friend."

"You're a better sort than I thought at first," said

HASO'VELLE SAID DODGEN

to me and asked me what I was doin'."

"And you took nothing?"

"No."

"It seems very strange. I cannot understand it.

Yet my uncle says the money is gone. Did anyone
else enter the room while you were talking with
Miss Linden?"

"I didn't see anyone."

"What were you talking about?"

"She said the old man wanted her to marry you,
and she didn't want to."

"She told you that?" exclaimed Curtis, in displeasure.

"She told you that?" exclaimed Curtis, in displeasure.

"Yes, she did. She said she'd rather marry the dude that was here early this evenin'."

"Mr. de Brabazon!"

"Yes,that's the name."

"Upon my word, she was very confidential. You are a queer person for her to select as a confidant."

"Maybe so, sir; but she knows I'm her friend."

are a queer person for her to select as a confidant."

"Maybe so, sir; but she knows I'm her friend."

"You like the young lady, then? Perhaps you would like to marry her yourself?"

"As if she'd taken any notice of a poor boy like me. I told her if her uncle sent her away, I'd take care of her and be a brother to her."

"How would Mr. Tim Bolton like that?"

"I wouldn't take her to where he lives."

"I think, myself, it would hardly be a suitable home for a young lady brought up on Madison avenue. There is certainly no accounting for tastes. Miss Florence——"

"That's her name, is it?"

"Yes; didn't she tell you?"

"No; but it's a nice name."

"She declines my hand, and accepts your protection. It will certainly be a proud distinction to become Mrs. Dodger."

"Don't you laugh at her!" said Dodger, suspiciously.

"I don't propose to. But I think we may as well

ciously.
"I don't propose to. But I think we may as well

"tune of the library."
"Well," said Mr. Linden, as his nephew returned with Dodger.
"There examined the boy and found nothing on

"I have examined the boy and found nothing on his person. I confess I am puzzled. He appears to have a high admiration for Florence—"" 'As I supposed.

She has even confided to him her dislike for me, and he has offered her his protection."
"Is this so, miss?" demanded Mr. Linden, stern-

"Yes, uncle," faltered Florence.
"Then you can join the young person you have selected whenever you please. For your sake I will not have him arrested for attempted burglary. He is welcome to what he has taken, since he is likely to marry into the family. You may stay here tonight, and he can call for you in the morning."

John Linden closed the secretary and left the room, leaving Florence sobbing. The servants, too, retired, and Curtis was left alone with her.
"Florence," he said, "accept my hand, and I will reconcile my uncle to you. Say but the word, and

"I can never speak it, Curtis! I will take my uncle at his word. Dodger, call for me tomorrow at eight, and I will accept your friendly services in finding me a new home."
"I'll be on hand, miss. Good-night!"
"Be it so, obstinate girl!" said Curtis, angrily.
"The time will come when you will bitterly repent your mad decision."

### CHAPTER VII. FLORENCE LEAVES HOME.

Florence passed a sleepless night. It had come upon her so suddenly, this expulsion from the home of her childhood, that she could not fully realize it. She could not feel that she was taking her last look at the familiar room, and well-remembered dining-room. She was alone at the breakfast table, for the usual breakfast hour was halfpast eight, and she had appointed Dodger to cali

for her at eight.

"Is it true, Miss Florence, that you're going away?" asked Jane, as she waited upon Florence.

"Yes, Jane," answered Florence, sadly.

"It's a shame, so it is! I didn't think your uncle would be so hard-hearted."

"He is disappointed because I won't marry my cousin Curtis."

"I don't blame you for it, miss. I never liked Mr. Waring. He isn't half good enough for you."

"I don't blame you for it, miss. I never liked Mr. Waring. He isn't half good enough for you."

"I don't blame you for it, miss. I never liked Mr. Waring. He isn't half good enough for you."

"I say nothing about that, Jane; but I will not marry a man I don't love."

"Nor would I, miss. Where are you going?"

"I don't know, "said Florence, despondently.

"But you can't walk about the streets."

"A trusty friend is going to call for me at eight o'clock; when he comes admit him."

"It is a young gentleman?"

"You wouldn't call him such. He is a boy, a poor boy; but I think he is a true friend. He says he will find me a comfortable room somewhere, where I can settle down and look for work."

"Are you going to work for a living, Miss Florence?" asked Jane, horrified.

"I must, Jane."

"It's a great shame—you, a lady born."

"No, I do not look upon it in that light. I shall be happier having my mind and hands occupied."

"Who, inss?"

"I's a great shame—you alady born."

"No, I do not look upon it in that light. I shall be happier having my mind and hands occupied."

"Who is he?"

"It's the boy I spoke of."

"Shure, he's got a quare name."

"Yes; but names don't count for much. It's the heart I think of, and this boy has a kind heart."

"Have you known him long?"

"I saw him yesterday for the first time."

"Is it the young fellow who was here last night?"

"Yes."

"He isn't fit company for the likes of you."

"You forget, Jane that I am no longer a rich

"Is it the young fellow who was here last night?"
"Yes."
"He isn't fit company for the likes of you."
"You forget, Jane that I am no longer a rich
young lady. I am poorer even than you. This
Dodger is kind, and I feel that I can trust him."
"If you are poor, Miss Florence," said Jane,
hesitating, would you mind borrowing some money
of me? I've got ten dollars upstairs in my trunk,
and I don't need it at all."
"Thank you. Jane," said Florence, gratefully. "I
thought I had but one friend. I find I have two—""
"Then you'll take the money? I'll go right up and
get it."
"No, not at present. I have twenty dollars in my

"Thank need it at all."
"Then need it at all."
"Then need it at all. If and I have two—"
"Then need the sum you so kindly offer it."
"No, not at present. I have twenty dollars in my purse, and it will last me till I can earn more."
"But, miss, twenty dollars will soon go," said Jane disappointed.
"If I find that I need the sum you so kindly offer me, I will let you know, I promise that."
"Thank you, miss."
At this point the bell rung from above.
"It's from Mr. Curtis's room," said Jane.
"Go and see what he wants."
Jane returned with a note in her hand.
"Mr. Curtis asked me if you were still here," she explained, "and when I told him you were he asked me to give you this."
Florence—Now that you have had time to think over your plan of leaving your old home, I hope you have come to see how foolish it is. Reflect that, if carried out, a life of poverty and squalid wretchedness amid homely and uncongenial surroundings awaits you; while, as my wife, you will live a life of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of the state of luxury and high social positions of luxury and luxury and high social positions of luxury and luxury and high

"I don't care to marry anyone, Jane. I don't think I shall ever marry."

"It's all very well to say that, Miss Florence, Lots of girls say so, but they change their mind. I don't mean to live out always myself."

"Is there any vonny man you are interested in?"

'Is there any young man you are interested in?" Jane

"Is there any young man you are interested in?" Jane?"

"Maybe there is, and maybe there isn't, Miss Florence. If I ever do get married, I'll invite you to the wedding."

"And I'll promise to come if I can. But I hear the bell. I think my friend Dodger has come."

"Shall I ask him in, miss?"

"No. Tell him I will be ready at once."

"She went out into the hall, and when the door was opened the visitor proved to be Dodger. He had improved his appearance so far as his limited means would allow. His hands and face were thoroughly clean; he had bought a new collar and necktie; his shoes were polished, and despite his shabby suit, he looked quite respectable. Getting a full view of him, Florence saw that his face was frank and handsome, his eyes bright and his teeth like pearls.

"Shure he's a great deal better lookin," then May

frank and handsome, his eyes bright and his teeth like pearls.

"Shure he's a great deal better lookin' than Mr. Curtis," whispered Jane. "Here, Mr. Dodger, take Miss Florence's valise, and mind you takes good care of her."

"I will," answered Dodger, heartily. "Come, Miss Florence, if you don't mind walking over to Fourth avenue, we'll take the horse cars."

So, under strange guidance, Florence Linden left her luxurious home, knowing not what awaited her. What haven of refuge she might find she knew not. She, like Dodger, was adrift in New York. The balance of Part Ist of "Adrift in New York" is continued

This story is complete in

New York" is continued

This story is complete in two parts. Anyone securing and sending to us two new six months' subscriptions, with 20c. to pay for same, will receive this complete story in two volumes. The balance of this 8 chapter story is far more interesting and full of exciting events and situations than the first chapters even indicate, and this easy manner of securing the complete story will not be again presented.



WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

### SOME GOOD ANNUALS.



SOME GOOD ANNUALS.

HE busy woman who has only a limited amount of time to devote to the care of the flower-garden, wants some thin in which will afford the largest possible returns for the smallest outlay of labor. Among the flowers which will do this the following deserve Marigolds, Zinnias, Balsams, Scabiosa, Nasturtiums and Morning Giories. All are good. All will grow well in almost any kind of garden soil. None of them require anything but the most ordinary care. Have the soil in which their seed is sowed fine and mellow. Cover it lightly and press the covering down with a smooth board to make the soil firm enough to retain moisture until germination takes place, and the roots of the seedlings can reach down into the ground after nutriment. As soon as the plants are large enough to enable you to tell the difference between them and weeds, go over the beds and clean them out, and make it a point, from that time on, during the remainder of the season, to never allow a weed to more than show its head before you wage warfare on it. You cannot grow good flowers and weeds in the same beds. The weeds will take the lion's share of everything if you allow them to do so. All of the plants named, with the exception of the Aster, will begin to bloom by the middle or last of June, and by midsummer they will be in their prime. To keep them producing flowers, cut off the old blossoms as soon as they fade. If this is not done they will form seed, and if you allow them to do this the energies of the plant will be thrown into the work, and thereafter flowers will be few and far between with most of them.

I discover that I have omitted two of the most desirable kinds—Phlox and Petunias. These deserve a place in every garden. They are wonderfully profuse bloomers, and, if prevented from seeding they will bloom until frost comes.



### A PRETTY CIRCULAR BED.

Not ail the pretty beds are to be found on the grounds of wealthy people, or among the professional gardeners. One of the loveliest combinations of color I have ever seen was made by using three colors of Phlox, rose-color, pure white, and pale yellow. In the center of the bed—which was circular, and about eight feet across—a Rose Geranium, which had grown to be too large for the window, was planted. About it was a row of rose-colored Phlox, then one of pale yellow, then another of rose-color, and the bed was edged with the pure white variety. The harmony of color, from the green of the Rose Geranium down was very pleasing. The only extma care demanded by such a bed is that of going over the rows two or three times a week, and trimming off the branches of each color which seem inclined to reach over the line into the neighboring color. This can be easily done with clippers or shears, and it is necessary that it should be done if you want the color in each row to show solidly, and without a ragged edge. Allow the



CUSHION PORTULACCA

plants of different color to blend with each other and the effect aimed at is lost after a little. Shear each kind back sharply to the limit assigned it, and do this often enough to keep each color entirely by itself.

### A FLORAL SALAMANDAR.

A FLORAL SALAMANDAR.

If there is a hot, sunshiny place in your garden where nothing likes to grow because of the too intense heat which characterizes the place, try the Portulacca there. This little low-growing, half-creeping flower will stand more heat than anything else I know of in the list of the annuals. It seems to take an intense delight in the hottest sunshine, and day after day it will unfold its brilliant flowers in wonderful profusion, and make the spot where it grows one of the gayest in the garden. It comes in all shades of red, rose, crimson, yellow, and pure white. Of late years the florists have succeeded in producing double flowers which are quite like miniature roses. These are much finer than the single varieties. About twenty per cent. of the plants from an ordinary package of seed will produce double flowers, as a general thing. This plant is an excellent one for low beds, near the path, or close to the house, because of its low, spreading habit.

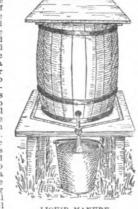


PANSIES.

Every woman who loves flowers will want some of these in her garden. But she will be quite likely to be disappointed with them during the summer, as they will give but few flowers as a general thing, and these not at all like the large and briliantly colored blossoms she had been led to expect from the description in the catalogues. The fact is the Pansy is not a good summer bloomer. It is not a good summer bloomer.

spring-sown plants are at their best. Therefore, during the hot weather of July and August do not allow your plants to bloom. Hold them in reserve for a season that suits them better, by picking off every bud that appears. About the first of August go over all the plants and cut back each branch at least two-thirds its length. This will cause the plants to produce new branches, and by the first of September they will have renewed themselves to such an extent that you have a lot of strong, vigorous plants in excellent condition for doing good work during the rest of the fall. They should be fertilized well along about the first of September, by digging in old rotted manure from the cow yard about each plant. Or, if you prefer, a liquid manure can be used instead. Pansies for early spring flowering must be grown from seedlings started the preceding fall, or from plants procured from florists who get them under way very early in the season.

### LIQUID MANURE.



the preceding fall, or from plants procured from florists who get them under way very early in the season.

LIQUID MANURE.

The woman who lives on a small country place or farm has many advantages over the woman who lives in village or city, in the way of flower-growing. One of these advantages is the facility with which she can perpare fertilizers for her flowers. An ideal fertilizer can be made by filling an old barrel with cow-manure, and leaching it. Pound the manure down well, when it is put in the barrel. Before doing this, make a small hole at the front part of the bottom of the barrel, for the liquid to r u n off through the give it a firm support, and cut a little channel in it from each side of the barrel to a point at the edge, for the manure-water to runin. This concentrates it, and makes it an easy matter to catch it in a pail slipped under the board up on which the barrel stands. Without the e se grooves or channels in the bottom-board the liquid is likely to run all over it, and a good deal may be lost. After pounding down the material with which the barrel stands. Without the barrel showly for a time. This is to allow the application to soak through the entire mass of manure before leaching begins. As soon as it appears to be well wet through, apply more, and in a short time you will see a dark brown fluid escaping at the opening in the bottom of the barrel. Then put on water liberally. Liquid manure should be about the color of weak table tea, when applied to plants. Never use it when dark colored, as it is too strong, in that condition. Dilute it until you have it of the right color, than apply liberally to each plant that requires it. It will be readily assimilated by the plants, and they will soon take on a rich green color, and make vigorous growth. This is the kind of liquid manure to use on house plants if you want a strong and healthy growth, and large, fine flowers from them. But be careful in the use of it on potplants in the open ground it can be used more freely without any risk of i

### A NOTE TO MY READERS.

A NOTE TO MY READERS.

It is the intention of the publisher to have this department practical and useful in all ways. It will deal with the matter of gardening, both out and indoors, in a way calculated to be helpful to the woman who can have but a small garden, or a few pot-plants. In order to make it of the greatest possible benefit to these women who love flowers quite as well as those do who have a great deal of time to devote to their culture, the editor of the department will undertake to answer all questions they may ask, to the best of his ability. If there is anything you want to find out about flowers, tell me what it is, and perhaps I can furnish you with the desired information. Any way, I will do my best to do so, and as your questions will be answered through these columns they will be of interest to all "Comfort" readers. Address Eben E. Rexford, "Comfort" Questions, Shocton, Wis.

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CHAPTER I.

CHAPTER I.

On a summer morning in the early period of the Revolution, the family of Mr. Edward Elsworth, consisting of four persons, were assembled at the breakfast meal. Opposite, a little withdrawn from the table, sat Mr. Elsworth, with an open letter spread upon his knee.

Mr. Elsworth was a retired merchant, who, failing in London, had come to America with his family of two daughters and a sister.

The two daughters were Rose and Kate.
Rose is my heroine. She was young and beautiful, wise and witty too, as I shall prove to you. Kate was a little, playful, mischievous, bewitching creature with dancing eyes and the merriest laugh in the world.

One member of the family was absent—Lieut. Harry Elsworth, the oldest child, a graduate of Oxford, and a promising young officer in the king's service.

Mr. Edward Elsworth was courtly, polished, punctilious, fastidious and a thorough royalist.

in the king's service.

Mr. Edward Elsworth was courtly, polished, punctilious, fastidious and a thorough royalist. His manners were elaborate, his costume careful and scrupulously exact. The society of his family supplied his social wants; and as his neighbors were nearly all confessedly uncultivated, he very rarely exchanged courtesies with them. Thus withdrawn from the noisy highways of the world, the Revolution broke upon him like a thunderclap. He could neither uncarstand it, nor appreciate it. A sound churchman, and full of chivalrous loyalty, he looked upon the Revolution with uncompromising bitterness and hostility.

"Very extraordinary news!" said Mr. Elsworth, taking up the letter from his knee for the tenth time.

Everybody was on the alert, strange rumors were rife, and anything like authentic intelligence, in times of so much emotion and trouble, was eagerly welcomed.

"There has been a battle."

"Good gracious!" broke simultaneously from three pairs of lips.

"On Long Island."

"Is it possible!" replied Miss Sarah Elsworth, this time having it all to herself.

Mr. Elsworth read—Washington had been defeated—had evacuated the city—was retiring northward.

defeated-had evacuated the city-was retiring

northward.
"I feel," said he, "that our situation is becoming here unsafe. We are continually exposed to the assaults of marauders. It would It would be wiser in the present aspect of affairs, for us to seek a securer residence in New York, now so fortunately in possession of Sir William

Miss Elsworth hastened to sanction the pro-

posal.

"I should prefer remaining here," said Rose.

"Is it safe, Rose?" said Mr. Elsworth.

"Yes," was the reply; "quite safe, for we neutralize each other. Your loyalty will secure you with the tories, and my whiggism will protect us with the other faction."

"Your whiggism, Rose! You shock me by your avowal of principles so infamous. And your brother, too, an officer of the king."

"The more need of my being a whig, or else the roof might be burned over our heads."

"I don't think there's much danger of that," broke in Kate, with a look of demure mischief; "if Mr. Armstrong is here to protect us."

"Mr. Armstrong!" said Mr. Elsworth, turning to Kate inquiringly.

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"Oh, yes, papa," said Kate, refusing to be silenced by Rose's significent look; "he's got to be a captain."

"Not a rebel, Ltrust."

"Not a rebel, 1-trust."
"Not a traitor, I thank Heaven!" said Rose
with a flushed cheek.
"You confound terms strangely," remarked
her father; "a traitor is one false to his king,"
"False to his country—I read it. A king is a
creature of today—your country a thing of im.
mortality."

"False to his country—I read it. A king is a creature of today—your country a thing of immortality."

"Then, sir, serve the Stuarts. How came the house of Hanover upon the throne?"

Mr. Elsworth looked confused and was silent.
"You see, sir," said Rose, "that if your zealous loyalists could shift off James, we, with less belief in the divine rights of kings, can shift off George."

At this moment there was a knock at the door—presently a step in the hall, and then the entrance of a rather singular looking personage, who was immediately addressed by the whole group as Mr. Metcalf.
"Have you very late news of the war, Mr. Metcalf?" inquired Mr. Elsworth, after the visitor had accepted the seat offered him.
"News—plenty of it, and mad. The country is depopulated. There isn't a youth with the first hope of a beard upon his chin, who hasn't gone with young Armstrong to join the army."
"Young Armstrong?"

"To be sure, sir. He's turned out a fiery whole for all. and a very table earlier to be the weard of the real and a very table earlier to be the seat of the real.

"Young Armstrong?"

"To be sure, sir. He's turned out a fier rebel after all—and a veritable captain to boot."

"Why, what do you mean, Mr. Metcalf?
What does he mean, Rose?"

"Walter, father, has gone to join Washington—and he is a captain by virtue of some service rendered Congress."

"Heaven bless me!" said Mr. Elsworth, rising, and beginning to walk the floor in agitation, "this is very sad. A promising youth to be led astray! Dear me, dear me! Rose, I am very sorry to say that this is certainly your fault. You have filled him with your wild, radical, and absurd heroic rhapsodies. You have made him disloyal to his king. You have radical, and absurd heroic rhapsodies. You have made him disloyal to his king. You have put a dagger in his hand to stab at the heart of his country. Alas! I see what the end will be—disgrace and death, ignominy and the gallows."

Rose made no reply to this, but walked to

disgrace and death, ignominy and the gallows."

Rose made no reply to this, but walked to the window.

Walter Armstrong and his mother were the only neighbors with whom Mr. Elsworth's family had established any familiar acquaintance. Between Harry Elsworth and Walter Armstrong a close friendship had sprung up, which was the first means of introducing Walter into Mr. Elsworth's family. Intelligent and cultivated much above his neighbors, generous, frank, and abounding with genial and hearty humor, he soon became everybody's favorite, and very naturally between Rose and him, the idle little god, which plays such antics with us all, set mischief.

But the war came, and suddenly a gulf reled between Walter and his friends. Walter's sympathies from the first were warmly enlisted in favor of the whigs, but he trembled at the thought that such an avowal would but too surely wreck all his hope of Rose Elsworth's love. He had not courage to make that avowal, and, therefore, cherished his principles in secret. His inactivity and apparent neutrality exposed him to the taunts of the villagers. High-souled and fiery, this was more than be could bear. He planned and executed a brilliant exploit, which gained him an audience with Washington, and an offer of whatever reward he would accept. He begged for a commission. It was granted. He flew back to his native place, and gathered together as speedily as possible a rough, uncouth, but true-hearted company of followers.

It was now necessary to reveal his principles to Rose. To his delight and astonishment, he discovered that she was at heart thoroughly whig, and had watched his period of inaction with pain. High-spirited and heroic, these were her words:

'I should be happier, Walter, with the consciousness of your duty done, even if the consequence were your untimely death, than to see you live covered with many years and no honors.''

Mr. Elsworth was sincerely attached to Walter, and the news of what he considered his de-

Mr. Elsworth was sincerely attached to Walter, and the news of what he considered his de-(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)

CINNAMON VINES.



ENTRANCINGLY, FRAGRANT Grows in Shade or Sun-Wet or Dry. No Insects Ever Trouble—No Winter Harms. Once Planted Will Grow a Lifetime. Beautiful Leaves, Dainty Flowers, Exquisite Perfume.

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with orders.

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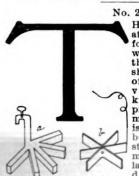






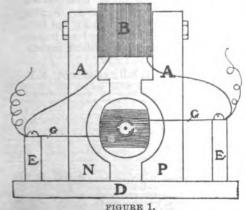
### Practical Electricity.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY H. EDWARD SWIFT.



HE last paper left off at a point where we found if a coil of wire was involved between the poles of a horse shoe magnet a current of electricity was de-velope d. It is a known fact that every piece of iron possesses

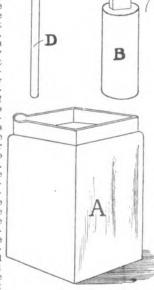
about 110 volts, if a larger plant 220 volts is about 110 volts, if a larger plant 220 volts is devel oped and strengthened. A piece of soft iron, either round, square or oblong in section is wound with many turns of insulated copper wire, in such a manner that were an electrical current sent along the wire, the iron would be strongly magnetized, north at one extremity and south at the other. To the ends of this magnet is a hout 120 volts and a volt at a line with the spindle on which is tates and are fastened down currents are sure we shall find that the zinc is at once acted upon by the acid being rapidly corroded and of bubbles of gold the voltage of the same time a quantity of bubbles of gold the voltage of the v at C, Fig. 1. Two or more ends are brought out at a line with the spindle on which it rotates and are fastened down to two or more curved sections of a brass cylinder placed round the circumference and insulated from the spin-dle. Two flat metallic springs connected to binding screws which form the tunnels of the machine E E, Fig. 1, serve to collect the elec-tricity started by the rotation of the cylinder



C within the field magnets A A, Fig. 1. This cylinder is called the armature.

Revolving the armature between two poles of a magnet produces a current of electricity in the armature and the current passing through the wire to the segments or sections shown in the center of the cylinder C, passes through the branches and along the wire of the magnet B, making it powerfully magnetic. This in turn acts on the armature in motion until the limit of electrical production for each individual machine is reached. The current is then directed to the outside or working current to be used as required. High tension currents are used for short distances. The usual current show and the jar filled with water. The wire connected with the copper at the bottom and the wire attached to the visual current for isolated plants, for factories, ships, etc., is about 110 volts, if a larger plant 220 volts is used.

a development of heat and electricity. If now we insert anwe insert another strip of carbon no change is ap-parent unless we allow the upper or lower ends of the two Then we notice that the bub-bles cease ris-ing from the zinc but are found on the copper or car-bon. This is the form of a sim-ple battery, and is represented in common use by the crowfoot



M. SMYTH CO. 150-166 and 285-289 W. CHICAGO WANT.

circuit properly
arranged, is
ready for work.
This is a single fluid battery. Another single
fluid battery commonly used for house work
because of its simplicity is the Lielauch cell.
This consists of the Jar A the propus cup B This consists of the Jar A, the porous cup B and the zinc rod C, all shown in Fig 3. Both the zinc and the porous cup in which is the carbon plate and crumbled carbon and Mang-anese sealed in the cup with pitch or cement, are put in the jar or cell, and a solution of ammonium chloride or sal ammoniac is poured in. monium chloride or sal ammoniac is poured in. Chemical action only takes place in this battery when the circuit is closed; that is, when the wires connected with the zinc and carbon are connected. This battery is very useful for what is called open circuit work, or when the circuit is only used occasionally. If the circuit is closed or short circuited for any length of time this battery loses its strength and will need to be replaced.

need to be recharged. Still another battery is used for toy work, medical batteries and any work requiring a sharp, strong current for a short time. This is composed of the cell A, Fig. 3, the porous cup B, Fig. 3, and the carbon and zinc, C and D. Place the porous cup in the jar with the zinc cylinder on the outside and the carbon plate on the inside. On the outside, or surrounding the the inside. On the outside, or surrounding the zinc, put a solution of one part sulphuric acid and ten parts water. Be careful in making the mixture to pour the acid into the water slowly in a small stream to prevent disturbance by chemical action. In the porous cup strong nitric acid or a solution of bichromate of potche can be put and the better is complete. ash can be put and the battery is complete. This battery must not be used but a short time without rest and the time must always be withdrawn after using to prevent further chemical. battery. This is composed of three parts, the cell or jar of glass about 8 inches deep and 5 inches across A in Fig. 3, the zinc A in initial and the copper B in initial. The shape of these two elements shows the origin

when inserting them in the jar that they do not remain in contact. For a solution use salt and water as strong as can be made. This produces a very weak current but several cells will answer for bell ringing if nothing better can be had. An electric current can be generated by putting in the ground a number of feet apart a large sheet of zinc for one pole and a large sheet of copper for the other. When the wires are connected the current will deflect the needle of an ordinary pocket compass.

wires are connected the current will denect the needle of an ordinary pocket compass.

There are many forms of battery but all are built on the same general principle. Certain combinations of chemicals in connection with the zinc and carbon commonly used, will make a stronger and more efficient battery than this. These are sold under various names, but when it comes to steady persistent work nothing will stand up to the old crowfoot single solution battery so extensively used in telegraph work. This for motors is especially good,— the only care required is to use them enough so they will not get foul and allow the solution to crystal. not get foul, and allow the solution to crystalize.

### Knowledge is Wealth.

The following questions are propounded to Comfort readers, and they can if they will, make a pretty penny by answering them. To any one answering them all \$1.00 will be paid; 75 cents to those answering the next largest number and 50 cents to the third. Each competitor must secure a new trial six months, subscriber and must enclose to cents for this subscriber and must enclose to cents. new six months' subscription to Comfort. list of correct answers will be published next month. All answers must be in before the 25th of the month. 1.—What is the oldest church in the United

How many words are there in the Old

Testament?

3. Who were the Seven Champions of Christendom?

4. What does the word "Demijohn" come

4. What does the word "Delinjohn" come from?

5—When was Cuba discovered, and by whom?

6—How did the dollar mark (§) originate?

7—Who first called the U.S. Flag the "Star Spangled Banner," and when?

8—Who was the "Citizen King?"

9.—What is the derivation of the word Honey Moon''? 10.—What Secretaries of State afterwards be-

ame Presidents of the U. S.? Remember to enclose ten cents for each six

months' subscription with your replies to insure consideration. Write name and address on same slip containing your answers. Address, Questions, Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

goes into the gaseous form, the chief prod-ucts being water, carbonic acid gas and ammonia. The solid ash that remains consists mainly of charcoal, lime and phosphate of lime. The charcoal is that part of the carbon of the body which has not been expelled in combination with oxygen as car-

N cremation the greater part of the body

### A Girl's Wit.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

fection, was a severe blow to him. In his judgment it was the greatest misfortune that could

In his daughter's, it was the greatest glory. Miss Elsworth, perceiving Rose's unpleasant position by this discussion, attempted to direct the conversation into another channel.

"Mr. Metcalf," said she, "how are your little charges?"

The gentleman was the village teacher.

"Caught the spirit of rebellion, marm, and as untractable as bulls. Bless you, there isn't a lad over fourteen who hasn't abandoned his horn-book and gone off with Armstrong. And as for the girls they are greater rebels than the boys. What do you think, marm? The other day they came marching in procession, and demanded to know on what side I was. I said 'God save the King,' whereupon they all fell upon me like a swarm of bees, armed with a thousand pins, and so pinched and pricked and pulled me so there wasn't a square inch of my skin that wasn't as full of holes as a tenyear-old pin-cushion. And I do believe they never would have stopped if I hadn't cried, 'Huzza for Washington!'"

Mr. Elsworth smiled in spite of himself, and

Mr. Elsworth smiled in spite of himself, and the joyous Kate burst into loud laughter.
"I hope, sir," said Elsworth; "that you will not be compelled to follow the example of your

not be compelled to follow the example of your scholars, and turn soldier."
"Never a bit, sir!" Mr. Metcalf was an Irishman, with only an occasional touch of the brogue. "I content myself with teaching the young idea how to shoot, without indulging in such dangerous practices myself."

Rose managed to escape from the room. She saw very well that storm and contention were to shatter the peace of the household—that between her father and herself were to arise difference, opposition, and perhaps, estrangement.

ference, opposition, and perhaps, estrangement. She had sworn to love Walter Armstrong. Her heart would keep that oath to any sacrifice, and to any extremity.

Profoundly absorbed, she was suddenly startled by a voice at her elbow. It was Mr.

"I beg your pardon, Miss Elsworth," said he, but I have a secret word for you." "For me? Sir?"

From young Armstrong, marm," and he placed in her hand a folded bit of paper. Rose opened it and read:

opened It and read:
"Dear Rose: I shall be near you soon on a secret mission. Can we not meet? I shall watch for you near the old walk—the one where we last met and parted! But do not be surprised if I take you unawares in some other place—even at midnight. Mr. Metcalf is my friend. You may trust him. "WALTER."

"I am glad of this, Mr. Metcalf," said Rose. I shall like you all the better for being Mr. Armstrong's friend." "Oh, thank you, marm."

"Oh, thank you, marm."
"I shall know where to find you when I have any message to send."
"At the sign of the birch, marm. Whenever you hear a score of throats shrieking all together at the top of the scale you will know at once that that's the Babel where I preside," and he backed himself off the piazza upon the law.

He had been gone only a few minutes, when Kate came running up, exclaiming:
"Papa would like to see you, Rose, in the library"

"I saw him enter."

### CHAPTER II.

Rose found her father in the library, awaiting her approach. She went over to him, and seated herself on a low stool.

"You sent for me, sir. I think I know what you are going to say."
"In that case, Rose, I hope that you have come here prepared to yield obedience."
"Impose no commands on me, sir, I beseech you. You yourself must admit that my obedience to you has always been rendered cheeryou. You yourself must admit that my obedi-ence to you has always been rendered cheer-fully and to the letter. I could wish that it should always be so. But there is one matter on which I cannot prove false to my judgment, my heart, or to that consciousness of duty within me."

Rose, answer me plainly, are you betrothed to Walter Armstrong?"

"And now with the stain of dishonor and

"And now with the stain of dishonor and crime that he has brought upon himself—"
"Father, let me interrupt you. The terms you are bestowing upon Walter Armstrong are those which he does not deserve, and such as I am not willing to hear. You must have observed, sir, the attachment that was growing up between us. You sanctioned it. You made Walter your friend, and you admitted him to your family circle because you saw that he was good, noble and true. You even looked forward with pleasure to the consummation of our union. Is it right, therefore, sir, because Walter, as by every instinct and sense of honor he was compelled to do, has come forth a champion of his country in this great struggle; is it right, I say, to turn from him, and so

he was compelled to do, has come forth a champion of his country in this great struggle; is it right, I say, to turn from him, and so freely brand him with dishonor?"

"It is dishonorable, Rose, to be a rebel—it is a mighty crime. Wrongs against individuals are circumscribed in their effects, but wrongs against your country becomes an evil that extends its bane through centuries."

"I can understand, father, why you feel as you do. It is the most natural thing in the world for you to espouse the cause of your king. Your education, your long-treasured predudices, your sympathies—all point that way. And so with Harry, educated in England, and nurtured into a chrivalrous devotion to the king, every impulse of his heart prompts him to draw his sword on the royal side. But not so with Walter. As it is natural for you and Harry to sympathize with the king, so it is natural for Walter to follow these great spirits who are guiding their countrymen in their resistance against oppression. I wish, father, that you could look upon Walter's conduct in this light."

"This is waste of words," said Mr. Elsworth. "I did not send for you for an argument. Rose.

"This is waste of words," said Mr. Elsworth

"This is waste of words," said Mr. Elsworthe "I did not send for you for an argument, Rose. I cannot let my daughter marry a rebel."
"If I were a more child, father, you would be justified in exercising your authority. But I am a woman old enough to know my own heart—old enough not to be misled by mere fancy. I love Walter Armstrong, father. I have given a woman's promise to marry him—a woman's promise to marry him—a woman's promise which is free."
"Girl, I will not listen to you," replied Mr. Elsworth, rising quite excited. "I sent for you to express my disapprobation of your connection with Walter. My commands upon the matter are explicit. I forbid you to marry him." "Father!"

"Understand me, girl! I decline to continue the argument. My meaning is clear enough. Moreover," resumed he, "we shall leave this place and return to town. Here we are exposed to the marauding and brigandary attacks of your apostles of liberty. When the people come back to their senses we can return." He turned upon his heel, and abruptly left

the room Rose flung herself into a chair, and leaned

her face upon her hand. She was not surprised at the result of the interview. It was what she had expected and dreaded, but now that it had come, she experienced how inexpressibly bitter

was.
Rose's heart rebelled against the injustice of her father's decision with more bitterness and feeling, because the love between Walter and herself had been fostered by him—encouraged and smiled upon by him. He had fanned the flame, and now carnicionally sought to exflame, and now capriciously sought to extinguish it. But it blazed up beyond the power of his breath. It lived a thing of power and pride, of strength and courage, and could not be controlled.

Some hours later in the day, as she was seated alone in one of the lower rooms, a cloaked figure approached the window, and leaped into the room. It was Walter Armstrong, who tearing off his cloak, ran up to Rose with extended hands.

tended hands.
"Why, Walter," exclaimed Rose, as she received a warm salutation upon the cheek from Walter's lips, "I'm so very glad to see you. How you look. Brown as a nut, and so like a soldier!"
"With a soldier's appetite, Rose. I've neither attended to the production of the pro

ate nor drunk since midnight."
"Wait," said Rose, "I'll bring you refreshments myself. Ah, Walter, now you are my hero! I must hear all your adventures. But I'll be back directly."

I'll be back directly."
Rose soon returned with sandwiches and wine, and Walter fell to consuming them with a vast relish, while Rose drew up to his side. "Now, Walter," said Rose, when his appetite began to wane, "I must have a history of your doings; and you recollect you promised me, when next we met, to tell me all about that marvelous and secret adventure of yours, which tumbled you into a captaincy so suddenly. Shall I have it now?"
"If you wish it, certainly. You know, Rose.

which tumbled you into a captaincy so suddenly. Shall I have it now?"

"If you wish it, certainly. You know, Rose, how at first I concealed my whiggish principles from you, fearing the consequences of an avowal, but you do not know how in secret I fretted and raved at the weakness which kept me at your side. While in this state of mind an unexpected opportunity was afforded me of doing our cause a decided service. I seized upon it at once, determined to make amends for my past inactivity by a brilliant exploit, and if the loss of your hand was the consequence, to find what compensation I could for such a calamity in the fame attending the adventure. In brief, I resolved at once to come out boldly a rebel—and to signalize my advent by a bold and brilliant stroke. An English officer, high in rank, was encamped with his troop at a certain locality. The officer's headquarters were tain locality. The officer's headquarters were in a farmhouse, and his troop were in possession of the outhouses, and bivouacked in the meadows and fields. This officer I happened to know was peculiarly obnoxious to Washington. One day I proposed a plan to three or four whom I could trust, for his capture. My plan was acceded to, and we prepared to put it in execution. Choosing a dark night, we managed to get by the sentinels by crawling upon our stomachs through the tall grass of a meadow. This was very laborious and difficult. We then had to creep cautiously along a stone wall, and watch a chance to dart rapidly across a space of about a hundred yards to the deep shadow of a tain locality. The officer's headquarters were about a hundred yards to the deep shadow of a huge tree that stood directly by the house porch. There was a sentinel stationed at this point, whose walk extended about fifty feet to point, whose walk extended about fifty feet to and fro. It was when his back was towards us that we took the opportunity, one by one, of darting to the tree, where we huddled behind the trunk. At last, at a preconcerted signal, we sprang upon him, gagged him before he could cry out, and bound him hand and foot. Entrance to the house was easily gained—we went into the room of the sleeping officer, dragged him from his bed, compelled him to silence by the threatening look of our weapons, bore him off, made a rush between the sentinels, and notwithstanding they discharged their weapons at us, we mounted our steeds and scampered off before pursuit could be made. There's my story, Rose, in the rough. I must confess that I have a fondness for such hairbrained adventures, and—a secret in your ear, Rose—am bound on one now."

brained adventures, and—a secret in your ear, Rose—am bound on one now."
Scarcely had the captain ceased speaking, when Kate came hurrying into the room, out of breath, and incoherently exclaiming that a party of soldiers were approaching.
"Red or blue?" cried Walter.
"Bless me, Mr. Armstrong! You here? Why, I didn't see you. You'd better look out, sir, for they are red coats, and there's a big number of them too."
"I must vanish," said he, running to the window, and then instantly retreating. "Why, we're surrounded. To the north of the house, quick, Rose. That's near the wood. Perhaps I can reach it. My fellows are waiting for me a mile below."
They all hastened in the direction indicated.

They all hastened in the direction indicated,

They all hastened in the direction indicated, but to their dismay they were just in time to see a company of horse come sweeping around between them and the forest.

"What will you do?" said Rose.

"If you've a rat-hole in which you can crowd me, after dark, probably, I can steal away."

"Up stairs, then, quick," exclaimed Rose.
Up stairs they flew, and upon reaching the steep-peaked garret, crowded with broken furniture, and the usual accumulations of a household. Rose said:

"They will not suspect a concealed whig in

"They will not suspect a concealed whig in my father's house, so here I think you will be

"I wonder who they are—what command," said Walter. "Can we get a peep at them any

"Yes, down upon your knees, and you can reach those little lights."

Walter crawled to the little foot-high lights that were set in front beneath the cornice of the building, and by this means could survey the lawn and road beneath. He withdrew after

the lawn and road beneath. He withdrew after a moment's close scrutiny.

"Major Cleveland," said he.

"Cleveland," exclaimed Rose. "I know him. We met at a ball."

"The man of men," replied Walter, "who itches to get hold of my insignificant person."

"Lie close here," said Rose, "and I do not think there will be any danger. I must descend or my father will be searching for me. Come Kate," and they went out quietly and cautiously for fear of being overheard and seen. As they were descending the stairs they met a ser-

vant sent by their father in search of them, and with a summons for them to appear in the "A mac drawing-room.

### CHAPTER III.

With head uncovered Mr. Elsworth stood upon the wide piazza before his house, receiving Major Cleveland and officers. The command was a company of dragoons, who were drawn up on three sides of the house.
"My dear Major Cleveland," said Mr. Elsworth, "let me welcome you zealously to this abode."
"A great many thanks, my dear Elsworth."

"A great many thanks, my dear Elsworth," replied the Major, as he mounted the steps of the piazza.
"I am delighted," resumed he, "to meet so

true-hearted a loyalist. We pushed our march, sir, in order to partake of your hospitality."
"Will you enter the house, sir? The other

gentlemen, I presume, will soon join you."
Major Cleveland assented, and Mr. Elsworth led the way to the drawing-room.
Rose was already in the room when they entered. She rose as the gentleman entered, and Major Cleveland, whose gallantry to ladies was notorious, with many bows and more airs, saluted her saluted her.

"It gives me infinite pleasure, Miss Elsworth, to meet you once again, for the recollection of the occasions we have met previously, are bright spots in my memory. Permit me also, my dear madam, to express how delighted I am to find that time, who deals so inexorably with us, has been won to favor you."

"Oh, sir, I thank you," replied Rose.

"And how comes on the loyal cause," inquired Mr. Elsworth; "will it be long ere these rebels are taught their duty to their king?"

"Have no apprehensions, my dear Elsworth," replied the major; "another campaign will scatter them to the mountains, and a live rebel be so great a curiosity, that to cage one and exhibit him would make a showman's fortune."

"If he knew there was a caged one here now,"

"If he knew there was a caged one here now," thought Rose, "how the major would stare."
"But where are your companions? I must see why they have not followed you," said Mr.

"They are delayed for a moment with the troop. They will be with you presently. By the bye, Miss Elsworth, I believe that there are a couple of gentlemen without, who are old admirers of yours—Captain Arbald and Lieutenant Marvin."

"Old Major! you flatter my taste."

"Old, Major! you flatter my taste."
"Why, with beauty I thought the conquest
of the morning stale matter by night."
"Oh, sir, if staleness go to make their age,
they should be proverbed instead of Methuselah."
"They were fascinated with you. My more

They were fascinated with you. My word for it, they would die for you."
"So they once told me, but I courtesied, and replied that I should prefer a live rebel to even

two dead loyalists.' "They are noble gentlemen, Miss Elsworth. You must bear with me if I defend them. They are good soldiers, and fine noble-looking fel-

"For which I thank their tailer."
"And decidely witty," con

"And decidely witty," continued the major.
"Then they've been studying the almanac," cried Rose, who was giving the free rein to her humor; "when I saw them last they hadn't a grain, not even by scratching."
"Really, Mr. Elsworth," replied the major, who appeared heartily to enjoy Rose's thrusts, "your daughter has been schooling herself for a sharp tongue."
"That is her pride, sir. Her passes are but play."

play."
"I'll be sworn her heart is as true as her wit.

She is—"
"Rebel, sir, from top to toe!" broke in Rose,

"Rebel, sir, from top to toe!" broke in Rose, with almost vehement emphasis.

Major Cleveland stared, and Mr. Elsworth fidgetted nervously, but at this moment the door opened, and several officers were ushered in. Presentations and introductions followed, and Captain Arbald and Lieutenant Marvin came up to pay their respects to Rose.

"Gentleman," said she, "my best welcome. My father is proud to receive you."

"You do not know, gentleman," said the major, coming up, "what pleasant things Miss Elsworth has been saying about you. They would have quite delighted you, I'm sure."

They bowed, tried to say something peculiarly elegant—and failed.

"Gentlemen," said Major Cleveland (holding a glass of wine in his hand), "I hope you will all fill and honor the toast I am going to propose."

pose."
The gentlemen filled. The ladies stood up.
"The ladies! Speedy priests and rings!" said
the major, with a gallant bow.
"A doubtful compliment, Major Cleveland,"
said Rose, when the toast was drunk.
"Can you think so, Miss Elsworth? Marriage
would be a paradise for at least one happy
man."

man."
"Ah, sir, marriages, though called matches, are mostly but sad patchwork."
"I rejoice to hear you say so. Unmarried you are a star which all the world can worship."
"An old maid, sir! Of many evils that would be the worst. Old maids and old bachelors are only the odds and ends of humanity."
"The happiest wit, madame, I ever heard," exclaimed the major, evidently quite fascinated, going over to her side, and speaking in a low tone.

Excited by the danger of her lover, Rose was giving way to a feverish and unrestrained mirth—to a temperament like hers, the natural consequence of an attempt to conceal the inward fear and apprehension she was experienc-

"Really, Mr. Elsworth," said the major, "Really, Mr. Elsworth," said the major, "with your permission, I am urged to impose on your hospitality longer than I first intend-ed. There are charms here difficult to with-draw from. Have I your permission to post-pone our further march until tomorrow?"

Rose started, and for an instant evinced some little apprehension. little apprehension.

"I shall only be too proud, sir," said Mr. Elsworth, "to entertain the king's officers as long as they will consent to make use of my roof."

"And what, sir," said the major, seized with a sudden idea, if I should go further, and propose an extemporized ball. I do not forget that I first met your daughter at such an entertainment. These gentleman have so long encountered bullets and muskets, they are eager for an engagement, with bright smiles, and flashing engagement with bright smiles and flashing

"A mad idea," said Rose.
"A wild one, I confess," returned the major,
"but who would not pluck what flowers he
could in the midst of many harsh and stern
duties."

could in the midse of analysis duties."

"And moreover," said Mr. Elsworth, "it would be a suitable festivity in honor of our recent Long Island victory. I only hesitate, sir, because of the incompleteness of our preparations."

"We only ask a dance, sir, nothing else."

"I will order the horses to my carriage immediately," said Mr. Elsworth, "to dispatch in whatever direction you may decide."

mediately," said Mr. Elsworth, "to dispatch in whatever direction you may decide."

"Then, gentleman, to horse! Ho, for merriment! Hunt up the petticoats. You, Arbald and Marvin, are keen of scent—away with you!"

In an instant all was spirited preparation and activity. Miss Elsworth descended to the kitchen, and directly servants began running in every direction, with dusters, glasses, china, orders, counter-orders, and so forth; vast culinary machinery straightway became in operation; and the thousand and one things began to be done and undone, which house-keepers always find so necessary upon these occasions.

Rose flew to her own room, and locked herself in. What would become of Walter, and what ought to be done for Walter? In vain did she seek for a plan by which he might escape undetected from the house. Everything which suggested itself seemed too hazardous. At last, offer entertaining and rejecting a dozen dif-

suggested itself seemed too hazardous. At last, after entertaining and rejecting a dozen different schemes, she went out, and stole secretly up stairs to Walter's hiding-place.

She entered, and to her dismay found that he was not there. He had escaped, but how—and was he yet beyond danger? She hurried down again to her room and to the windows. Nothing was in sight. With an excitement of manner she vainly endeavored to control, she hurried to the lower floor, and upon entering the dining-room, to her astonishment found him there.

hurried to the lower floor, and upon entering the dining-room, to her astonishment found him there.

"Are you mad?" exclaimed Rose, "back to your hiding-place!"

"No, Rose, I shall not go."

"Hear me, Rose. After you concealed and left me, a few moments' reflection convinced me that I was doing a great wrong to your father in permitting myself to be concealed upon his premises. I am a proscribed man. I am what is called a spy. My concealment here compromises your father. If I were discovered, the consequences to him would be severe. I cannot consent to expose him to those consequences. I would rather openly deliver myself into Major Cleveland's hands."

"Foolish man! You are ruining all. Walter, for my sake go back again. This is a ridiculous and false sense of honor."

"No, Rose, I am resolved."

"Walter, I implore you. 'Tis death to remain here—"
Rose was standing with her back to the door.

Rose was standing with her back to the door, which in her confusion and surprise she had left wide open. Walter's face was turned to-wards it. In the midst of her impetuous remonstrance, Rose saw her lover give a sudden start at something over her shoulder. She

Major Cleveland was standing in the doorway looking at them

TO BE CONTINUED.





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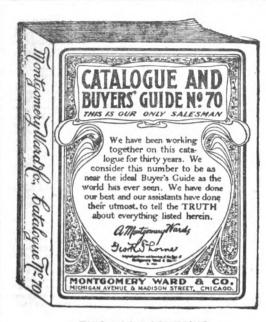
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and his face softened. and his face softened. At last he said, "I was intendin' to git ye out of sight of land and eat ye and I hain't sayin' but what I may yet. It depends. But I'll tell ye right now Seth I feel some pity for ye after all. We're both in the same kind of trouble—it's all been brought on us by wimmin." us by wimmin.

us by wimmin."

The skipper sighed. 'I don't never want to see any woman again," he declared. "I guess you and me better sail off some place where wimmen haint round messin' into things. It's the only way to be happy in this world." Seth's homesick fancy ran back to the Sims girl but he ventured nothing by way of remark.

For two days the skipper filled in all the spare time talking about the ingratitude and the faithlessness of women. Then he fell into the subject of the human heart needing sympathy. From this subject he worked around the grand the schooner and she reckined she would ketch by here. Oh, Skote, I'm awful sorry about it

pathy. From this subject be worked around to the Newport widow and fell to wondering audibly how she had been taking his long ab-

audibly how she had been taking his long absence.

"Perhaps that poor woman has been mournin' for me." he lamented. "I feel that she has been expecting me. It was a mis'able lie ye told me—that about she had been married"—and a flash of color came into the skipper's fishy eye. "Ev'ry time I think of how ye lied to me I want to brain ye." He choked back his rage and went on in surmises as to how the widow had been standing his absence and his fishy eye. "Ev'ry time I think of how ye lied to me I want to brain ye." He choked back his rage and went on in surmises as to how the widow had been standing his absence and his silence. All the time he kept straight course for Block island and the broad mouth of the Sound. Seth noted this but said no word. He was crushed. It was no surprise to the "crew" when the skipper put the head of the old schooner up Newport harbor and at sunset one evening Seth knocked the pin from the anchor head without protest. The Susan swung about near the moorings where she lay on that me. But ye kept me waitin' so long and—"

"I know I hain't so good-lookin' as some people," she said, "but I'm always goin' to be a good friend to ye, Skote, come what may. I don't blame ye a mite fer not waitin'. I'll help ye jest all I know how. There sha'n't be a bit when the skipper put the head of the old schooner up Newport harbor and at sunset one evening Seth knocked the pin from the anchor head without protest. The Susan swung about near the moorings where she lay on that me. near the moorings where she lay on that me-

It was a careful toilet that the skipper made,

It was a careful toilet that the skipper made, exhausting his scanty wardrobe and shaving himself so closely that his face shone like a glass bottle. Seth sat forward with head bowed. Nothing in the world contained interest for him now.

As the skipper was about to cast off the painter of the yawl he called to Seth. "I'm going ashore on special and private bus'ness and I leave you in charge of the schooner. I'd take you along with me and give you a few hours you along with me and give you a few hours on shore but I'm afraid ye might see some more scare-crows and shatter your nerves." With a sarcastic chuckle the captain of the Susan clambered down into the yawl and

Susan clambered down into the yawl and rowed away.
"I reckon I'll tend to my own errunts in this line from this time out," he mused.

There was no longer any especial need for Cap'n Skote Gregg to practice stealth in approaching the abode of the widow. Even if his cousin's wife did see him there was no word she could send back to Hobb's Harbor that could add to his troubles. July Ann was just as mad as she ever could be. Nevertheless when he came up the dark street he reconwhen he came up the dark street he reconnoitered carefully. It might be that the widow was married, after all. Cap'n Skote didn't see how a treasure of her sort could remain long now a treasure of her sort could remain long unattached. The night was moonless and the street lights were distant. He crept through the gate and stood a little while in the garden between his cousin's house and the widow's. She was at he me! He saw a shadow moving on the curtain. All at once her door opened and shut and the next moment a woman's form

piazza. It must be the widow going across to make a call! Nerving himself he stepped out and bowed to her. The woman let out a fright-

and bowed to her. The woman let out a fright-ened squawk and started to run. But he caught her by the arm.

"Mis' Belle," he stammered in half whispers.

"It's me—it's Cap'n Skote Gregg of Hobb's Harbor, Maine, and I'm come here to see ye about important matters. I want——"

The woman pushed back the bit of shawl that

where did you come from?" he stammered.
"July Ann made me come up here with her,"
she said faintly. "She's huntin' for ye to take
the schooner and she reckined she would ketch
ye here. Oh, Skote, I'm awful sorry about it
all, but it hain't none of my doin's, I want ye
to understand that. I don't want any man
that don't want me. And I do hope you and
July Ann will make it all up. I'll do all I can
to arrange it."

The skipper dug a broad toe into the sod. "I

The skipper dug a broad toe into the sod. "I hain't done right by ye, Sophy," he mumbled, "and I'm sorry things have turned out as they have. But ye kept me waitin' so long and-

Even while he held her hand there was a light step on the sward and the widow was upon them. Skote was about to pull his hand away but Belle clasped both the hands and held

away but Belle clasped both the hands and held them pressed together.

"You belong that way," she said. "You are meant for each other. Cap'n Gregg, forget your foolishness. Here is the woman who should be your wife. I know you never seriously thought of me-simple, foolish, vain me. We should be miserable together. Why, I couldn't think of living in the country. Now you must be married. Wait, I have a plan."

There was a long whispered conference there

married. Wait, I have a plan."

There was a long whispered conference there under the trees. At the end Cap'n Gregg said:
"Sophy, I never realized what a fool I was until now. If ye can forgive me I——"
She put her hand in his and kissed him on the cheek. "We'll never speak of it again," she said. "I always knew your heart was right."

An hour later Seth lounging sleepily by the

An hour later Seth, lounging sleepily by the

rail of the Susan, heard the dip of oars. schooner's yawl appeared under the stern. "Throw over the ladder." commanded the

"Throw over the ladder," commanded the well-known voice of the skipper.

When Seth saw the spread of petticoats on the stern seat of the boat, he gasped, "Cap. Gregg has eloped with the widow!" But it was the smiling face of Sophy that met his eyes when she clambered up. Behind her appeared the radiant visage of the skipper.

"Seth," he said, "let me make ye acquainted with Mis' Skote Gregg. We was married an hour ag before Mis' Belle Foster of Newport as witness and bridesmaid. No cards, no cake, and nobody's blame bus'ness."

and nobody's blame bus'ness. And when July Ann arrived home four days

At last he said, "I was | advanced toward him, approaching his cousin's | later Mr. and Mrs. Skote Gregg were nicely set-



had no offering.

With the hope of finding some wild flowers, he started across the fields toward Fisher's woods, but for some reason (perhaps the tears in his eyes prevented him from seeing them) when he turned towards home an hour later he had only a few straggling blossoms which were fast wilting in his hot eager grasp. In front of Turner's store stood a half dozen

In front of Turner's store stood a half dozen of the school boys, and as he was hurrying by, one thoughtless fellow stepped out in front of him. "Hullo Joe, where have you been? After a button hole 'bokay sure as I'm alive. Come now divide with a fellow can't you? "Boys help yourselves," and before Joe could hinder, the few precious flowers were snatched from his hand and laughingly tossed among the group. Poor Joe! His face grew pale as he stood quite still for a minute, then bursting into tears he darted around the corner. "That was a shame Bob to tease him so," said Fred Evans, "but what a baby he is and all over a few miserable weeds," he added in a disgusted tone, "what did he want of them anyway?" "I bet I know what the matter is," chimed in

tone, "what did he want of them anyway.
"I bet I know what the matter is," chimed in
Henry Clark, "he's been after those flowers for
tomorrow. His mother died this year you
know and he thought the world of her."
They looked at each other in silence for a
minute. Thoughtless, but good-hearted boys

"Well, boys," said Bob Harris at last, "that was a mean thing to do. I don't know how you feel but I would like to make it up to him some way."

One Memorial Day Offering.

Written for comfort.

School was over for the day and with a sign of relief the Ferndale scholars filed out and quickly forming into merry groups started homeward. One shabily dressed little fellow however, hurried off by himself as thoughanxious to avoid his mates. "That queer Smith" was the way they usually spoke of him. He was extremely shy and sensitive, so after a few vain attempts to make friends, they simply let him alone. In his loneliness, he imagined they and strength so make friends, they simply let him alone. In his lonelines, he imagined they adepised him for his poverty, and a feeling of bitterness towards them had arisen in his heart.

Tonight he felt unusually sad. Every Decoration Day since he could remember, his mother had gone with him to the cemetery and to show the removal his heart.

But now there were two mounds on the hill-side, no mother to comfort him, no home but that of charity, and not a friend in the world he said bitterly to himself.

Tomorrow the little cemetery would blossom like a garden. Everybody would carry flowers for the graves of their loved ones, and he alone had no offering.

With the hooe of finding some wild flowers, when he sees them he'll know who did it and when he sees them he'll know who did it and when whe deen the who de the remetery ourselves" suggested one, "when he sees them he'll know who did it and when whe did from." "No," said another "wild flowers are mighty searce this year, and it's too late anyway to go after them. We haven't too late anyway to go after them. We haven't too late anyway to go after them in the cemetery out summer of a bouquet."

"No," said another "wild flowers are mighty search they say and it for."

"No," said another "wild flowers are mighty search the year, and it's too late anyway to go after them. We haven't too late anyway to go after them. We haven't too late anyway to go after them. We haven't too a twent the white the if."

"School Memorial Day land another "wild flowers and seer them he'll know w of an anchor and a cross rested on his father's and mother's graves. He had never seen anything so beautiful. Some one had made a mistake. Surely they were intended for Squire Jones' lot, the rich man of the village. Drawing still nearer he noticed a card half hidden

by the fragrant blossoms, and stooping down read,—"For Joe from the Ferndale boys."

He stood amazed for a minute and then as the meaning flashed into his mind, he threw himself on the ground beside them and cried as though his heart would break. Cried until the lump had gone from his threat and the the lump had gone from his throat, and the bitterness in his heart had given place to tenderness and gratitude at the kindly thought of

the boys.

It seemed as though he would never weary of gazing at them. He inhaled their perfume, touching them almost reverently again and again, and when he finally turned away there was a new happiness in his face, while the precious card hidden safely in his pocket, seemed to warm his heart and take from it its loneliness.

From that day he felt no more desolate and alone. Nothing could so conquer his shyness and open his heart toward his mates as this kindness, and as one good deed leads to another, so this act prompted the boys to further endeavors to show themselves friend-

And even more fragrant and sweet than the flowers, was the lasting friendship that sprang up between Joe Smith and the boys of Fern-



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Possibly after all the Man in the Moon may not be lonesome when he says, "Here's looking at you" every month. The latest investigations of science declare that contrary to previously expressed ideas the moon has snow, air and vegetation. Given these conditions life may exist there and the broad smile that the man in the moon gives us may be the collected geniality of all the inhabitants instead of a solitary smirk.

On May the seventeenth our special ambassador to Spain will congratulate young King Aiphonso on his coming of age. The Boy King is seventeen on that day and for the first time assumes nominal control of his kingdom. On May the twentieth the United States formally withdraws from Cuba. The King assumes authority that is lessened of some of its most troublesome responsibility by the loss of Cuba and the Philippines. Our minister may really congratulate Alphonso for the kindness that America has shown in ridding him of a part of

The successful struggle against adverse conditions always awakens interest. The life of ditions always awakens interest. The life of Booker Washington is necessarily of interest to all Americans as he is endeavoring to solve race problems that concern every one in America as the conditions exist here. For that reason his book "Up from Slavery" has been read by every thinking American. It is, however, more than a study of social economy, it is the record of a human soul and on that side it appeals to all humanity. This is proven by the fact that the book has been translated into French, German, Flemish and Spanish.

May with all its bloom and promise always May with all its bloom and promise always brings a touch of sadness with every recurrence of Decoration Day. With each passing year the parade of veterans grows pathetically smaller until it is really the living heroes rather than the dead ones that touch our hearts most strongly. The old veterans have lived to see the nation for whose unity they fought grow in power and influence as a result of their struggle for its national life. As they drop their flowers on the graves that lie all too thickly, Lincoln's words must sound in their ears, "These dead shall not have died in vain," for a new nation has arisen from the graves of those dead soldiers.



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Puzzle in the February number of COMFORT.

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S. H. Williams, Co. K. Soldiers' Home, Danville, Ill., \$10.00 cash prize for skillful work and knowledge.
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Mrs. Josiah Besemer, Besemer, N. Y., \$3.00 cash prize for skill and old age.
Marie E. Galceran, Sturgis, Miss., \$2.00 cash prize for youth.

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of him?" will be the questions asked until the final chapter is reached, as the story continues in strength and intensity to the end. fail to read from the opening installment which begins in "COMFORT" this month.

### THE BOY FROM SANTIAGO;

The Youthful Error, The True and the False, and Tom and I.

BY MARY J. HOLMES. Author of "Lena Rivers," "Tempest and Sunshine," etc.

The "Boy from Santiago" is a short novelette of a young lad who resented his father's continual fault-finding and enlisted in the army going to Cuba. It is full of tender touches of human nature and pathos that made the celebrated writer, Mary J. Holmes, for continuous and pathon that made the celebrated writer, Mary J. Holmes,

famous.

The "True and the False" is a strong story of pride and ambition and points a beautiful moral that crime must meet its just punishment and virtue its reward. This is a rare

treat of the year.
"Tom and I" is a simple, pure, love story written in the author's best vein. All will love

"Nora," the heroine.

"The Youthful Error" is the story of a young life and the consequences that follow wrongdoing. It will make a sensation.

### LIST OF \$1.00 AWARDS, PRESIDENTIAL PUZZLE.

PUZZLE.

Hugh Wagoner, Newberne, W. Va.; J. F. Hawthorne, Cram Hill, Vermont; Miss Olie L. Stinmel, Mica, Washington; Charles Wendling, 2824 Annunciation St., New Orleans, La.; A. C. Veach, Jr., Gravette, Ark.; Miss Adah Lovelace, Mexico, Mo.; Carrie M. Unverzagt, 416 Chislett Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.; Julia Jennings, Round Top, Wilson Co., Tenn.; Miss Ruby Cox, Toney Creek, S. C.; Frankie W. Dorsey, Hutchinson, Ky.; John W. White, Hamilton, Ala.; Mrs. James McElroy, Milford, Iowa; Charles F. Williams, Chumuckla, Fla.; Elvira G. McWilliams, Lavalle, Wis.; W. L. Dick, Pierceton, Indiana; S. Maude Richards, 28 Union St., Willimantic, Conn.; Frank W. Newhall, Box 57, South Braintree, Mass.; Miss Lela Mays, Durant, Miss.; H. S. English, care of S. Guckenheimer's Son, Savannah, Ga.; Miss Etta G. Barrickman, Merlin, Oreg.; Nora Russell, Leipsic, Delaware: Selina Hardesty, Anderson, Nev.; Lizzie Damascio, 3615 Bell St, Cheyenne, Wyo.; Bessie L. Barnes, Nethart, Mont.; Eunice Colburn, Bryant, So. Dak.; Ernest Eckler, Dover,

### Chats With Aunt Minerya.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

"I live away down South in Dixie. We have a delightful climate; grass stays green all winter and flowers never leave us. We have one thousand inhabitants. This is a great cotton market. We have some fine mineral springs four miles from here, and about ten miles from here, at Dumas is rich for several feet in depth, but beneath that is a blue marl. They can hardly dig wells on account of it. They have to dig through it for fifty or sixty feet. The water of these springs and wells petrifies everything that gets in them, such as birds chickens, snakes, or lizards. There are many beautifur rocks and shells with the print of fish, flowers and leaves on them. Your little friend,

NINA WALLACE, Ripley, Miss.
Elsie Smith of New Rochester, Ohio, wishes to become a member of our band of cousins, and sends a letter for publication. We shall be delighted to have you among us, Elsie, dear, but your article is compiled from other authors. Send me something which is really your own and I shall be very glad to use it.

Still another new cousin, this time from Wisconsin. Welcome, cousin Laura. We are very glad to greet you, and hope you will enjoy us as much as we shall you.

"Our farm is down in a valley with hills and mountains all around it.

greet you, and nope you will enjoy us as much as we shall you.

"Our farm is down in a valley with hills and mountains all around it. Hemlock and cedar, spruce and tamarack trees grow upon them, and the Kickapoo river runs through the valley. Near the bank of the river is a hill about two hundred feet high, which is almost as steep as a house-roof, and nothing to climb by but bushes. It is about one mile in length, and grows gradually narrower until for about six feet of its length it is only ten inches in width; then it grows wider again. It is called Mount Pisgar, and the narrow part has the name of Lover's Rescue because a young man once rescued there from the cave below, which was infested with rattlesnakes, the girl he afterwards married.

"Another of the wonders of this state is a gulch washed out by rains and floods. This canyon is eighty rods long by ten wide, and forty feet in depth.

eighty rods long by ten wide, and forty feet in depth.

"We are English, but I am American born. My father was in the Civil War, and is seventy-three years old, but says he would fight again for his country if they would take him."

LAURA HART. Ontario, Wis.

A little girl of thirteen years writes to me from Decatur, Ill., asking me a number of questions which she is not old enough to need to ask. Wait four or five years, dear, and then, if you think such questions need an answer I will do my best to meet the case. Until then I would be a simple school girl, wear my hair in one or two braids, and let the young men severely alone.

And now we must say goodby until the "Merry month of June.

Minn.; Clara A. Reese, Juniata, Nebr.; Mrs. D. M. Ward, 948 Armstrong Ave., Kansas City, Kans.; May Robbins, Troy, Ohio.; Miss K. J. Thompson, 108 James St., Newark, N. J.; Agnes M. Whirter, 602 East Chase St., Ballmore, Md.; Mrs. Laura Hoxle, Detroit, Maine; Eugene Peck, 301 California St., San Francisco, Calif.; Annie E. Gulick, Watkins, N. Y.; Mrs. L. L. Sams, Milford, Trass, Miss M. C. Elff, 605 N. 14th St., Quincy, Ill.; Mrs. A. A. Patterson, 739 W. 4th South St., Salt Lake City, Uab, Miss Theresa L. Mahoney, Winchester, N. H., Mrs. Susan E. Armitage, Lisbon, N. Dak; Herman C. Zimmerman, Drum Major, 7th Art. Corp. Band, Fort Adams, Susan E. Armitage, Lisbon, N. Orfolk, Va.; Mary A. R. I.; Mrs. Eugene Therrien, St. Ignaee, Mieh; Mamie Cooper, 614 Citizens Bank, Norfolk, Va.; Mary A. Thomas, Preston, Idaho; Mrs. Alma Fullbright, Big Ridge, N. C.

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Hereafter No Sample Copies of COMFORT will be issued except to those who desire them for subscription and club getting purposes. If you desire to continue reading any of the many interesting Stories and Departments contained in this issue, now is the time to subscribe while the very favorable offer printed on this page is before you, only 10c. for six months. Fill out subscription blank and send to-day.

### Our Colonial Story.

We substitute "A Girl's Wit" for "The Daughter of a Whig" announced in the April issue and we trust our readers will be pleased with this first installment, and also with some of the new features introduced this month. As above announced hereafter there will be no sample copies and all expiring subscriptions will be immediately discontinued. If you have any doubts about your own subscription being fully paid in advance you had better renew today so you will surely receive the next issue.

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stopped with this issue unless you at once send either 25c. to pay for "COMFORT" until October, 1903, or 10c. to extend your subscription six months.

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continue at the old price, unless you otherwise order. You get a six months' trial subscription for ten cents, and continue for 25c. a year if you like. If you do not like, you can stop it at any time. We feel that this offer will be fully appreciated by our many readers and if you are already a paid many readers and if you are already a paid up subscriber it would be well for you all to accept the same at once and have your subscription extended at the low price now Subscribers in arrears should all tely remit as "COMFORT" will be stopped the first month immediately remit hereafter be stop hereafter be stafter expiration.

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Name County Town

State





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EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publiontributors must without exception be reo Comfort, and every contribution must b
name and post-office address in full.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

EAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS: May, thou month of rosy beauty,
Month when pleasure is a duty,
Month of bees and month of flowers,
Month of blossom-laden bowers,
Month of little hands with daisies,
Lovers' love and poets' praises,
O thou merry month complete,
May, the very name is sweet."

There, now that we have paid our respects to the month, I want to talk about some changes in this department. We have been receiving letters for some time past from the north, south, east and west on interesting but varied subjects. So now west on interesting but varied subjects. So now for a little change and also that we may become better acquainted, I invite you one and all to write me more particularly of your home life, for it is true that, "the corner-stone of the Commonwealth is the hearthstone," and how important is the work of every woman even in that sphere of life which many are tempted to despise as too narrow for their energies. But even if a woman, be "never heard of half a mile from home," the purity and loftiness of her life and the devoted unselfishness will affect with immense power every member of the home circle, and the influences which sur-

Reopie living in the larger towns and cities enjoy hearing from those in remote sections. They want to know how they pass their time both a sto amusements and home duties. So if you, dear reader, live in a very small place don't be afraid to tell all the cousins about your life and the more favored ones in the larger places can encourage you by their experiences. Let your letters now be devoted entirely to an exchange of ideas, the perplexities which come up each day, or of anything of ageneral domestic nature, that pertains to the home from the washing of flannels to caring for the baby. The purpose of this department is to bring us all nearer together, let our relations be closer than ever before and may we become more familiar with each other's home surroundings.

Our first letter takes us away out to the north-western corner of our country.

"Both Washington and Oregon are great lumber states, vast quantities of lumber being annually exported from them. Much of this lumber is shipped to the east, to China, Japan, Australia and even to India. Millions of feet are also shipped to South America and to the Sandwich Islands, while California uses vast quantities of bridge timber and piles, which are largely employed in mense wharves which line the California coast.

"For several years past colossat timber rafts have been construction of railroad bridges and the immense wharves which line the California coast.

"For several years past colossat timber rafts have been constructed in the lower Columbia river and elsewhere along the coast. They are from five hundred to seven hundred feet in length, and are in the shape of a huge cigar. They are built in immense 'cradles,' and then firmly lashed and keyed together or by massive cable chains. After the colored youth of Austin, Texas. It is a bird colored wouth of Austin, Texas. It is a broad the construction of the state for the white every year, while all the elemoynary institutions of the state for the white every years, past colored. The blind, deaf and and the raft

to come de hidren from the cradle moid their after to make and more interested and the contents and senders. The home in the cradle moid their after to make a mean and senders. The contents are made and the contents and senders are also contented wife makes a discouraged merchant, farmer or day even into the business world and unappy and discontented wife makes a discouraged merchant, farmer or day even into the business world and the contents and increase a discouraged merchant, farmer or day even into the business world and the contents and increase and increase and the contents and increase an

factured from a discarded boot leg, and which he had attached to a leather belt which he wore around his waist.

"Racket reached the limbs of the tree and scrambled about in the dark finding nothing, then started down. During this proceeding old Cap. in order to be first at the expected coon, stood on his hind legs, resting his fore paws against a pine bush. Being quite a long dog his nose and eyes just protruded through the leaves at the top.

"Something was wrong with Racket's head for he lost his reckoning and came down faster than he thought. When about three feet from the ground he spied Cap's nose, and, still imagining himself some distance up, he thought that nose was the coon's, and that said coon had been in the top of the pine sapling instead of in the tree. So he pulled out the old horse-pistol and blazed away; then, starting to descend, to his surprise, he sat flat down on the earth. The boys, who had watched in silent amazement, stood staring at him, while old Cap, with many a yelp, made a bee line for home. The tip of Cap's nose was cut smooth off by the bullet; but it healed long before Racket head the last of 'his coon.'"

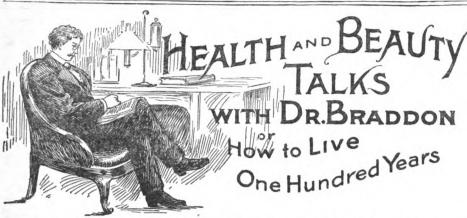
E. M. Paquin, Wiggs, Ark.

Here is a letter from a little ten year old cousin

Here is a letter from a little ten year old cousin

which seems to me so interesting and so well written that I am going to give it a place with the letters of the "grown-up" cousins.





O many inquiries are received by Comfort concerning the health of the family, that a column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be referred to physicians, not to us. Address The Family Doctor, Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

a woman ought to stop in whatever she is doing, and take slow leg movements. The movement This the way:

SEE ILLUSTRATION BELOW.

1. Rise on your toes, holding your hands on your hips, your fingers forward. Maine.

Manne.

Mrs. H. G. T., Anaconda.—An excellent fattener, and a food of especial benefit to consumptives, consists of a fresh egg in the juice of half a lemon, with pepper and salt to taste. To be taken at noon and before going to bed. It may be taken three times a day if necessary.

H. L., Rockdale, Ky.—A superior remedy for dysentery consists of one teaspoonful of common salt mixed with two tablespoonfuls of vinegar with a pint of hot water poured over them. A wineglass of this, cold, taken every half hour will be found quite efficacious. If the stomach is nauseated, a dose every hour will suffice. For a child a teaspoonful of salt and one of vinegar in a teacupful of water.

Henry H., Portsmouth, Ohio.—No better or simpler remedy for acidity of the stomach can be had than bicarbonate of soda (cooking soda.) Take about half a teaspoonful in half a glass of water after meals, and on going to bed at night. The old idea that soda in reasonable quantity is hurtful has been exploded.

John H. L., Spring Valley, Md.—An obstinate ul-cer may be greatly relieved, if not cured, by wash-ing it with sugar dissolved in a strong decoction of walnut leaves.

Mrs. J. H., Lakin, Kans.—If your physician has told you to use the medicine you mention, you must follow his advice. He knows more about the case than any outside person can possibly. If you have lost confidence in him, get another physician.

Daisy, Melrose, Ark.—Vinegar is not necessary in making a mustard plaster. Mix it with bread crumbs and water, or flour and water, and the strength will be reduced. Do not leave it on too long. A blister is to be avoided.

Mary H. K., Columbia, Tenn.—For a sprain put the white of an egg into a saucer, keep stirring it with a piece of alum about as large as a walnut until it becomes a thick jelly. Apply a portion of it on a piece of lint or a cloth large enough to cover the sprain, changing it for a fresh one as often as it feels warm or dry. Keep the limb in a horizontal position by placing it on a chair.

limb in a horizontal position by placing it on a chair.

Harriet, Cape Girardeau, Mo.—Asthma is not a disease that may be cured ordinarily except by a change of climatable conditions. It may be relieved by various remedies, however, and one that is recommended is composed of two ounces of the best honey and one ounce of castor oil mixed thoroughly. Dose a teaspoonful, night and morning.

Lawyer, Dover, Del.—Scurf in the head is not always the result of an actually diseased scalp. In fact it is oftener not so. A remedy that will cure five times in six may be prepared by putting a lump of fresh quicklime, the size of a walnut, into a pint of water and let it stand over night. Pour the water off clear from the sediment, add a quart of the best vinegar and wash the head with the mixture. Only wet the roots of the hair.

G. T.R., Cohoes, N.Y.—Your symptone and significate Pariotte Directive Directi

hair.

G. T. R., Cohoes, N. Y.—Yoursymptoms would indicate Bright's Disease, which, as you appear to think, is not always incurable. Consult a physician at once, and, above all things, do not be discouraged. You will complete your allotted time, unless you lose courage and give up.

Teacher, Frascati, Ala.—It your ear drums are not affected, and the slight deafness is caused by a deficient secretion of wax it may be remedied by the following: Mix half a drachm of oil of turpentine with two drachms of olive oil. Introduce two drops of this into each ear at bedtime.

Miss Nancy, Vicksburg, Miss.—Do not be alarmed

into each ear at bedtime.

Miss Nancy, Vicksburg, Miss.—Do not be alarmed about the violent form your "malaria" seems to have taken since you have gone where it is said to be free from malaria. Malaria is not a disease. There are malarial conditions of earth, air and the body. If you have been living in a malarial neighborhood until your system is impregnated with the poison, although you may not be actually sick, when you go to some place where there is no malaria, all the chances are that you will become sick, and have a pretty hard time for a longer or shorter period according to your recuperative power. It is the result of the system trying to rid itself of the burden accumulated elsewhere. Stay where you are, a change will be of no benefit now.

Book-keeper, Evanston, Ill.—A carbuncle is a

Book-keeper, Evanston, Ill.—A carbuncle is a much more serious affair than a boil, and you should consult physician. Carbuncles often continue for months despite the greatest care, and they not infrequently kill. That boil on the back of your neck which as you say "seems to have come to stay," is a visitor that the doctor should see at

once.

Mrs. K. L., Paris, Texas.—Unless you have a weak heart, or there is some other constitutional difficulty you need have no fear whatever about taking laughing-gas to have your teeth removed. The after effects pass away immediately, and there is no pain of pulling. It is foolish suffering to have a tooth pulled in the old way.

P. H. McN. Marsfeld, Ohio.—At the first symp.

tooth pulled in the old way.

P. H. McN, Mansfield, Ohio.—At the first symptom of a cold if you will take five grains of quinine or less, if you are sensitive to it, and repeat the dose in three hours, you will probably break it up. Quinine affects people differently, and while some cannot take it at all, others feel no bad effects, other than a slight buzzing in the ears, from doses of ten, fifteen, or twenty grains. It is of no avail after the cold has got a start.

Hiram H. Paradise Pa.—Doubt take a feet of the cold and the cold

after the cold has got a start.

Hiram H., Paradise, Pa.—Don't take a five grain blue mass pill as your grandfather did. The modern and better way is to take one grain, or perhaps two, in one tenth or one fifth grain pellets every hour. These small doses act much better on the liver and are productive of the best results. A teaspoonful of salts in a glass of hot water may be necessary the next morning before breakfast. In obstinate cases double the dose of salts.

Mrs. L. M.—writes for a system of exercise for

Mrs. L. M.—writes for a system of exercise for home use. There is so much attention now being given to gymnastics and physical culture, that we here illustrate a few simple beneficial movements. Take exercise and let it be such that the general circulation will be freer, the activity of the heart increased—such as massage and passive exercises, gentle vibrations of the chest, slow and regular percussion over the heart, rotary motions of the arms and legs. When her heart is beating too fast

SEE ILLUSTRATION BELOW.

1. Rise on your toes, holding your hands on your hips, your fingers forward.

2. Bend your knees outward and downward.

3. Rise on your toes again.
Repeat three times very slowly.
Another movement as good is shown in figure 1. Lean against a doorway and rotate both legs alternately, beginning with the ankle, then slowly letting the whole leg rotate in a small circle. As shown by figure 2, lie on a flat surface and make knee bendings, alternating right with left, very slowly and very thoroughly.

Again, stand erect, hands on the sides, heels together, toes turned out; raise your arms slowly outward, palms down, then upward, palms facing each other; then forward, arms perfectly parallel and downward, taking meantime a full, deep breath. This movement is shown in figures 3 and 4. One good exercise which a woman can take without any preparation for it is to stand heels together and raise her arms outward level with her shoulders, then slowly rotate them. She should bend the head backward, arch the chest well and take a long inspiration with each rotation, rising on her tiptoes when the arms are at the top of the circle. This is shown in figure 5.

### The Juvenile Essays.

The Winners of Prizes From the Various States in the First of the "Comfort" Essay Contests.

Notwithstanding the time was limited for responses to "Comfort's" first offer of prizes for essays on "George Washington," we received responses from our young readers in twenty-six states, although we are sorry prizes could not be awarded to writers in all reporting, because in those not recorded below, there was no competition, not more than one or two writers having sent in essays. Virginia, for instance.



in "Comfort" for them and we can only an-

in "Comfort" for them and we can only announce the winners' names and addresses.

We may say for the essays received that they averaged very well indeed for inexperienced writers, mistakes being few and the penmanship very creditable. The matter of the essays naturally showed much sameness, and it was apparent that not a few got their facts from the same source, and were not always careful to change the language of the book. One or two were in poetry, which was not as good as the were in poetry, which was not as good as the prose. Many whose penmanship and matter were good, were very careless and slovenly in their work and fairly stuffed their essays into the envelopes. Others wrote on both sides of the paper knowingly, and others did little more than copy a table of dates and events. We are particularly glad to commend the younger of our essayists, and little ones of eight and nine showed that they will be prize winners very soon.

showed that they will be prize winners very soon.

The following is a list of the winners, arranged by states and in the order of winning: California: Olive Dry, Redondo Beach; Benj. Philips, Seiad Valley; Irving McInnis, Vallejo; Mabel Nichols, Oakland. Illinois: Mamie Scully, Curtis; George Osborne, Tamaroa; Oscar Mounce, Salisbury; Thomas Crump, Bridgeport. Indiana: Josie B. L. Conrad, Linden; Leoto Moore, Elnora; Bertha Blair, Lexington; Ralph C. Wilson, Elkhart. Iowa: Harriet Hall, Dennison; Effle Lantz, Stiles; Fred B. Shoemaker, Washington; Trula Kepple, Ionia. Kansas: Pearl Joslin, Geneseo; Jessie Pringle, Irribune; Frank H. Farmer, Leoti; Charlie Le Huguet, Kansas City. Kentucky: A. B. Glass, Rockdale; Ruby Hastings, Smithland; Della M. Johnson, Guthrie. Michigan: Grace Ruth Burt, Dowagiac; Tweet Brown, Hart; Elmore Dobbs, Ishpeming; Loye Spencer, Imlay City. Minnesola: Grace Monroe, Mabel; Annie Andrix, Brown's Valley; Jacob Freese, Brooten; Lena Lewis, Tracy. Missouri: Claudia Lambrigger, Chiflicothe; Pearl Detweller, Drynob; Bertha Earnest, Willard; Lowell Grundy, Ernest. New York: Blanche O. Middleton, Lisbon Center; Elisie Lyon, Fair Haven; Anna Gross, Felt's Mills; Jacob Silverman, Brooklyn. Ohio: Letishe Neville, Cadiz; Blanche Manger, Mogadore; Carrie Craft, Ironton; Margaret A. McKenzie, Circleville. Pennsylvania: Jetton F. French, Gableton; Martha B. Shaler, Independence; M. Ray Jote, York Springs; Richard D. Lawley, Jr. Kingston. Texas: Mary Fordtran, Zapp; Jennie Wolauer, Italy; Clois Greene, Vernon; Annie Slavik, Hallettsville. Washington: Neellie Brewer, Kalama. Notice: Winners will please notify "Comfort' at once by postal to what postoffice (with name of postmaster) they wish their prizes sent, and also give name of nearest county papers. Otherwise the prizes cannot be forwarded, as names and addresses were not always written plainly in letters with essays.

### CHANGE OF PLAN.

CHANGE OF PLAN.

Experience having proved that our first plan of "Comfort" Essay Contest would not result satisfactorily, as a test of the literary ability of competing writers. so many writing from states which failed to have the required number to enter the competition, we now propose a different plan, which we hope will be just what is wanted. Prizes will be as follows: 1st. \$2, 2nd. \$1, 3rd, 75c. 4th, 50 cents, and each writer must enclose with his or her essay twenty-five cents for one year's subscription to "Comfort." This will decrease the number of competitors and increase the chances of success to those who come in. As there are four prizes for each state and territory, there must be at least five essays to constitute a competition, we would advise those who wish to compete to secure among their friends at least five persons to write essays. In this manner they will be sure their states are in the competition. These friends need not live in the same locality—only in the same state. 17 competitors are already subscribers they must secure and send in one new subscriber and 25c. for the year or they may have "Comfort" sent to any friend they choose, and "Comfort" for a year is a very desirable present to anybody.

You will understand from the above that "Comfort" will distribute over one hundred and seventy-seven prizes each month scattered about so that four will go into each state provided a competition exists in each state, and the way in which the essays have poured in in answer to the first offer it would seem that nearly all the states had been heard from.

### RULES FOR GUIDANCE OF CONTESTANTS

RULES FOR GUIDANCE OF CONTESTANTS.

The subject for the next prize essay (June "Comfort") will be "Kindness to Animals." Essays must not be less than 100, nor over 200 words long. They must be written in ink and on one side of the paper only. The writer's full and real name and post-office address with name of postmaster, and the names of the two nearest county papers, must be written in he back of the first page of the essay. Also the age of the writer. Essays must be mailed before the 26th of the month. The merit of the essay will depend, and be judged upon its originality, its correct English, its correct spelling, its correct punctuation, its correct apitalization and its clearness of language and proper presentation of the subject. Each of these points will count so many, so that in this way the youngest and least correct punctuation. Boys and girls are to be considered equally. Prizes to be awarded four essays were necessary for competition.

It was originally intended that the winning essays would be published, but we have received so many that there is not available space.

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A punlap block, Derby or Fedora Hat

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A punlap block, Derby or Fedora Hat

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# NGREET BREET WE GIVE 1



Thirty Minutes is a short time, but many have earned one of these watches in less time than that. It is one of the very best watches for time ever offered to our readers at no matter what the price asked for it. We know, of course, there are watches that cost more money, because they are in gold or silver cases, but they will not keep any better time, simply because they

are watches that cost more money, because they are in gold or silver cases, but they will not keep any better time, simply because they cannot. This watch keeps not perfect time, we never saw the watch that did, but it keeps as near perfect time as watches usually do. We have such faith in this watch as a timekeeper that we matter what make. We are willing to

GIVE YOU THIS WATCH

if you will do us a slight service, which you can easily do in an hour. We wish to increase our subscription list, and we want the assistance of every reader of this paper to that end. We do not want you to do it for nothing, we will reward you for it. You can easily secure this valuable watch if you get four subscribers to this paper, and we will send our paper to each subscriber for one year, and we will send you the watch to reward you for your efforts in our behalf. Start out now and see what you can do. Remember this one thing WE GUARANTEE EVERY WATCH. If you get five subscribers and send us \$1.25 for the same

WE GUARANTEE EVERY WATCH. If you get five subscribers and send us \$1.25 for the same Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. we will also send you a nice chain.

BESTER KALLEY SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE KALLEY SEE SEE KALLEY SEE KALLEY



### Practical Dressmaking.

### To Make Old Clothes Look Like New.

So many questions are asked "Comfort" by thrifty housewives all over the country, how to make-over last year's things, and the best way to utilize old things, remnants and scraps, that this column will be devoted entirely to this commendable, many times necessary economy, and every worn is condibly. sary, economy, and every woman is cordially invited to ask "Comfort's" help in this important branch of her work for adults and children. Address, Economy Editor, "Comfort," Augusta, Maine.

dren. Address, Economy Editor, "Comfort," Augusta, Maine.

Mrs. Hyj. McD., Jackson, Ky.—To make a dress change appearance by new trimming: If the dress is elaborately trimmed, remove all the trimming and make it as plain as possible using stitching instead, and vice versa, that is, trim the plain old dress with new trimming.

Harriet, C., Lowell, Wis.—To turn a dress: After ripping, clean with gasoline. If it will admit, cut it by the latest pattern. If not, put together as before with new linings. Trim with graduated braids or velvet ribbon, putting the widest at the top, graduating toward the bottom.

Mother, Austin, Ark.—To make a dress for a little girl from mother's old one: Rip the skirt and clean thoroughly. It is best to wash some wool goods in soft warm water with Ivory soap shaved and melted in warm soft water, the quantity required to make a good suds. Dry slightly and press on wrong side with hot iron. Cut by a late pattern and trim as you wish. Clean and remodel the waist by removing the lining and cut into a shirt waist. Stitched bands of silk of the same color can be inserted in the fronts to widen them if necessary. Stitched obalra and cuffs and belt of silk. If wash goods, insertings can be used. In making any kind of dresses for children always put an "underflap" for buttonholes. Never cut the hem of the dress, then you will be able to enlarge the dress when necessary. The skirts of outgrown dresses make beautiful waists with a little tucking or trimming, to be worn with cloth skirts. Last year's cashmere cloak can be made into a nice gored skirt with rows of stitching on the bottom.

Mrs. A., Woodville, Miss.—To make a wrapper cheaply: Select good material which is the cheap-

Mrs. A., Woodville, Miss.—To make a wrapper cheaply: Select good material which is the cheapest in the end. If it be of wool goods, cut it by a pattern not too pronounced so that it may be remodelled. Never trim it elaborately, but daintily for morning wear. Choose the color which is most becoming to the wearer.

Laura B. D., Broderick, Cal.—To trim an old hat to make it look like new: Lemon juice and salt will clean Leghorn. Use a small stiff brush. Warm soft water and soap will clean any kind of straw hat. Braids can be ripped up and made into almost any desirable shape. If your black braid is a little rusty, use a good shoe polish on it, and you have practically a new foundation for a hat to be trimmed as you please. Then take your fashion plate, select the style you wish and copy it. Follow the description and you will find you have a model hat If ribbons, chiffon or silk need laundering, immerse in gasoline, and do not wring, but shake dry. Light feathers can be cleaned by washing in warm suds and rinsing; shake dry, and curl.

E. C. L., Weedsport, N. Y.—To shorten a gored skirt: If it has a flounce on it, shorten from top; rip off the band; rip each seam as far down as you wish to turn under (an inch or more), then take up each seam until it fits the band at the top, sloping them off towards the bottom. Press, and whip on the band again.

the band again.

Kathryn K., Weir, Kans.—To make children's dresses: Do not sew the waist onto the skirt. Set the belt two or three inches up on the waist and bind the skirt. Set all ruffles up on the skirt and hem the skirt. In doing this you leave ample room for enlarging, when needed.

Miss Multon, Redfield, Iowa.—To change last year's shirt waist into a new spring double-breasted waist: Remove the gathering at the neck; draw one side over the other almost to the armhole, cutting off the under side, straight. If wool goods, trim the edge of double-breast, cuffs and collar, with a narrow fold of velvet and tiny buttons. In wash goods, use bands of insertion, instead of velvet.

Mrs. R. T. Y., Mickleton, N. J.—To make pretty neckwear from scraps. Scraps of white linen, too small for other uses, hemstitched and completely covered with French knots of any bright colors to match the waists, make very becoming turn-over collars. Black collars with white knots to be worn with white waists, also belts of the same, if fancied, and long India linen ties, stitched in bright colors using knots in design for the ends, of same color as stitching, are pretty for summer and may be made from remnants that might otherwise be lost.

Aunt Anne, Lim, Ills.—Summer vokes for dress.

made from remnants that might otherwise be lost.

Aunt Anne, Lima, Ills.—Summer yokes for dresses or waists can be made with bands of India linen an inch wide, hemstitched on both sides. Put the fine feather-stitching through the middle of band, putting bands together with beading to form the yoke. Run the beading with any bright ribbon desired. Do the feather-stitching with silk matching the ribbon. This done with black ribbon, feather-stitched, is extremely stylish for white waists. Ruffling, hemstitched or feather-stitched, is also very effective. In hemstitching the bands be sure to put a very thin hem on either side; whip together bands and beading; any insertion can be used instead of beading, if preferred.

Letitia M., Hockanum, Conn.—Get out your grandma's double black cashmere shawl; get a late coat suit pattern and new linings and make it into a spring suit to be worn with white shirt waists. The transformation is marvelous, both in beauty of suit and economy. It can be made plain with stitchings; or silk bands, braids or buttons may be used.

### The Latest Fashions.

By a special arrangement with the manufacturers, we have secured a line of the most popular and latest designs in fashions, and offer our readers patterns of the various styles illustrated Free for Club Subscriptions. Our pattern bears a number and the size in which it can be supplied.

In ordering patterns, order only one of the sizes given, and write the number of the pattern plainly; when two numbers are given in the same illustration, they indicate two patterns, and when both are ordered it is the same as ordering two different patterns.

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only three 6 months' trial 10c. subscriptions to "Comfort" we will send free any two patterns you really select. By a special arrangement with the manufac-

For a club of two yearly subscribers at 25c. each, we will send you any four patterns free.

We do not sell the Patterns and the only
way to secure them is to send us the subscribers' names who have actually paid for
"Comfort." Address Comfort Pattern Department, Augusta, Maine.

2272. SHORT SLEEVED SHIRT-WAIST. The fad of last summer among the younger ladies was rolling the sleeves to the elbow; apparently this was so satisfactory that the short sleeved shirt-waist has been introduced in consequence, and for hot weather in all sections is destined to be very popular. The model shown here is a most practical one, and will develop stylishly in a great number of fabrics. If designed for "best!" wear, Louisine in printed or brocaded designs is especially pretty, while lace-striped zephyrs, linen and printed Swiss will make an attractive waist for ordinary wear. Dainty bows on the sleeves and at the neck are the only decorations. Patterns are supplied in sizes 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 bust measure.

2283. FRENCH FLANNEL DRESSING

34, 35, 38 and 40 bust measure.

2283. FRENCH FLANNEL DRESSING SACQUE.

This dainty dressing sacque may be fashioned of French flannel, cashmere or cotton fabrics. A tasteful combination is old rose cashmere with dots of black, and collar of plain old rose cashmere, and bands of cream lace. Pale blue flannel with flatbands of blue taffeta and a large rosette of black satin ribbon is also a good combination. Patterns are supplied in sizes 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 bust measure.

2275-2256. LINEN OR CANVAS WAIST. The costume here designated is very attractive and stylish for street or house wear. It may be developed in linen or canvas and would be very attractive with the vest of a bright red color. Combined with the newest skirt of the season the whole costume will be pleasing to even the most fastidious wearer. Patterns are supplied for the waist in sizes from 32 to 40 bust measure, and for the skirts in sizes medium and large.





2274-2142. DENIM OR PIQUE WAIST.

2274—2142. DENIM OR PIQUE WAIST.
This dressy model is suitable for woolen or cotton
fabrics and may be trimmed with rows of braid or bindings of contrasting fabrics. Denim or pique will work
into this costume with bindings of white and make a
very attractive waist. With the waist is used one of the
most attractive skirts of the year. Patterns for the
waist are supplied in sizes 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 bust measure, and for the skirt in sizes medium and large.

ure, and for the skirt in sizes medium and large.

2274. APRON OF FINE LAWN.

The design here shown of an apron is one of the newest things of the kind. It is trimmed with a circular ruffle and plaited in one-fourth-inch tucks into a pointed belt; it also has a shaped bib with circular ruffle, and shoulder ribbons. It will require three and one-half yards of goods thirty-six inches wide with one and one-half yards of insertion and two and one-half yards of insertion and two and one-half yards of ribbon for shoulder decoration to construct this apron, which may be made of fine lawn or pongee as preferred. The pattern is supplied in one size only.

2286. THE VERNA FROCK.

2286. THE VERNA PROUNT.

This pretty design for little girls is especially arranged for developing in any of the popular cotton fabrics. It can be made of the most inexpensive goods, and yet be exceedingly attractive. A shaped bertha ornaments the shoulders, and by the use of contrasting fabric a guimpe is simulated. Patterns are supplied in sizes for 2, 4 and 5 years.



2290.

2290. A NEW DESIGN IN BOYS' SHIRT-WAIST. WAIST.

The illustration shows a popular design for a boys' shirt-waist. A box plait is placed at either side of the front and at the back. The middle of the front is simply closed with buttons and buttonholes without the usual plait. The collar may be made of white linen or correspond with the waist. Duck, linen, galatea, madras or percale are the most popular fabrics for boys' shirt-waists. Patterns are supplied in sizes for 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

2284. STRAIGHT FRONT CORSET COVER. The straight front corset cover is especially designed to wear with the dainty summer shirt-waists, and is a very attractive garment, easy to make, and most comfortable to wear. All-over embroidery is used for the girdle or bodice sections and fine cambric or nainsook for the gathered upper parts. Wide embroidery beading may be used for the narrow yoke sections run with ribbon. If tucks were desired as illustrated tuck the material before cutting out. Patterns are supplied in sizes 32, 34, 35, 38 and 40 bust measure.



2285. A PRETTY WAIST FOR YOUNG GIRLS.

A very attractive design for a young girl is shown in the waist illustrated. It may be developed in any of the silk, cotton or soft wool fabrics. It is made with elbow sleeves and for a guimpe, the bodice of which is finished with a wide Berths ruffle; the ruffle is tucked with several tucks and finished with a ruffle edged with lace. To wear with this costume any skirt suitable for a young girl of the ages designated would work in nicely. Patterns of the waist only are supplied, and in sizes for 14 and 16 years.

2282. THE NEWEST NIGHT DRESS.

In the night-dress here illustrated, we have a design that will be exceedingly popular for summer wear. The distinguishing feature is that the sleeve seams run into the neck band, thus doing away with the conventional shoulder seam. The material is tucked at the neck, and the yoke is then quite simply outlined with insertion; although it may be trimmed more elaborately if the weater desires. Patterns can be supplied in sizes 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 bust measure.

OME of our vegetables are known to have ome of our vegetables are known to have been in use from time immemorial. Asparagus was eaten two hundred years before Christ. Lettuce is mentioned as in use 550 B. C., and was even blanched to make it white and tender. Carrots, turnips, cucumbers and melons were all known to be in use two thousand years age, as well as beets, parsnips and radishes.



HE Turks of today are as fond of lofty and imposing gateways in their cities as the ancient Romans were of triumphal arches. The traveller in Constantinople, for instance, meets with many beautiful specimens of architecture of this decrip-

tion in almost every city. The name La Sublime Porte by which the Sultan's government is known to the world means "The Lofty Gate," and is so called from a magnificent marble gate, through which in former times only the Sultan and his family were allowed to pass into the relace. family were allowed to pass into the palace.



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The publishers of The American Woman are thoroughly reliable, and will fulfill all their obligations.--EDITOR.

ive and his fair protege had so far managed to

ive and his fair protege had so far managed to keep out of the clutches of the outlaws.

The eastern sky was growing crimson, and one by one the bright stars were fading out. The great, broad silver moon, now sinking so low in the heavens, had lost its luminous powers and was rapidly changing to a cold gray. The birth of a new day was told by its failing glory. Archie Holland realized that he must

The birth of a new day was told by its failing glory. Archie Holland realized that he must get as far away from the rendezvous before sunrise as possible.

He was walking rapidly through the wood, when all of a sudden he came upon two horses tethered to a tree. Each horse had a saddle upon his back. In the course of five minutes he satisfied himself that there was no one about the horses, and as it gradually grew lighter, to his joy he recognized the horses as his and Major Todd's.

He did not rush immediately to them, for placing the horses there might only be a trick intended to draw him or his companions out of the woods. At least, after a careful reconnois-

the woods. At least, after a careful reconnois-sance and discovering no one near, he deter-mined to make the venture to go to them. Holding his rife ready for instant use he crept forward and unfastened the halters by which the animals were tied.

### CHAPTER XII.

### "I KNOW THAT VOICE."

The horses sniffed the air suspiciously, until they discovered who it was that was creeping toward them, but, as soon as they discovered their master, they became meek, and waited to be unfastened.

Day was dawning rapidly, and a bright day it promised to be. The birds were already twittering in the treetops, and a great jack rabbit hopped slowly across the piece of lowland. A timid fawn came in sight of the youth, gazed at him for a moment in wonder, and, turning about, fied.

The rays of the worning

The rays of the morning sun were already falling among the treetops when Archie Holland released the horses.

"I guess that there is no one here, or I would the state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would the state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that there is no one here, or I would be a state that the state t

"I guess that there is no one here, or I would have the benefit of a rifle shot, ere this," said the youth, springing into his saddle. He then fastened the lasso about the horse of Major Todd, by which he led it.

With the rising sun bathing his fair young face, the brave youth galloped away across woodland and morass. Whither he was going he knew not. The direction of the boomers' camp was a little further south than he was going, and yet, though that was his ultimate destination, he did not want to go directly toward it.

destination, he did not want to go directly toward it.

"I must at least make some effort to find them," he said. "We can then go to the camp of Captain Payne, the Oklahoma boomer, where she will be safe, until she can be returned to the States. If the soldiers do come and drive Payne's colony out, they will not harm her."

He was reasoning as if Miss Daisy Miller was already found and all he had to do was to convey her to a place of safety. The country became more wild, rugged and broken; with bald rocks, bluffs, hills and forests. At last he found himself on a sort of a ridge with ravines on either side, so deep and dark that the eye could not penetrate them.

either side, so deep and dark that the eye could not penetrate them.

For several hours the youth had been riding over this country when he was suddenly startled by the report of a gun.

A wild shout followed. He turned his eyes up the bluff above, where he beheld a sight that thrilled his heart. There, not a fourth of a mile thrilled his heart. There, not a fourth of a mile away, yet in that exceedingly clear atmosphere appearing much nearer, was the detective climbing up an almost perpendicular cliff, carrying Miss Miller in his arms, while three men were in close pursuit. A light whiff of smoke floating on the air above the three pursuers, told that it was one of them who had fixed the shot

fired the shot.

The man nearest the detective halted, with his knee resting on a jutting crag to steady himself, and raised his rifle. The distance was very great for an amateur marksman, yet Archie Holland, with a prayer for a steady aim, drew a bead on the outlaw. His finger pressed the trigger the moment the sights and the brigand had formed a focus, and the sharp report cut had formed a focus, and the sharp report cut the air. A wild yell, followed by another re-port, followed the shot, and when the small cloud of smoke had cleared away Archie saw the body of the outlaw falling and rolling down

the cliff.

The detective has now reached the top of the bluff, and, understanding all, turns and points to a place not over a quarter of a mile on their left, where the ascent is not too steep for a horse. Archie understands the sign, and so do the two remaining bandits. In order to reach the point at which he can ascend the bluff and join his friends. Archie has to make a circuit. join his friends, Archie has to make a circuit around the two outlaws and is exposed to their fire. But, though it is a forlorn hope, he de-

fire. But, though it is a forlorn hope, he determines to make the attempt.

"Get up, get up!" he shouts, spurring his own horse to a gallop, and dragging the other along after him. From a gallop they break to a run, over ditches, stones and brambles. With prodigious leaps which at times were dangerous, the horses almost flew over the ground. Holland now saw two or three men with guns in their hands running to intercept him. He wound the lariat about the horn of his saddle, and, taking the reins of his own horse between his teeth, prepared to use his rifle.

"Look out, look out!" came a warning shout from the bluff above, where his friends were

10

from the bluff above, where his friends were

watching him.

Archie cocked his rifle, and, just as one of the outlaws brought his gun to his face, fired at him.

Though the shot did not hit the mark, it so

disconcerted the aim of the man at whom he fired, that he missed his mark, when he returned the shot.

Archie, still urging his horses at full speed, "They had just discovered us when you came"."

fired, that he missed his mark, when he returned the shot.

Archie, still urging his horses at full speed, drew back the lever of his rifle, letting the shell fall out, and slipping a fresh cartridge in its place. By this time the next bandit was ready for a shot, and he prepared to disconcert him in a most uncomfortable manner. The outlaw threw himself on the ground to get a better aim, but at this moment the horseman let fly a bullet which struck the earth beneath his would-be slayer, filling his face and eyes with dust and dirt.

Just as the youth reached the small brook at the foot of the hill, a third shot was fired at him by some unseen marksman, the bullet passing through the crown of his hat.

Without slackening his speed, he spurred his horses up the steep ascent, waving his hat in defiance at the foe beneath. The steel-toed shoes of the horses sent forth showers of sparks, as they sped like lightning up the sharp hillside.

Archie saw one of the men who had shot at

Archie saw one of the men who had shot at him run back to the cliff and begin scaling it almost beneath the very spot where the detective and the young lady stood. There was not a moment to spare. Doubtless, even as it was, the detective and his fair charge would

was, the detective and his fair charge would have to escape under a close fire from the ruffian's revolver.

All these thoughts were like instantaneous flashes of light illumining the mind of the youth. He was now upon the top of the bluff, and saw the detective holding the limp and apparently lifeless form of Miss Miller on his arm.

arm.

"Great heavens! is she killed?" he asked, as he pulled his horses up alongside of Todd.

"No, only swooned."

"Hand her to me, and mount quick, for we have not a moment to lose."

He lifted the insensible girl to Archie, who placed her in the saddle before him, saying:

"Mount, Major, if you regard your life worth a straw."

"Stop, Arch Holland, stop!" cried a voice, but from which direction it came he could not tell.
"You can't get away. Surrender and all will be well."

"I know that voice," cried the youth. "I have heard it before."
"Do not heed it, it is deceptive, and will only lure you on to death," shouted the detective springing into the saddle. "Now ride for life."

Both started their horses at the top of their greed. speed.

speed.

"Crack, crack!" came a couple of shots from the rear, the bullets whistling harmlessly through the air.

Todd and his young companion paid no heed to them, and as the ground was level were soon beyond reach of bullets.

"Where did you find the horses?" Todd asked, when they were a good mile away, and had slowed up to a canter.

Archie told him, and then as soon as Miss Miller had regained consciousness, he related all his adventures since parting, not failing to tell of the mysterious crippled Idiot.

"He is the Oklahoma Mystery of which I have heard so much," said the detective, and then he in turn gave an account of the adventures of

in turn gave an account of the adventures of himself and his fair charge. They were simply

up," he said.

Miss Miller was now sufficiently recovered to Miss Miller was now sufficiently recovered to ride behind the youth, where she was more comfortable. Fortunately they had some cold provisions in their saddle pockets, from which they made a dinner. They found themselves hemmed in by the river, which formed a sort of a bend around this portion of country. At no place could they effect a crossing. The banks were precipitous, and the current too swift to admit of their swimming their horses over. All day they wandered through the woods, unable to get across the river, without retracing their footsteps, which would again bring them to that part of the country infested by the bandits.

by the bandits.

Evening was once more drawing on. In fact, it was already growing dark and gloomy in this vast old forest.

Suddenly a voice from the darkness, cried:
"Arch Holland! Arch Holland! brother,

"Arch Holland! Arch Holland! brother, stop!"

"That voice, that voice again," cried the youth, reining in his horse, and drawing a pistol. "I know that voice only too well."

"Heaven help me, I know it, too!" cried Miss Miller. Before another word could be spoken, three or four dark forms leaped out from the woods, seized their horses by the bits, while the dark muzzles of murderous-looking pistols were thrust into the faces of the riders, and a deep voice in tone of thunder, cried:

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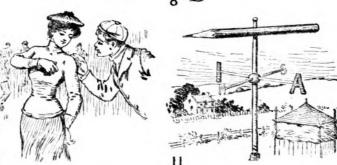
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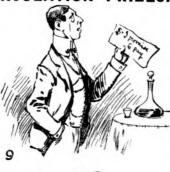
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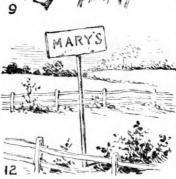


\$25.00 COMFORT'S REWARD STATE PUZZLES \$25.00 Thirteen Cash Prizes AND THOUSANDS FOR CONSOLATION PRIZES. FOR ANSWERS.









This is the slip you are to use in sending your answers. Write your 27 words (or less) description of city in No. 8 on margin of the paper if you choose but be sure and use this blank for your answers. None other will be considered.

CASH PRIZES

No. 7	
No. 8	
No. 9	_
No. 10	
No. 11	
No. 12	

scription to "COM FORT" in with your answer. Be sure and renew your own subscrip-tion so as to keep fully paid up and watch for the wonderful Prize Puzzles and other new features to be published next month. They will be fine. ois. All full paid in advance

THE SIX Prize Puzzles herewith printed represent six different States in our Union. The eighth as you will easily see, is Illinois. All full paid in advance test Free. The Rewards will be paid as follows: To the one complying with above condition sending the nearest correct list of six States, giving the most complete 27 word (or less) description of Chicago, the largest city, No. 8—will be paid a Reward of 85.00 for their effort. To the next a reward of 83.00 will be paid as follows: To the one complying with above condition sending the nearest correct list of six States, giving the most complete 27 word (or less) description of Chicago, the largest city, No. 8—will be paid a Reward of 85.00 for their effort. To the next a reward of 83.00 will be paid, and to the six next best in order 82.00 each, and the five next best one dollar each. Don't fail to try your talent at solving these cute and artistic State Puzzle Pictures. It is a very make out at least two of the States illustrated and no doubt you will be successful in doing this if you put your mind on it for just a little while. It will even pay you to study over this and get your friends to help you think. "Two heads are better than one," you know, and perhaps you can correctly guess the whole lot if you stick to it. Don't give up easily, anyway. Write down the answers as near as you can get at them. The 27 words or less that you are to send descriptive of largest city in No.8 will come easily severy one can "Remember about the World's Fair." The condition for subscribers to center this Prize Contest is to only secure one new trial is months' subscription sending us 10c. for same. To all who comply with above conditions and correctly guess as many served to same be held until June 16th and winners announced in July issue.

\*\*GONSOLATION\*\*

\*\*GONSOLATION\*\*

\*\*BONSOLATION\*\*



[So many inquiries are made by "Comfort" readers concerning real estate (country and city) farms and locations for homes that this column has become a necessity and here we shall be glad to answer all questions.)

Any paid-up subscriber who desires to make a change in their present situation or are in any way uncomfortable in their abode and want information about any particular location in any State in the Union can address "The Comfort Home Finder," Augusta, Maine, and we will try and serve them.

M. B. K., Pleasant Hill, Mo.—For information concerning California lands and agriculture write to J. A. Filcher, See'y California State Board of Trade, Ferry Building, San Francisco, Cal.

G. F. B., Horton's Summit, Va.—There is government land in Missouri, Wisconsin, and nearly all the western states. Write to the Land Commissioner, Washington, D. C., for information. (2) Farm labor is about the same as it is in Virginia. Sheep herding in Idaho is paid better, but the work is not advisable for you to undertake. (3) Lands may be had very reasonably in Minnesota.

Mrs. H. S., Lyons, Ohio.—The California climate is probably the best. See answer above to M. B. K.

Is probably the best. See answer above to M. B. K.

Inquirer, Muskegon, Mich.—You are in a better
place for furniture making than if you went to the
Pacific. If your husband wanted to do other work
and let you open a millinery store, the West would
be better, perhaps, especially if you got into a
warmer climate. You should not get into as large
a town as Muskegon, or one not larger. Racine is
a pleasant town, but its climate is no better than
where you are. Why not try Arizona on an irrigated farm? Write to Hon. Mark Smith, M. C.,
Washington, D. C., for particulars. Or to Major W.
H. Bonsall, Los Angeles, Cal., if you want to go to
that section.

H. K., New Ulm, Minn.—Don't try farming in

H. K., New Ulm, Minn.—Don't try farming in Alaska. It may not be as cold there, at least, along the coast, as you find it in Minnesota, but you can make more money on a Minnesota farm that is frozen out four seasons in five than you can on an

D. E., Higbee, Pa.—The only way to be sure about the Florida climate for throat and lung trouble is to try it. Possibly Polk county would be the best place for you, as land is cheap there. A good farm of forty acres, twenty-three cleared, six in orange grove with one hundred bearing trees, and having a five room house &c., one mile from railroad station, can be had for eight hundred dollars. Write to E. C. Stuart, Bartow, Fla., and ask for copy of Courier-Informant.

E. M., Hurricane, Ills.—See answer above to "O.

E. M., Hurricane, Ills.—See answer above to "O. M." about Virginia lands.

Mrs. L. B., North Menomonee, Wis.—Write to Dr. Dillon J. Spotswood, Mobile, Ala., for particulars about land thirty miles from the sea. Possibly you can trade your place in Wisconsin for one in Alabama. Ask him to hand your letter to a responsible real estate dealer. real estate dealer.

real estate dealer.

Mrs. N. W. B., Esquagamah, Minn.—We have not space enough to describe Oregon lands and climate but you will get a book of it all by writing to A. L. Craig, G. P. A., O. R. & N. Co., Portland, Oregon. The descriptive pamphlet you will get is somewhat extravagant in tone, but Oregon is really a great state, when you have become accustomed to the dampness of the climate, never cold, which prevails west of the mountains. To the east it is dry, but the climate is variable, cold in winter and warm in summer. Fred Hurst, Salem, may also give you information in detail.

S. A. Round Knob, W. Va.—Washington has just

S. A., Round Knob, W. Va.—Washington has just issued a fine book of her resources. Write to A. W. Frater, Deputy Commissioner Bureau of Agriculture, Olympia, Wash., for a copy. You will find Washington a decided improvement on your part of West Virginia. It is also preferable at present to Oklahoma, as it is older and more settled, and there are greater varieties of soil and country. Write to Louis Pilcher, South McAllister, Okla.

Mrs. J. T. E., Lantana, Fla.—Write to Hon. Jeff Johnson, Commissioner of Agriculture, Austin, Texas, for particulars of Texas lands. See answer above to "O. M." for Virginia lands.

C. C. O., Kenosha, Wis., C. C. S., Gaylordsville, Conn., J. P. Stephenson, Mich., E. W., Logansport, Ind., A. H., Fond du Lac, Wis., T. H. G., Midway, Ind., F. L. B., Elkton, S. D. are requested to write to Hon. A. W. Harmon, Jr., State Treasurer, Richmond, Va., stating what they want and asking for land literature.

A. V. B., New Britain, Conn.—We would hardly recommend Florida for poultry raising. The land outside of Baltimore ought to be what you want, especially if it is between Baltimore and Washington, because there you would be within an hour or two of two as fine markets as there are in this country. A very fine part of Maryland is on the famous Eastern Shore in the vicinity of Easton, within three or four hours of either Washington or Baltimore. Land may be had for forty dollars an acre up. Write to Col. Oswald Tilghman, Easton, Md., for particulars of that section.

H. R. D., Grayson, Ky.—If you can rent your farm

Md., for particulars of that section.

H. R. D., Grayson, Ky.—If you can rent your farm for three hundred dollars a year, we would advise that you do so instead of selling it and investing the money in a farm in northern Ohio. You will find that part of the country flat and likely to be malarial in sections, and if you get yourself fixed on a place that is not healthy you will be in worse condition than you now are. Rent a farm in the neighborhood where you want to go and after a year of experience you will know better whether you want to stay there or not, and you will still have your Kentucky home to go back to, if you don't like the Ohio place.

J. K. R., Moline, Ills.—Portsmouth, Ohio, is a very

don't like the Ohio place.

J. K. R., Moline, Ills.—Portsmouth, Ohio, is a very pleasant town to live in according to all reports. It has about 17,000 people who are active and energetic, and your western hustle will be appreciated there. Its churches and schools are of a high order, and while there are no very wealthy people, there are many who are very well-to-do, which makes the best kind of a town. It is 115 miles from Cincinnati, and about 100 from Columbus, with railroad connections to all points. Its leading industries are iron and shoes.

Agricola, Columbia, Tenn.—Land in Georgia suitable for peach growing can be had at from \$20 to \$50 an acre according to its condition, cleared land, of course, being worth more than the wooded, though the wood in most instances will pay for the clearing. Hon. O. B. Stevens, Comm'r of Horticulture, Atlanta, will give you all the information you want beyond personal investigation.

Want beyond personal investigation.

J. E. G., Buens, W. Va.—Concerning tax lands in Virginia, Commissioner Koiner reports that the only lands to be had at present for taxes are mountain lands. There are thousands of acres of good farming lands, however, improved and ready for occupancy which may be had at from \$10 an acre up. Write to H. W. Weiss, Immigration Bureau, Emporia, Va.

C. A. C., Philadelphia, Pa.—See answer to "J. E. G." above.

Boyd, Long Run, W. Va.—The government still owns something more than nine hundred million acres of land in 26 states and territories. You can get particulars by addressing Commissioner of the Land Office, Washington, D. C.

"IN MOTHER'S PART."

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

—This only "mother's part."

In "mother's part" are the queer, quaint things That she brought from the old home place; She sits among them and knits and sings With peace on her dear old face.

There are braided rugs and rugs of rags With colors in curious blend;
And each means patience that never flags And a blistered finger end.

There are little tidies and odd, old "knicks," But nothing rare or fine;
—Too many the claims of her brood of chicks,
To fashion a rich design.

She made them all in the brief "'tweenwhiles" As she toiled with a faithful heart;
—They stand for the years of tears and smiles,
Those things in "mother's part."

The wealth of her children casts no spell,

Those things in "mother's part."
The wealth of her children casts no spell,
—The city has no charm,
She loves no furnishings half so well
As the things from the old home farm.
She sits among them all the day,
Dreaming of years gone by,
And each has its bit of a word to say
As it catches her dim old eye.
This of the living whispers now,
—That of the dead and dear;
Now, a smile 'neath her placid brow,
And now a wistful tear,
And children come, her boys grown men,
And sit with chastened heart,
Borne from the Now to the dear old Then,
In the peace of "mother's part."

Jr., State Treasurer, Richmond, Va., for particulars concerning tax lands in that state. Ask him for the address of a responsible firm dealing in farm lands.

Virginia Farms of All Sizes at Low Prices. Write to H. W. Weiss, Man'gr of Immigration, Emporia, Va.

Although not addressed to or belonging to this depart-nent, we publish the following letter from one of our ubscribers and trust the lost brother and son may be ound.

subscribers and trust the lost brother and son may be found.

To the "Comfort," San Felipe, April 10, 1902.

Dear Readers: I have been a silent reader of the "Comfort," from the day I first began to read, and as I know it is a "wide world" paper, I will see if any of the readers can help me find my lost brother (Gus W. Brune). Today is his birthday. If he is living he is twenty years old today, Although he has been gone four years on the 26th of June, we still put flowers on the table in remembrance of his birthday, but oh, how sad since he left, to look at the lonely flowers without the owner. Mother's and sister's eyes filled with tears. I have been thinking of him so much today that I finally concluded "the Comfort" can bring comfort to us sad ones if it can find Gus. He rode off horseback telling us he was going to see a cousin some miles off, would be back the next day, but has never returned. My father died the 2nd of Dec., 1898; his dying words were, "My boy, forgive me for ill treating you and return to those that love you." Gus was blind in his left eye, has a small scar on forchead, dark blonde hair, jet black eyebrows and lashes, eyes gray, tall and well built; he rode a Dun blazen faced filly, branded "L. M." Now if any one can give his sorrowful sister and broken-hearted mother any information, please do so. Address.

JUSTINA A. BRUNE, San Felipe, Texas.

### ON ANOTHER PAGE of Comfort will be found the advertisement of The American Woman.

These people are our neighbors, and are among the most reliable business-men of the State. We earnestly request all our readers to investigate what they have to offer.

### WOMEN WHO WISH A FRIEND.

One to Whom She Can Appeal When She Is Suffering from Irregularities, Ailments, or Derangements Which Afflict Her Because She is a Woman.

Because She is a Woman.

We can recommend just such a friend. One who has devoted his life to the study of all aliments peculiar to women; one who has made a special study of maternity and painless childbirth; who has discovered and developed a home treatment that enables weak and sickly women to become well, strong and consequently happy; also enables the expectant mother to escape all those pains, aches and dangers which afflict her during the whole period and at childbirth; which gives health to both mother and child. He will gladly advise you, also send sample of his home treatment free. Such a friend to women is Dr. J. H. Dye, 38 Lewis Block, Buffalo, N. Y. Write him today; he will treat you honest and



honorably.

To write us to send you our genuine American Model, adjusted 17 JEWEL patented Regulator. Stem wind and stem set Watch. Ladies' or gents' size. 14k gold plate Hunting case, with guarantee for 20 YRS. Chain & charm free. After inspection if you find as represented pay kepress Co. 8.70 & charges and it is yours. Bols. Mfg. Co., Dept 1, 130 Dearborn St., Chicago BRUVETS for Farms

# Gash Buyers for Farms or other real estate may be found send description and price and learn my successful method for finding buyers. W. M. OSTRANDER, North American Building. Philadelphia, Pa.

Spanish Needles, Rods, Goldometors for locat-ing Gold, Silver and hidden treasures. Our instruments are the best. Catalogue 2 cents. B. G. Stauffer, Dept. C, Harrisburg, Pa.

SALESMEN Wanted to travel for old-estab, \$50 c mo. & expenses. No previous experi-ence needed. W. B. HOUSE, 1020 Race St., Phila., Pa.

REVEAL YOUR IN LOVE, MARRIAGE, BUSINESS and BPEC LATION. When to MARRY and whom Y IFF COMPLETE PORTUNATE AUTORITUMATE PROGRAMMENT OF THE COMPLETE ON THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE LIFE COMPLETE PROF. RENFREW, MEDFORD, MASS.

PLAYS Best List of New Plays. 325 Nos. Dia-logs, Speakers, Hand Books. Catalog free. T.S. DENISON, Pub., Dept. 8, Chicago AGENTS CREDIT. Perfumes, Flavors, etc. Big Profits. Expr. Pd. Terms free. Herbene Agency Co., Box 254, Station L. New York. WEFAX 820 A WEEK and EXPENSES to men with rigs to introduce our Poultry Compound. Send stp. JAVELLE MFG. CO., Dept. 17, PARSONS, KANSAS.

\$75 Month and Expenses; no experience needed; position permanent; self-seller. Pease Mfc. Co., Station 32 Cincinnati, 0.

GOLD SILVER AND, HIDDEN TREASURES CAN BE found by Hall's Magnetic Rod. Millions of wealth it lying under your feet. Address P. & M. AGENCY, PALMYRA, PA.

WANTED AGENTS in every country to sell "Family Memorials;" good profits and steady work. Address, CAMPBELL & CO., 10 Plum St., Elgin, Ill.

WE are giving away Life Size Dolls for a little work. Address National Med. Co., New Haven, Conn. of or distributing samples (either and Office, Washington, D. C.

O. M., Mt. Vernon, S. D.—Write to A. W. Harmon,

S. A. 1000 for distributing samples (either one). Smith Adv. Asso., Wash., D. C.

# LOSS OF WEIGHT

# Haughty and blank with a brownstone front, And facing the avenue wide, The mansion stares with the arrogant wont Of opulence's silent pride. Behind the gleam of the curved plate-glass Is the pomp of the rich and proud, And the envious sigh as they slowly pass The fortunate thus endowed. And the rear, where the garden spread its bloom, And the merry children play, A homelike, plain, old-fashioned room Is modestly tucked away. No splendid trappings or laces here, No rich and costly art; There is merely the simplest and plainest gear,—"Tis only "mother's part." In "mother's part" are the queer, quaint things In "mother's part" are the queer, quaint things

### KEEP FAT IF YOU CAN == THIS TELLS HOW.

One of the first signs of rapidly failing health is ! loss of weight.

Flesh is strength, and loss of flesh is loss of strength.

Loss of flesh is one of the most persistent symp

toms of consumption.

Feverishness, constant cough, shortness of

breath, loss of appetite, lack of ambition.

All these form "corroborative testimony," as the courts call it.

And if the germ is there, it is high time for

drastic measures.

The way to build strength and flesh is to take a course of the Dr. Slocum treatment for weakness

It is a complete system for the building up of a

dilapidated system.

A scientific, antiseptic, prophylactic system for all who are in danger of going into a decline.

It consists of a course of four medicinal preparations and scientific concentrated tissue foods and

builders that create flesh and strength and so conserve the failing vital forces. 15c EACH; 2 FOR 25c; 3 FOR 35c. POST-PAID

KINGFISHER hook. Pat. Aug. 3, 1900; catches two fish to the common hook's one. Dealers wanted.

PARDON FISH HOOK CO., OWENSBORO, KY.
Please montion Courson; when you write.

A PAYING PROFESSION Can be learned come independent. Be your own boss. Particulars free. PROF. S. A. WELTMER, Nevada, Mo.

LUCKY SEALS AND TALISMANS.
Person desiring Luck in life or to explicate friends should be sufficient to the state of the s DETECTIVE Shrewd, reliable man wanted in every to-needed. American Detective Ass'n, Indianapolis, Ind.

MONEY C. S. A. \$5 bill sent to any address for 25c. Will give \$50 to anyone who can detect it. FRANK O. SHILLING, Navarre, Ohio.

\$8 Paid Per 100 for Distributing Samples of Washing fluid. Send 6c. stamp. A.W. SCOTT, Cohoes, N.Y. CHICAGO HOUSEHOLD GUEST 50 cents a year. Sample copy free on application

100 FINE WHITE ENVELOPES Neatly Printed with your return card, postpaid for only 35c. 30 for 20c. Price list of printing free, W. P. HOWIE, PRINTER, BEEBE PLAIN, VT. WRITERS WANTED to do copying at home. \*Man Wanted to sell Teas and Coffees. Commission or Salary. W. I. Co., Box 2996, New York." YOUR LIFE IS INFLUENCED

HANGS VERTICAL

They make strength and keep it.

One of their ingredients is a germicide of great potency, absolutely harmless to the human

The Slocum treatment purifies the body of germs and of the poisons which germs create.

It heals inflamed membranes, soothes cough restores disordered digestion and assimilation, and is a general tonic for the weak system.

Its use has cured many thousands of a consumptive taint—many thousands of actual consumption infection.

It is a pleasant and harmless method of treatment for all who are sick, in any way, especially those who are in delicate health.

To test its great efficacy in your own case simply

DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 98 Pine Street, New York, for the Free Course of Treatment, mentioning Comfort and giving your name, postoffice and express address, when a full supply of Four Free Preparations will at once be sent you.

# Rescued



An up-to-date, full size, High Grade Sewing Machine with all the latest attach-ments costs from \$30, to \$40. Don't throw

ments costs from \$30.

to \$40. Don't throw your money away, but take advantage of our generous proposition which is apartfrom the above, if you wish to own a sewing machine that will do fine work and that isguaranteed and agree to sell only 12 boxes of our wonderful Headache Tablets at 25c. a box. Don't send a cent; order to-day and we will send tablets by mail postpaid, when sold send us the money \$3.00, and we will promptly forward to you our new No. 10 Sewing Machine and guarantee safe delivery; in otharge for boxing, packing, out by arroduce our remedy and all adaches that when you receive the sewing machine, which we give absolutely free for selling only 12 boxes, that you will show it to your friends. This is a grand opportunity to get a fine sewing mach \$100 Reward to any one that can prove that we do not give the sewing machine as we say for selling only 12 boxes of tablets. Address FRANK J. HART, See'y, Dept. \$517, New Haven, Connuss that's cured hundreds of ruptures. It's safe, so

By the planet under which you were born. Just as the tides rise and fall with the moon, I point out the dangers and the way to success in love, marriage and business. My forecasts are truly wonderful—to many worth a fortune. I will give you a trial reading free. Send date of birth, enclosing 2 stamps.

Prof. C. O. ZADKIEL, Bx 1187, Philadelphia.

I have a truss that's cured hundreds of ruptures. It's safe, sure, and easy as an old stocking. No elastic or steel band around the body or between the legs. Holds any rupture. To introduce it every sufferer who answers this ad can have one free. It won't cost a cent. ALEX. SPEIRS, 707 Main St., Westbrook, Maine.



This AA PC. TEA SET FREE
To every lady who sells 10 cans of our Baking Powder, etc., (on our Plan No. 18) giving free
to each nurchaser a heautiful Glass Pitcher and six glasses to

To every lady who sells 10 cans of our Baking Powder, etc., (on our Plan No. 18) giving free to each purchaser a beautiful Glass Pitcher and six glasses to match, we give this 44-pc. handsomely decorated Tea Set, full size for table use, free. No money required in advance. Simply sendy our name & address & we will send you our plans, order blank, etc. We will allow you time to deliver the Baking Powder, & collect the money before panying us. Your unn or isk, as we pay the freight, & will trust you with the Baking Powder, & Couches, Furniture, etc., for selling our goods. Address King Mfg. Couches, Furniture, etc., for selling our goods. Address King Mfg. Co., 623 King Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.

### \$1200.00 8 4 PIANOS FLGRDAIE LLNDCVAEE

**RRSNHIAO** 

Can you arrange these five different groups of letters into the names of five (5) former presidents of the United States? It so you can share in the distribution of the above. We will give away \$1200.00 in cash and Four Genuine Grand Upright Pianos among those who enter this contest, and will work for our intest. READ CAREFULLY. REMEMBER we do not want one cent of your money when you saw the test of the making the five names the letters can only be used in their own groups and as many times as they appear in each individual group, and no letter can be used which does not appear in its own group. After you have arranged the gregory and formed the five correct names, write them out plainly and send to us and you will receive our reply by return mail. TRY AND WIN. If you make the five correct names and send them to us at once, who knows but you may get a big cash prize and possibly a piano. We hope you will, and anywe it costs you nothing to try. WOOD PUBLISHING CO., Dept. 24 394 Atlantic Ave., Box 3124, Boston, Mass.



THE PARROT HAS ESCAPED FROM THE CAGE—TRY TO FIND HIM Boys and girls over who will cut out this picture and mark plainly with

who will cut out this picture and mark plainly with pencil or pen the missing bird (if they can find it) MAY SHARE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY IN FIVE MONTHLY PREMIUMS for doing a little work for us. This is a contest where both brains and energy count. We are determined to make the name of our charming monthly magazine a household word, and we take this novel plan of advertising. This and other most liberal offers are made to introduce one of the most entertaining New York magazines into every home of the United States and Canada. WE DO NOT WANT ONE CENT OF YOUR MONEY. There is only one condition, which should take less than one hour of your time, which we will write you as soon as your answer is received. After you have found the missing part of the state of the state



IN PINCH TIME.



VERY housekeeper knows what "pinch time" is, even al-though she may never have heard the name. It comes in the weeks of early Spring, before fresh vegetables and fruit make their ap-pearance, when the appetites of every one feels the effects of the first warm days and first warm days and the dishes that have been satisfactory all Winter pall in the taste. The palate craves something new and the housekeeper

looks around to find it.

After green vegetables come housekeeping is simpler. But now one must make the best of what one has and that is not always easy. Yet there are unusual fashions of serving the old stand-bys in the line of Winter vegetables, and it will pay the woman who keeps house to study up a few of them.

Potatoes are a matter of course on nearly every table, but after a while the persons who like them best get tired of them, boiled, mashed, baked or fried, and wish there were some new way of cooking them. There are new ways, and here are two of them.

SMOTHERED POTATOES. looks around to find it.

new ways, and here are two of them.

SMOTHERED POTATOES.

Peel and slice a dozen potatoes and throw them into cold water. Let them stand in this for an hour, drain them and put them into a pudding dish with a small onion sliced thin. Mix the slices of onion here and there through the potatoes, and sprinkle them with pepper and salt. Pour over them enough milk to cover them well and put on top a tablespoonful of butter. Cover closely and bake in a steady oven for three quarters of an hour, uncover and brown. Serve in the pudding dish.

butter. Cover closely and bake in a steady oven for three quarters of an hour, uncover and brown. Serve in the pudding dish.

POTATOES WITH BUTTER AND PARSLEY SAUCE. Boil potates whole, first peeling them. Have them as nearly one size as possible, and put them into a hot dish. Work ten drops of lemon juice and a teaspoonful of chopped parsley into a tablespoonful of butter and put this on the potatoes. Leave the dish in the oven or in a warm place until the butter has melted, then send to table. If you do not like the lemon with the potatoes, you can put ten drops of onion juice into the butter with the parsley.

Rice is a pleasant variety on potatoes, but few persons know how to cook it properly. To boil it dry it should be well washed first and a cupful put on to cook in two quarts of salted water. The water should be at a galloping boil when the rice goes in and should keep in this state until the rice is done. This should then be turned from the rice and this left to dry off—as potatoes do. A variety is made as follows:

RICE AND TOMATOES.

Butter a pudding dish and put the boiled rice into it, stirring in half an onion, chopped, and a full cup of stewed tomatoes. Add a lump of butter the size of an egg and salt and pepper to taste. If you can get hold of a green pepper, fresh or pickled, and put it through the rice, so much the better. A few bits of dried red pepper may be used, but not too much. Bake all covered for half an hour, uncover and brown. This makes a very well-flavored dish and nearly every one will like it.

But one does not want all starchy foods. Potatoes and rice are very well, but they are not enough and even macaroni, while it makes a change, palls after a while. So one must fall back upon the old Winter vegetables or find new ways of making canned vegetables take the place of the fresh.

Of course it gives a little more trouble. But then one must expect that to get anything worth while. And it is worth while to make

the place of the fresh.

Of course it gives a little more trouble. But then one must expect that to get anything worth while. And it is worth while to make the table attractive and to see the members of the family who have turned away from their food or complained that nothing tasted right, enjoy the meal on which the housekeeper has spent a certain amount of extra care. A dish that will appeal to those who like tomatoes more than will the everlasting stewed tomatoes, is the following: is the following:

SCALLOPED TOMATOES.

Chop fine two tablespoonfuls of fat salt pork and a small owen. Butter a pudding dish and put in it a layer.

put in it a layer of canned toma-toes. Sprinkle with the minced pork and onion and with salt and pepper. Have the top layer of crumbs. Strew SCALLOPED TOMATOES. bits of butter over it, bake covered half an

hour, uncover and brown. Another excellent dish that can be made by those who are remote from towns and must de-pend upon the products of the farm is

STUFFED ONIONS.

balls and the orange carrots cut in dice. Boil them until tender in separate vessels, drain them and mix them in a dish. Put a lump of butter upon them and sprinkle them with salt and peoper.

butter upon them and sprinkle them with salt and pepper.

PEASE IN BREAD PATTIES.

Cut thick slices of stale bread into fancy shapes with a cake cutter. If you have no cutter that will shape hearts or diamonds use the round tin with which you cut biscuits. Scoop out a hollow in the middle of each form, brush over the cup you thus make with melted butter and set it in the oven until it is lightly browned. Take the contents of a can of green pease, which should have been turned out an hour before they are to be used. Drainthe liquor from them. Heat a cupful of milk and add to it one tablespoonful of butter, a saltspoonful of salt in the middle of two eggs and the pease. Let all get hot together and as soon as the sauce thickens, fill the hollows in the bread patties with the pease and the sauce. Heap it up on top of the paties. This is pretty and good.

Nothing appeals so much to the appetite in the spring as green food of various kinds. On some farms there is provision made for keeping all winter celery and other green vegetables, while on other farms there is provision made by means of hot beds or cold frames for early lettuce and other salads. These are most wholesome and when they cannot be secured, cabage salad should be made. What is known as "hot slaw" is liked by nearly every one and makes a pleasant variety in the ordinary run of every-day vegetables.

Mince fine the been transpring of a bead of a phace. every-day vegetables.

"hot slaw" is liked by nearly every one and makes a pleasant variety in the ordinary run of every-day vegetables.

HOT SLAW.

Mince fine the heart of a head of cabbage. Make a dressing by heating over the fire a cup of vinegar with a tablespoonful each of sugar and of butter, a pinch each of salt and of pepper. Let them come to a boil. Pour it then over the cabbage and set it aside to become perfectly cold. It is improved by adding to it a couple of tablespoonfuls of sour cream just before sending to table.

This is a delicious salad and it is possible to compass others even when fresh lettuce is not at hand. Canned pease or string beans, drained and made very cold may be served with a dressing like the above or with one or three tablespoonfuls of salad oil, one of vinegar and a half teaspoonful of salt and a tablespoonful of pepper. They should be well mixed and poured over the salad. It is very well worth while to buy good salad oil. It will keep almost any length of time in a cool place and make possible many delicious dishes.

Potato-salad is liked by nearly every one. Cold boiled beets make a good salad or may be added to other salads. All these things have their part in improving the table in the farmhouse or in the small village.

Sometimes the extra trouble hardly seems worth while and yet in the end it pays for itself. It is very little care to add to the dinner or the supper the dish of water cresses or beet tops or dandelion salad, and yet the constant use of such things often has its share in regulating the system in Spring and saving the course of medicine that many people feel they must take in the first warm days. And there are few housekeepers who do not feel that the added care is more than made up for by the more attractive table. They, too, get tired of the everlasting round and long for a change and enjoy it when it comes. There are many novelties that are simple and cheap if they will but keep on the lookout for them.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR—In conducting this department Mrs. Herrick would be n

NOTE BY THE EDITOR—In conducting this department Mrs. Herrick would be pleased to answer any questions that our readers may ask. It is her desire to please all "COMFORT" readers and in order to find out your likes and dislikes can't you write and ask a few questions. By so doing yon may give us some hint or suggestion as to how this Household Department should be conducted to suit the greatest number of our readers. Mrs. Herrick's mother, MARION HARLAND, has made herself famous by her rare judgment in household matters, and her daughter is equally gifted in this connection. Address all letters Christine Terhune Herrick, care COMFORT, Augusta Maine.

BOTANIC BLOOD BALM FREE! Cures Blood and Skin Diseases, Itching Hum ors, Eczema, Cancer, Eating Sores, Blood Poison, Carbuncles, etc.

Send no money-simply write and try Botanic Blood Balm at our expense. A personal trial of Blood Balm is better than a thousand printed testimonials, so don't hesitate to write for a

free sample. If you suffer from ulcers, eczema, scrofula, Blood Poison, cancer, eating sores, itching skin, pimples, old sores that won't heal, scabs and scaly skin, carbuncles, boils, bone pains, swellings, rheumatism, catarrh, or any blood or skin disease, we advise you to take Botanic Blood Balm. Especially recommended for old, obstingted deep-setted esses of malignant blood patients deep-setted esses of malignant blood. Select the largest onions you have. Peel them and parboil them for ten minutes. Drain them and when they are perfectly cold, dig out the heart with a sharp penknife, leaving pretty thick walls outside of the cavity you make. Chop the onion taken out with a little cold meat and a few bread crumbs. Season with salt and pepper and moisten with a little butter. Put this stuffing back into the onions, set them side by side in a bake dish, pour about them enough weak stock to keep them from burning and bake covered half an hour. Stick a bit of parsley in the top of each before you send the dish to table.

Another nice dish is made by cutting turnips and carrots into balls or dice. If you have a little potato gouge you can make the balls and it is pretty to have the white turnips cut in

# Whence Comes This Mighty Healing Power?

All the Land Wonders at the Remarkable Cures Effected by Prof. Adkin.

### Heals Diseases Called Incurable.

Ministers, Doctors and Professional Men Tell How He Has Cured the Blind, the Lame, the Paralytic, and Many on the Very Brink of Death.

### Free Help for the Sick.

Professor Adkin Offers to Help All Sufferers from Any Disease Absolutely Free of Charge-Professional Men Investigate His Powers.



PROF. THOS. F. ADKIN.

President of the Institute of Physicians and Surgeons.

President of the Institute of Physicians and Surgeons.

In all parts of the country men and women doctors and surgeons, clergymen and educators are wondering at the remarkable cures made by Prof. Thomas F. Adkin, discoverer of the Adkin Vitaopathic treatment.

Professor Adkin heals not by drugs, nor by Christian Science, nor by Osteopathy, nor by Hypnotism, nor by Divine Healing, but by a subtle psychic force of nature in combination with certain vital magnetic remedies which contain the very elements of life and health.

A reporter recently talked with Professor Adkin and was asked to invite 'all readers of this paper who are sick or who are worried by the ills of those dear to them to write to him for assistance. "Some people have declared," said Professor Adkin, "that my powers are of God; they call me a Divine Healer,—a man of mysterious powers. This is not so. I cure because I understand nature—because I use a subtle force of nature to build up the system and restore health. But at the same time I believe that the Creator would not have given me the opportunity to make the discoveries I have made nor the ability to develop them if He had not intended that I should use them for the good of humanity. I therefore feel that it is my duty to give the benefit of the science I practice to all who are suffering. I want you to tell your readers that they can write to me in the strictest confidence if they are troubled with any kind of disease and I will thoroughly diagnose their cases and prescribe a simple home treatment which I positively guarantee to effect a complete cure, absolutely free of charge. I care not how serious their cases, nor how hopeless they may seem; I want them to write me and let me make them well. I feel that this is my life's work.

So great is the sensation wrought in the medical world by the wonderful cures performed by Professor Adkin that several professional gentlemen were asked to investigate the cures. Among the

gentlemen were Dr. L. B. Hawley and Dr. L. G. Doane, both famous physicians and surgeons. After a thorough and painstaking investigation these eminent physicians were so astounded at the far-reaching powers of Professor Adkin and the wonderful efficacy of Vitaopathy that they volunteered to forsake all other ties in life and all other kinds of treatment and devote themselves to assisting Professor Adkin in his great work for humanity. With the discovery of the Adkin Vitaopathic treatment eminent physicians are generally agreed that the treatment of disease has at last been reduced to an exact science.

In all some 8,000 men and women have been cured by the powers of Professor Adkin. Some were paralytics scarcely able to move, so great was their infirmity. Others were afflicted with Bright's disease, heart disease, consumption and other so-called incurable diseases. Some were sufferers from kidney trouble, dyspepsia, nervous debility, insomnia, neuralgia, constipation, rheumatism, female troubles and other similar ills. Some were men and women addicted to drunkenness, morphine and other evil habits. In all cases Professor Adkin treats he guarantees a cure. Even those on the brink of the grave, with all hope of recovery gone, and despaired of by doctors and friends alike, have been restored to perfect health by the force of Vitaopathy and Professor Adkin's marvellous skill. And remarkable as it may seem distance has made no difference. Those living far away have been cured in the privacy of their own homes, as well as those who have been treated in person. Professor Adkin asserts that he can cure any one at any distance as well as though he stood before them.

Not long ago John Adams of Blakesbury, Iowa, who had been lame for twenty years, was perma-

person. Professor Adkin asserts that he can cure any one at any distance as well as though he stood before them.

Not long ago John Adams of Blakesbury, Iowa, who had been lame for twenty years, was permanently cured by Professor Adkin without an operation of any kind. About the same time the city of Rochester, N. Y., was startled by the cure of one of its oldest residents, Mr. P. A. Wright, who had been partly blind for a long period. John E. Neff, of Millersburg, Penn., who had suffered for years from a cataract over his left eye was speedily restored to perfect sight without an operation. From Logansport, Indiana, comes the news of the recovery of Mrs. Mary Eicher, who had been practically deaf for a year, while in Warren, Pa., Mr. G. W. Savage, a noted photographer and artist, who was not only partially blind and deaf, but at death's door from a complication of diseases, was restored to perfect health and strength by Professor Adkin. Vitaopathy cures not one disease alone, but it cures all diseases when used in combination with the proper remedies. If you are sick, no matter what your disease nor who says you cannot be cured, write to Professor Adkin to-day; tell him the leading symptoms of your complaint, how long you have been suffering and he will at once dignose your case, tell you the exact disease from which you are suffering, and prescribe the treament that will positively cure you. This costs you absolutely nothing. Professor Adkin will also send you a copy of his marvelous new book, entitled "How to be Cured and How to Cure Others." This book tells you exactly how Professor Adkin will also explains to you how you yourself may possess this great healing power and cure the sick around you. Professor Adkin does not ask one cent for his services in this connection. They will be given to you absolutely free. He has made a wonderful discovery and he wishes to place it in the hands of every sick person in this country, that he may be restored to perfect health and strength. Mark your letter personal when

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KEEP YOUR HANDS CLEAN OUR STRAWBERRY HULLER

hulls Strawberries, Gooseberries, Black Currants, etc., and picks out Basting Thread and Stitches. Has place for thumb and forefinger; doesn't slip or fill up. A simple little thing, saving Time (most essential thing to housekeepers), Temper, Stained and Sore Fingers. Will not crush ripest fruit. Takes out soft and green spots, leaving berries clean, neat, and clear cut, making them look fifty per cent better in the dish, and makes you wonder why it was not thought of before. With one you can do the work twice as quickly, and without any of the usual unpleasant features of this work. Every lady who tries this once in the berry season will never be without it again, or allow her friends to hull berries with fingers. One trial only is needed. Housekeepers write, "Could not get along now without it." They are brightly nickelpolished and ornamental. Splendid side line. A day's supply goes in your pocket. To have a greater number of people in the whole country read our famous magazine regularly we will accept trial six months' subscriptions at 10c. each, knowing full well each will renew for a year after becoming fascinated with the interesting contents. You may send us one mew subscriber to this magazine for ix months, with 10c. for same, and receive as a reward, postpaid, one of these Berry Hullers. This is the season to begin the new summer serial stories and you will find the Hullers most useful. Send the subscription giving full address and 10c. for same today and we will mail you sample huller free and give you further information so you can make money.

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Veracious Records of the Doin's in the Cobb' Corner Postoffice, "Writ out" by the Corner Postoffice, "Writ out" b Boy Behind the Counter.

[EDITOR'S NOTE. The quaint philosophers, the dry wags, the shrewd dickerers and the eminent yarn-spinners of the countryside make a forum of the country postoffice when there is room at the rear around the big stove. The stories and incidents on which some of the most successful human interest novels of the day are constructed come from the quaint loungers around the stores in Yankee communities. These official records of "Jeth's Crowd" are to be taken down month by month for the readers of "Comfort," and we hope that as you become acquainted with the members of the "Congress" your interest in their discourse and stories will deepen.

In the June number of "Comfort" the "Cobb's Corner Congress" will continue sessions.]



HE stage-driver from "the East", holding up at Cobb's Corner for the mail to be "shift-ed," threw his two lank bags into the postoffice pen and then straggled out to the back of the store. The usual gang

was there.

"Gittin' pretty settled goin', hain't it,
Ran," asked Teed

Strout. "Wal, 'tain't so much like goin' to sea as it was," admitted Ran, the stage-driver. "Still, it's hove so in places that it would break a snake's back to try to foller the ro'd."

out so on the ro'ds as they did when I was highway surveyor in this town," growled Uncle Wack Spofford. "They jest ride 'round on a ro'd machine and let the hosses do the work. People are gittin' lazier and lazier ev'ry year that goes by."

People are gittin' lazier and lazier evry year that goes by."

"There wa'n't no chance for 'em to be lazy when you worked on the ro'ds, Wack," retorted Ran. "Used to have to strap the passengers in to keep 'em from punchin' holes in the top of the stage with their heads. They got so much exercise that they couldn't be lazy."

Wack was framing an indignant reply but the stage-driver gave him no opportunity to break in.

the stage-driver gave him no opportunity to break in.

"Ye can't tell much about folks nowadays, can ye?" he asked. "Some of these kind that ye might think is as stuck up as fury are reelly the nicest people. The only passenger that I had on the stage comin' out this mornin' got on at Martin's Mills and told me that she was goin' out to visit her daughter Lindy. She set up so kind of prim-like that I was jest a mite afraid of her. I would like to have said suthin' to my off-hoss when he stepped on my foot but I didn't dast to express myself.

I didn't dast to express myself.
"After we got started I thought I'd like to take a whiff, but I vum I didn't hardly dast to ask her if the smoke would bother her. Reck-oned sure it would. But I did want to light up dretfully on them long hauls up hills where

Postmaster, "and if ye enj'y smoking I don't know of any reason why wimmen-folks shouldn't have the same privilege. 'Sides, I see by the papers that it's workin' into good society in great shape."

society in great shape."

"Wal, there hain't nothin' said about them settin' down and smokin' T. D. pipes, is there?" asked Teed Strout.

"I donno what they smoke," replied The Postmaster, "the paper don't say."

"They smoke those blame sugerettes, that's what they do," explained Wack Spofford. "I'd ruther see my wife smoke a corn cob pipe than them things. That young boy of Cephas Blake's down here a ways, his thro't's all rowelled out from smokin' sugerettes."

"The way wimmen round here is ready to

elled out from smokin' sugerettes."

"The way wimmen round here is ready to copy ev'rything that's goin'," continued The Postmaster, "the Lit'ry Club will be havin' smoke talks 'fore we know it."

"They won't in my house," said Chet Woodrow, "not 'less they smoke in the woodshed. My wife thinks more of her curtains than she doos of follerin' the style. I'd jest like to see the Wimmen's Lit'ry Club light up 'round my place. But I'd want to be lookin' on with a telescope." telescope."

"The wimmen won't git to smokin' up in our neighborhood," broke in Ezra Pitts, "not unneighborhood," broke in Ezra Pitts, "not until the seance excitement has died down. That woman that is spendin' the month with the Atkinses, she's a meejum. They've been havin' circles round the neighborhood for two or three weeks and the folks are all kind of heifered up over the thing. I don't know jest how much there is to it in the way of square deal, but them tables do tip round tremendous and the sperits must have some barked knuckles, rapnin' the way they do.

pin' the way they do.

"The other night we was settin' in the dark in Atkinses' settin'-room with our hands on the table and nothin' sayin'. Ev'rything was still as a mouse, waitin' for the spirit inflocence to git to work. All to once there commenced the most rambunxious rappin' down under our

the most rambunxious rappin' down under our feet I ever listened to.

"'That's a very strong sperit,' said the meejum, in her solum, low way. I have felt this mighty inflooence hov'rin' round us for sev'ral seeances. But until tonight it has not broken into our circle. We may expect some remarkable tests this ev'nin'. But we must wait till the sperit controls its great strength and comtill the sperit controls its great strength and composes itself. Comin' into our circle for the first time it is very excited, I notice.'
"Sure enough that sperit did seem to be excited. Ripity-rap, whan gity bang, bang, bang, it went.
There would come a leetle pause and the meejum would ask a question and the sperit would go off rappin' as though it was shinglin' a house.

a house.

"'I am told by sperit inflooences', said the meejum after a time, 'that this is the sperit of Samson. Samson, you know had great strength.' Old Ike Spencer was sittin' into the circle and he broke in and asked if Sams. had circle and he broke in and asked if Sams. had been keepin' away from barbers late years. The folks next to him hushed Ike up and the meejum said. 'In the sperit land Samson has got back all the strength that was stolen from him so cruelly in this life.' Ike wanted to know if there wasn't goin' to be a chance to ask Samson some questions. The meejum tried again but Sams. let out a long roll of raps that there wa'n't no more head nor tail to than if ye dragged a stick along a picket fence. And after wa'n't no more head nor tall to than if ye dragged a stick along a picket fence. And after we had set there a leetle while the rappin' stopped and the next minit we heered steps comin' towards us as though some one was walkin' up the suller stairs. 'I feel as though we were goin' to materialize Samson,' said the meejum in a trembly voice. 'Please all keep your hands firmly fixed on the table and do not your hands firmly fixed on the table and do not

"But Uncle Ike pulled away mighty quick.
"I hain't got no objections to materializin' old
Wham-joodle, chief of the Boozoos,' he said,
'but I'm blessed if I want to be dodgin' jawbones of jackasses and foxes with their tails on
fire. Sams. is too much of a practical joker to

sak her if the smoke would bother her. Reckoned sure it would. But I did want to light
up dretfully on them long hauls up hills where
the hosses had to walk a mile or so. At last we
come to the stretch of woods—a tew mile drag
up hill and I got so blame sort of lonesome that
I reckoned I jest had got to have a smoke. I
turned to the nice old lady. She was lookin's
so sort of glum and prim that I had hard work
to ask her, but I did.

""Marm' says I, I hate to ask ye, but would
ye let me light my pipe goin' up this hill? It
would ease my feelin's a good deal. Now don't
make no bones about tellin' me if ye don't like
to bacco smoke.

""Why, land o' love, young man,' says the
old lady, 'why hadn't ye said so before? I've
been hankerin' for a smoke myself, dretfully,
for the last hat' hour, but
I hate to smoke before men
folks' less they use it themselves. Shall I trouble ye
for a match?

"She reached down into
her bag and hauled out a
T. D. and I vum I never had
a more sociabler smoke in
all my life. I tell ye, ye
run acrost some of the best
folks in this world when
ye least expect it."

The steps stopped out in the
kitchen. The rest of the circle set there with
their hands on the table but they wastemblin'
ike a cup custard on a thrashin' machine. Then
came a rap on the settin' rom door.

"Why, land o' love, young man,' says the
told lady, 'why hadn't ye said so before? I've
been hankerin' for a smoke myself, dretfully,
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"Showley and hauled out a
T. D. and I vum I never had
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run acrost some of the best
folks in this world when
ye least expect it."

The stage-driver went
out with his mail bags.

"I spose." growled Teed
Strout, "if she'd hauled
out a fisk and said, 'Here's
lookin' at ye!' Ran would
have thought she was an angel on earth. For
my part I don't like wimmenfolks to be like
Boston drummers.

"You've see here behind this stove an

"I do.

It was pretty plain that Uncle Ike not bein' used to talkin' with sperits was sort of gittin' to the end of his conversational rope. But after a little hitch he asked again.

"'Don't dew much, I "'Don't dew much, I s'pose, but fly 'round and

spose, but hy round and jest have a good time?'
"'That's it.'
"Ike hung up quite a while thinkin' of suthin' else to say. Fin'ly he asked, 'I s'pose souls run big and little there 'bout the seme's your bedies do the same's your bodies do on earth?'
""'Bout the same,' said

Athaniel.

"'Haow much do you measure from tip to tip, Athanial?' asked Ike. Ye see he reckined Ath. must be an all-fired big angel and he wanted statistics."
"Did he say?" inquired Wack.

"Seemed to kind of make him huffy," said Ezra, "for he gave a clip on the table that prutty nigh split the top and off he went. Ike says if it's got so that sperits git mad and won't answer sensible questions he don't care about 'tendin' out on any more seeances and bein' insulted."

"I don't blame Athanial," said The Post-master. "It's puttin' a sperit right on the same plane with a henhawk."
"Did ye ever try to carry on a conversation with a sperit?" asked Ezra, pushing the potato down onto the end of his kerosene can and rising to go. rising to go.
"Not t' I know of."

"Not t' I know of."
"Wal, don't ye be so sure that ye wouldn't
make a break. It would be jest like an old
numb-head of your calibre to ask, 'Haow are
ye standin' the heat this summer?""

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For the enlightenment and benefit of its subscribers, COM-FORT has inaugurated this department under the title of COMFORT'S AT-HOME LAWYER, wherein well be carefully and correctly solved any legal problem which may be submitted. All opinions given herein, will be prepared at our expense by eminent counsel. Law suits can frequently be avoided by timely and judicious advice concerning matters in dispute; this, however, can only be done by one who is fully conversant with his or her legal rights and privileges. This department will also prove of great value and interest from an educational standpoint, as in it will be answered any proper legal question that may be propounded.

point, as in a way, and way be proported in a sit is one of the principal missions of COM-Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COM-FORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the saucity of the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to di-

the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce.

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Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons
seeking advice in this column but not necessarily for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

Judith.—Under the laws of Maine, an unsecured note outlaws within six years from the date of its maturity or the last payment made under it. If however, the note is under seal, it is good for twenty years after last payment or maturity. It is possible, though not usual, for a creditor to obtain an execution against a debtor without the knowledge of the latter. Usually the summons in a case is served in person on the debtor; where however this is impossible, an attachment may under certain circumstances be issued directly against the property of the debtor, without personal notice to him. Of such proceedings notice is sent to the debtor by publication in a paper published in the County where the action is brought.

A. B.—Where the title to real estate is in the name of

A. B.—Where the title to real estate is in the name of the husband, even though it was nequired by the joint efforts of himself and other members of the family, it may still be taken for an indebtedness against him. The fact that legal title is inhim, makes it a part of his estate and subject to the payment of his debts. A morting of real estate to be perfectly valid, and good security, where same is made by a married man, must be joined in by his wife, to pass all dower interest in the property. Your question with reference to the payment of taxes of your father's property and the interest of his daughter therein depends on many circumstances which are not disclosed in your letter. If the daughter bought in the property at tax sale, she might obtain a tax title. If she simply paid the taxes and took receipts therefor, other questions would arise which the local Courts might be called upon to unravel. If you will write the Editor of this column the facts just as they are, he will write you further about it.

Texas.—If a man leads a woman astray under promise

he will write you forther about it.

Texas.—If a man leads a woman astray under promise of marriage and a child is born, the man is compelled either to marry the woman or to make provision provided by the law of the State for the maintenance and support of the child. If the woman refuses to marry him, he is of course, absolved from such duty, but must nevertheless support the child, that is, make suitable monetary provision for it. Failure to do so, would result in a conviction, on proper proof, of the crime of bastardy and the offender would be tried before a Jury, who would determine the degree of his guilt. As a rule, a reasonable provision for the support of the child is all that is required in such cases. The law is no respector of persons and holds out no revenge to the woman who permits herself to be seduced. The only redress is to make the man responsible for the child, contribute to its support.

E. D. Under the facts as you state them, the wife has

E. D. Under the facts as you state them, the wife has or right to dispose arbitrarily of the father's estate. The personal property which the deceased left, will descend to her, but the farm proper, that is the real estate, must be seend to his heirs—the two sons—leaving the widow nowever, her dower interest during her lifetime. The proper procedure is to apply to the Widows' and Orbitans' Court for the appointment of an administrator, which should be done at once by either one of the two lons. Consult a local lawyer at your County seat.

Widow.—A widow who has never resided in a state or with her deceased husband in such state, is not entitled to the homestead of her deceased husband in such state.

Jury.—Where a juror has formed an opinion from reading newspapers as to the crime charged, he may be required to serve if he declares an oath that he will base his verdict exclusively on the law and the evidence introduced and admitted.

his verdict exclusively on the law and the evidence introduced and admitted.

Jane, -If your brother-in-law advised you to give him a power of attorney to manage your land but induced you to sign what was in fact a deed, you supposing it to be simply a power of attorney, he simply became a trustee for you and is bound to re-convey the land to you and to account to you for the profits derived from it.

G. L. K.—Porcible entry and detainer is the appropriate remedy to recover lands from one who has settled thereon without color of title and to which you have the right of possession. Such an action must be begundn the county where the land is located; you will probably have to consult a local lawyer.

Owner.—If you paid the tax voluntarily, you cannot recover it back, under any circumstances; if, however, you paid it under any circumstances; if, however, you paid it under any circumstances; if, however, you paid it under any circumstances; if however to back in case the courts decide that it was sillegally levied or unwarranted for any reason. Money voluntarily paid can never be recovered in such a case.

Lands.—If a contest over the rights of parties to a por-

Lands.—If a contest over the rights of parties to a por-tion of the public domain, the final decision of the land department at Washington is conclusive and binding, and from it there is neither appeal nor redress. The Sec-retary of the Interior (one of the President's cabinet), has sole jurisdiction over the matter.

Edward.—Where a land owner has not been paid for land taken for a public road, he has no right to obstruct the same. He will undoubtedly in due course, receive such compensation as the court has awarded him for his property. The public has what is called the "Right of Eminent Domain" to take such property as is needed for the use of the public and the owner is paid its value at a price fixed by a jury of his countrymen.

T. R. W.—Where a person is grossly negligent and injury therefrom results to another, the party who made the injury possible is liable not only for all actual damages but as well for punitive damages to deter others from doing likewise.

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General

Barker

Chopen

Watson

Estabrooke

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Positively no music sold. It is given free for securing subscriptions, and can-t be obtained unless new club subscribers' are furnished as specified above.

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For the benefit of our readers who live in the smaller towns and remote communities, Componer proposes the organization of Comfort Clubs whose object shall be to add to the comfort of living by bringing people together for their mutual instruction, improvement and amusement.

Knowing that social pleasures are lacking in the smaller places more because people do not know how to organize and what to do that is interesting and pleasing, than because they do not care for such things, Comport will undertake to suggest ways and means by which the young people, at least, may pass many winter evenings which would otherwise hang heavily.

First: The clubs, to be known as Comfort Clubs are

would otherwise hang heavily.

First: The clubs, to be known as Comfort Clubs, are to have their membership from among subscribers to COMPORT, and ten persons or less may constitute a Club, In communities where there are more than ten eligible. Clubs A, B, C etc., may be organized, the objects of these divisions being to make it possible for sets of persons to make up their own crowds, for such meetings as they may wish to have. But each month there must be a regular meeting of the whole Club at which all members may attend and take part in the exercises.

Second: The monthly meeting should be hadden.

may attend and take part in the exercises.

Second: The monthly meeting should be held in some large room (church or town hall) and members are to read, recite, sing, play on some instrument, or act a short piece, the whole to conclude with some interaging game which Comport will present. Comport will also provide the program each month for the monthly meeting, so that members need only carry out the program which will be furnished them. Division meetings may be held at private houses of members of the divisions, and once a week if so desired.

Once a week if so desired.

Third: The officers of Comfort Clubs shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, four in all, and to be elected by the Club, once a year. There are to be no fees of any kind, but if at any time the Club wishes to raise money for any charity, small admittance may be charged at the usual monthly meeting. This can only be done by vote of the Club. Every member shall be entitled to invite two persons, not members, to attend any meeting, general or division.

Fourth: Each member shall wear a badge or button indicating membership, Compour agreeing to furnish appropriate badges without cost to members.

propriate badges without cost to members.

These general rules, which will be modified and improved as the needs of Clubs develop, are now given as basis upon which to organize the pioneer Clubs, and Comport will be pleased to hear from our lady readers all over the land concerning their willingness to undertake the good work. COMPORT will also be glad to reader all the assistance in its power to aid the cause of making life cheerier and brighter and increasing good will ado be awarded to the first club organizing and reporting to this office, which organization may take place immediately upon receipt of this notice. Various annual pries, to be determined later, will be awarded to Clubs forecastic cellence in attendance, numbers, &c.

Address all communications to Comfort Club Editor, COMPORT, Augusta, Maine.

Method of Organization of Clubs.

Method of Organization of Clubs.

Method of Organization of Clubs.

Let the person undertaking the organization notify sit or more subscribers to ComPoRT at the same postoffice to meet at a designated house, or room, and when they have come together, simply state the object of the organization of the club, as announced in ComPoRT and gether sense of the meeting as to organizing. If a majority favor it, proceed at once to organization by naming two or more persons, male or female as candidates for President, first. Then pass slips of blank paper around for each person to write thereon the name of his or her choice for the office, and the one receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared president. Proceed in the same way for Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Then the person who has called the meeting will retire and the new officers will take charge, the President in the chair, conducting the meeting, and the Secretary and the Secretary and the same as clerk making the minutes. The President will announce the program and call off the order of business naming those who are set down as taking individual parts.

The main idea is to have this part of the club's works.

The main idea is to have this part of the club's works simple as it can possibly be, so that members will find the duties a pleasure rather than a burden, the object of the club being the greatest comfort to the greatest number.

Comfort Club Program.

1

Comfort Club Program.

1—Meeting called to order by President.

2—Reading minutes of previous meeting; by Secretary.

3—Admission of members.

4—Other business, if any.

5—Intermission of five minutes—conversation.

6—Recitation.

7—Vocal selection—solo or concerted number.

8—Intermission of five minutes—conversation.

10—Comfort Club Game, for all present, (See below.)

11—"Auld Lang Syne," sung by the entire meeting.

12—Announcements for following month by the View President.

13—"The Star Spangled Banner," sung by all present, standing.

14—Good Night.

Comfort Club Game for May Meeting.

Comfort Club Game for May Meeting.

Comfort Club Game for May Meeting.

An interesting and instructive game, in which all can take part and which is particularly happy in affording a subject for general conversation, is what is called "The Portrait Game." In this the president of the club, with such assistance as he or she may select, cuts from newspapers and magazines some thirty or forty, more or less, portraits of well-known people which he numbers and fastens to the walls of the room with pins, so as not to injure the paper or plaster. He has a list of the names of the persons pictured, numbered to correspond with the numbers on the pictures. Slips of paper, numbered in blank, are distributed to all present and they go about the room, which is now a portrait gallery, guessing who are represented on the walls, and setting down the names of their guesses opposite the number on their slips. The person guessing all wins the prize, and the one next gets the second prize. The one guessing the lowest number gets the "boody prize". Any small article, book, piece of china, etc., makes a nice prize, besides the glory of winning. Lots are to be drawn for the prize when more than one is correct. This game may be also played with pictures of the well-known advertisements seen in the periodicals and newspapers.

Two or three charades may be presented if this game is finished before the usual closing hour. Here are several words from which to choose: Sham-rock, Top-knot, Work-shop, Pot-ash, Pitchfork, Friend-ship, Clerk-ship, Rain-bow.

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In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one month.

Dear Cousins: The pleasant month of May is with us once more, and I hope you all feel as bright as the month promises to be, and that the June roses will follow you always, as they do May. Now let us get to the prosier things, work, for instance.

The first question before me is from O. H.. Dardanelles, Ark., who wants to know the meaning of the words Europe, Asia and Africa. Europe comes from the Greek word Europos, meaning dark and was given by the Asiatics to the country west of them, that is toward the setting sun, or night. Asia is from a Scandinavian word Aesir, referring to the Asae or deities that came with the god Odin from the East. Africa is a roman word for Frigi, a province near Carthage, where the Romans first became acquainted with the continent.

Lucille, W., Beekmantown, N. Y.—There are sev-

Lucille, W., Beekmantown, N. Y.—There are several homes for old men in your state, but they are private institutions, not classified. Write to "Home for the Aged," 113th St., and Amsterdam Ave., New York City, for information, inclosing postage for

Dolly and Polly, Evening Shade, Ark.—Dear me, little girls, the questions you ask me can only be answered by your waiting five years. Time will tell.

Triplets, Washougal, Wash.—Moonlight walks are permissible with a chaperone. (2) Girls should not wave handkerchiefs at young men from windows. (3) Don't wear boys' rings.

Sunflower, Sims, Ilis.—If you can get a music class as soon as you are ready to teach, it is preferable to school teaching, and as you have a taste for music, I would advise that. (2) Consult your pastor about your brother.

Ellen, McCune, Kans.—You will find what you want advertised in Comfort.

Ellen, McCune, Kans.—You will find what you want advertised in Comport.

Katie, Phillipsdale, R. I.—If you can not entertain the young men by playing and singing and by conversation, they must be too stupid for you to care whether you do or not. Find young men who can do a little of the entertaining, themselves. (2) Tailor-made suits are usually worn by girls older than sixteen. (3) White shirts in winter are liable to be easily soiled.

Hattie and Nora, Boomer, N. C.—Corresponding with young men you do not know is very common, very bad taste and very liable to get you into trouble. (2) Buggy riding and exchanging photographs with acquaintances are not so bad, but they should be indulged in with care.

Theo, West Milan, N. H.—You had better consult a physician. (2) The standard of academies varies, and you will have to apply to the one you have in mind to know if you can enter. Ordinarily the standard is not high. (3) January 29th, 1887 fell on Saturday.

Prince William Belles, Manassas, Va.—Coasting by boys and girls seems to be good form everywhere. (2) You are the only one to say whether you shall be swung twice in the dance. (3) It is not necessary to ask your correspondent to write again, as it is expected that he will. You can do as you please; there is no rule.

Sweet Peas, Warrenton, Va.—You may ask him for his photograph and also ask him to call. (2) Some men won't take a snub. Tell him frankly you do not want to see him. (3) I should think any shade of blue would be becoming. (4) Your penmanship is good enough for book-keeping. (5). Write to W. M. Clemens, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Three Sisters, Dorchester, Wis.—That plan of getting married may turn out well, but it is dangerously risky.

Sweet Violet, Texas .- Yes to all your questions. Rosalie, Alton, Pa.—You have the easiest way in the world to teach the young man better manners. Simply talk to him about the man you love, and note the effect.

Inquirer, Rochester, N. Y.—Thirty-two is just the right age for twenty-one. (2) If you are a young lady your father's friend should not be calling you pet names as if you were a little girl. Speak to your father about it.

Bonnie, Akron, Ohio.—There are circumstances which may warrant a girl in marrying at your age, but she would do much better to wait till she is wenty-one.

College Chums, Allen, Kans.—There is no cure for jealousy, more's the pity. (2) There is no set time for people to be acquainted before becoming engaged. (3) You had better respect your parents' objection to the young man. (4) Yes. (5) Choose a man older than yourself.

Red Roses, Vale, Cal.—A diamond is the stone for an engagement ring.

Kat. Laurel, Mon.—A diamond ring as a birth-stone present is permissible, but people ought to know it. \*(2) Your cousin must be crazy if he is in love with you and threatens your gentlemen friends. The law prevents his marrying you.

Primrose, Clio, Okla.—I suppose you might wear a button with a boy's picture in it, but why do you want to make an advertisement of yourself like that?

Blue Eyes, Byron, Minn.—Girls of nineteen dress and wear their hair as other young ladies do. (2) "Goo goo" is harmless slang that doesn't mean anything, but silliness. (3) Seventeen is rather young for beaus and dances.

Alice, Perry, Iowa.—As the young man knows what your parents think of him and what you think of him, tell him to wait until you are twentyone, and you will marry him. If you really love each other the waiting will do no harm.

each other the waiting will do no harm.

Empress, Etna, Ark.—Break your engagement with the young man if he has no more regard for your feelings than you say. (2) Young men and young women do not usually kiss upon meeting unless they are kin or are engaged. (3) Obey your parents is a good rule to follow, but there are times when disobedience is the only way. (4) The young lady's address is New York City.

Perplexed Brunette, Pittsford, N. Y.—Your little poem is good for the local paper, but I would not advise you to try a book of poems. Rejection of a manuscript is no sign of literary value. (2) You can't win his love. If he cares for you he will let you know it. (3) You will find in musical peribdicals advertisements of persons who write music to words.

D. C., Pine View, Wyo.—Vf you know the brake-man you may talk to him, but not otherwise.

Darling, Harvel, Ills.—Rings are not suitable presents. (2) It would be proper for you to have the young man look after you, on a long trip, if your parents sanctioned it.

Washington, Little Falls, Wash.—A young man may call oftener than once a week if you want him

you from your engagement if you desire it. Sweetie, Grand Rapids, Mich.—No. (2) You should have nothing to do with a young man who will drink to excess and treat you disrespectfully.

Washington, Little Falls, Wash—A young man nay call oftener than once a week if you want him to a.

Ambitious, Silverdale, Pa.—Write to the principal of Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Uncertainty, Plymouth, Cal.—He should release

D. A. V., North Cornville, Maine—Yes, but be very sure that the young man you marry will be as good to you as your parents have been. (2) You usual, for the wedding to take place at the groom's home. (4) Yes. (5) Parents should know about

33453

# WING \* \* ORGANS

We make the Wing Organs and sell them ourselves. They go direct from our factory to your home. We do not employ agents or salesmen. When you buy a Wing Organ, you pay the actual cost of making it and our small wholesale profit. This profit that we charge is very small because of the large number of organs we sell. A single agent or dealer sells very few organs in a year and has to charge a large profit. You can save from \$50 to \$150 by buying an organ direct from the factory.

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CATALOGUE. - A beautiful catalogue of Wing Organs containing handsome half-tone pictures will be sent free if you write.

WING & SON, 319-321 East 12th St., New York.

1868-34th year-1902

WING PIANOS are sold direct from the factory at a saving of from \$100 to \$200. They are sold on easy monthly payments. Sent on trial without any advance payment or deposit. Over 33,000 have been sold in the last 34 years. A book of information, containing 116 pages, sent free, if you will write to WING & SON, 202 East 12th Street, New York.

# The Awful Results **Heart Disease!**

Many people drop dead from Heart Troubles, who do not even know they are in ill health-What the symptoms are.

### HOW TO EXAMINE YOUR HEART.

that might cause their death.

That is the trouble—they do not know it. Hundreds of people whose heart is in a dangerous condition have no idea they are in ill health. Others treat themselves for diseases of the stomach, lungs, kidneys or parves, when the trouble is wholly with or nerves, when the trouble is wholly with the heart.

Perhaps you are living under a similar danger,—
unless you
have carelifully exlamined
lyyour physical condidanger, tion, you have no means ofknowing sound. Perhaps uou may fall dead from heart trouble some day. Thesymp

toms of heart " You may drop dead." disease are not hard to discover when you look for them, but as they are small in themselves, they are apt to be passed by unnoticed.

Every day you read of people suddenly falling dead from heart trouble without a moment's warning, perhaps as a result merely of a little exertion in catching a train or hurrying home from work.

Did it ever occur to you to wonder why so many people die daily of heart disease in the prime of their life, and in these days of medical skill?

Would you not think that knowing their condition, they would seek a cure in time, or at least avoid the over-exertion that might cause their death.

If you are wise, therefore, you will go carefully over the following list of symptoms, one by one, and see if you have any of them. They are Fluttering, Palpitation, Shortness of Breath, Tenderness, Numbness or Pain in the Left Side, in the Arm or under the Shoulder Blade, Fainting Spells, Dizziness, Hungry or Weak Spells, Spots before the Eyes, Sudden Starting in Sleep, Dreaming, Nightmare, Choking Sensation in Throat, Oppressed Feeling in Chest, Cold Hands and Feet. Pain when Lying on Left Side. and Feet, Pain when Lying on Left Side, Dropsy, Swelling of the Feet and Ankles (one of the surest signs) or Neuralgia Around the Heart.

Even though you find but one, there is cause for immediate action — the chances are many that your heart is seriously affected.

In such a case, your wisest plan will be to write to Dr. Kinsman, for a box of his celebrated Heart Tablets. They will cost you nothing. The Doctor has such faith in his treatment that he will gladly send you a box for trial, by mail, postpaid, absolutely free of charge, in order to gain your friendship, and to prove their great

merits to you beyond all question.

If you have any doubt at all about your of knowing heart being sound after reading over the whether or not your heart is this trial box which he offers free. They may save you from serious sickness—perhaps may prevent your sudden death from a little exertion.

Do not be like the hundreds of others

who have neglected to heed the warning and died in their prime as a consequence, but write to the Doctor without delay, enclosing two-cent stamp for return postage on the tablets. Address your letter plainly to Dr. F. G. Kinsman, Box 962, Augusta, Maine.



In order to meet the demand for information made by Comfort readers on the kindred subjects of Etiquette and Personal Appearance, this column will be devoted to them, and all questions will be answered, but no inquirer shall ask more than two questions each month. We would suggest to readers to cut this column out and paste it in a scrap book. Address letters to Etiquette Editor, Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

fort, Augusta, Maine.

K. A. Sims, Ills.—When an escort accompanies a lady home it is not necessary for either to say "I thank you for your company." Usually if the man has been inconvenienced, or is under no obligations to act as escort, the lady expresses her appreciation of his courtesy by thanking him and saying it was kind of him to do what he has done. There is no set form for such speeches, and one may say what she pleases.

Brown Eyes, Gloversyille, N. V. Arm classing.

may say what she pleases.

Brown Eyes, Gloversville, N. Y.—Any glaring and pronounced color, no matter what it is, is ordinarily said to be "loud." This is especially the case when there is too much of it. For example, a girl in a red shirt waist and dark skirt and hat would not be called "loud." Whereas, if she were dressed all in red, she would be. It is not so much the quality of color that constitutes "loudness" as the quantity of it.

May, What Cheer, Iowa—You should consult a

the quantity of it.

May, What Cheer, Iowa.—You should consult a manicure about your nails, as from what you say of them they need the personal attention of an expert. You might try bathing them frequently in a solution of alum or walnut leaves.

J. C. S., Stockton, Kans.—It is always pleasant at parting with agreeable people to ask them to call again. A man does not usually say when he will call again, unless he is a very frequent caller. (2) Length of acquaintance does not qualify a man to put his arm around a lady. An engagement of marriage ought to be the only qualification, but it always is not, more's the pity. (3) If the young man comes to the kitchen door because he is a kitchen acquaintance, you should not invite him into the parlor.

into the parlor.

Worried, Clearfield, Pa. — You cannot make a "stylish appearance" unless you have some of it born in you. Which does not mean that astylish appearance is any indication of good blood, because there are all kinds of royal ladies who are anything but stylish in appearance. Naturally you must wear becoming clothes, and they must be of good material. If you have a tasteful dressmaker she can be of the greatest assistance to you. (2) Chewing gum does not injure the teeth, perhaps, but it is a very disagreeable habit. Don't do it.

P. G., Corley, Iowa.—Young ladies should not attend dances without excort unless they are chaperoned. (2) If you wish to maintain a respectable social position you certainly cannot afford to have as a friend a man who is not respectable. (3) When a popular girl has half a dozen men at an entertainment trying to take her out to supper, there is nothing for her to do except to accept the first one who asks her. The others will not be offended, for it is to be hoped they have perception enough to see that they all cannot go with her.

L. C., Grand Rapids, Mich.—Invitations should be

L. C., Grand Rapids, Mich.—Invitations should be written on plain white paper, unruled.

Uncertain, Plymouth, Cal.—You probably need a tonic for your hair. This is a good one: Castor oil, one ounce: Tincture Cantharides, four drachms; Oil of Bergamot, thirty drops; alcohol to make one pint. In preparing this the oils are dissolved in the alcohol, and the Cantharides slowly added. Use once or twice a week.

Brown Eves Meridian Idaho —The lady about the control of the

Brown Eyes, Meridian, Idaho.—The lady should first suggest going home from any affair unless there is some reason why the man should.

Blossom, Cherry Creek, Nev.-A girl of fourteen should not go to dances at all, either with or without an escort.

Timid, Green Bay, Wis.—See answer above to K. A. Simms, Ills.

Rosy, Slate, Kans.—It is quite courteous for the young man to take the young lady's mother and sister with the young lady, but they should not permit him to do so very often.

permit him to do so very often.

Belle, Little Falls, N. Y.—Dress the hair low if the face be long, with as much puffing at the sides as will improve the proportions. (2) The lady speaks first. (3) Receive the caller pleasantly and ask him to remain though he may not have been invited to the affair into which he has come by accident. He will understand, and you will not be embarrassed, whether he remains or departs. (4) Moth spots on the face are not to be trifled with. Suppose you try bathing your face three times a day with a preparation as follows; Oil of sweet almonds, 200 grams; glycerine ten grams; tincture of benzoin, five grams.

Inqui, Rochester, N. Y. It is proper for a young lady to invite a gentleman to attend church with her. She may even urge that he should go—if he is not already a regular attendant.

L. M., Rochester, N. Y.—Being the only daughter

not already a regular attendant.

L. M., Rochester, N. Y.—Being the only daughter your cards should read: "Miss Jones." (2) A card should be left at the first visit. (3) Leave it in the basket, or give it to the servant who meets you at the door. If the hostess opens the door and you have left a card previously none is necessary. If not, leave it as you go out. Card etiquette is not strictly observed except in very formal society in the largest cities. (4) A call should be returned within two weeks, in the smaller cities. In large cities one call a year, or merely leaving cards once a year continues the acquaintance.

their children marrying, but when the children are self-supporting they are more independent.

Brown Eyes, Thom Grove, Tenn.—The young man deserves to have you, and you should marry him. From eight to ten years is the proper age be-tween husband and wife.

Minnie, Connamore, Can.—Believe what the young man tells you, and not what his enemies say. You can't think much of him if you don't. (2) Yes. (3) Hazel eyes are dark grayish brown. Monk, Bellwood, Tenn.—March 6th, 1895, was Thursday; December 21st, 1879, was Sunday.

Thursday; December 21st, 1879, was Sunday.

Averil, Duluth, Ga.—Pittsburg, Pa., or New York
City. (2) The Seven Wonders were the Pyramids
of Egypt, the hanging gardens of Babylon, the
tomb of Mauselos, the temple of Diana at Ephesus,
the colossus of Rhodes, the statue of Zeus by
Phidias, the palace of Cyrus, cemented with gold.
(3) "Les Miserables," "Ninety Three," "The
Hunchback of Notre Dame," "The Toilers of the
Sea," are by Victor Hugo.

Betsy, Hallsville, Mo.—Write to the Postmaster,
Denver, Col., inclosing a postal card for reply.

There, all your questions are answered directly

There, all your questions are answered directly or indirectly in the answers to others. Some of your questions are answered in another column under the head "Manners and Looks." With all good wishes, by by till we meet again.

COUSIN MARION.

BIG PRICE PAID for complete files or single numbers. Write and tell just Write and tell just what you have of the following papers; no matter how far back the dates run. Earliest numbers most desired. The New York Weekly, Fireside Companion, New York Mercury, Family Story Paper, Saturday Journal, Saturday Night. Address E. Braddon, 313 South Hicks St., Philadelphia, Pa.



WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



ITH our new Department on Health and Beauty, the questions hitherto sent to the Busy Bee column on these subjects will be transferred to that de-partment. We will answer the inquiry from A. J. H., Sedalia, Mo., however, as it was sent to us so metime ago, and these points in the care of the nails may be use-ful to many of our

readers.

To remove white spots from the nails use a mixture of refined pitch and a lit-tle myrrh upon them

fined pitch and a little myrrh upon them at night, wiping it off the next morning with olive oil. When about to manicure the hands dip the fingers into warm, soapy water and hold them there for a minute or two in order to soften the nails and the scarf skin about them. This skin should be gently pushed back from the nails before they are polished. It should never, unless absolutely necessary, be cut with the scissors. Hangnails may be prevented by proper attention to the scarf skin which surrounds the nails.

For manicuring only a pair of curved nail scissors, a nail file, an orange stick, a chamois polisher, a bottle of vaseline and a box of rose salve or nail powder are necessary.

In response to inquiries for rules for crocheting shoulder capes, we illustrate and describe this month two capes, one of which is a double cape, or circular, and the other single. For the first, five skeins of shetland floss are necessary, with a medium sized crochet hook.

First row.—Make a chain of four and join.

Second row.—Chain three; count this as one treble; make nine treble and join.

Third row.—Chain three; count this as one treble; one treble close to this, two treble in each space, join.

Fourth row.—Chain three; count this as one

each space, join.

Fourth row.—Chain three; count this as one treble; one treble close to this, one treble in next space, two treble in two treble, one treble in next space, two treble in next two treble, and so on. Continue in this way until you



have twenty-one rows, nineteen single trebles between each double treble.

For border use large wooden crochet hook. Two treble in every space for one row, two treble in two treble for eight rows, chain ten and single crochet in every space.

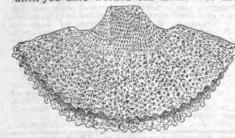
Fancy shell border on same yoke: Make shell of five treble in one space and one treble in

rancy snell border on same yoke; Make shell of five treble in one space and one treble in next two spaces for one row, shell of five treble in center of shell of five treble (working sidewise through center stitch), and one treble on top of one treble in first row, for eight rows; for edge, chain ten and single crochet in every space.

space.
For the single cape Shetland floss, four-fold Germantown wool, or three-fold Saxony, four hanks, one large bone hook, size six or eight. Chain seven, and join in ring. Do not have the chain too loose.
First round.—Three chain to stand as treble, one treble in ring, \*one chain, one treble in ring, and repeat from \* until there are fifteen treble, not reckoning the chain, one chain, slip stitch into hole made by chain at beginning. There will be sixteen spaces.
Second round.—Three chain, one treble un-

Second round.—Three chain, one treble un-der chain in next hole, one chain, one treble in same hole,\*—one chain, one treble into next

same hole, \*-one chain, one treble into next hole, one chain, one treble into next hole again, one chain, one treble into same hole, and repeat from \*; the round ends one chain, slip stitch into hole made by three chain at beginning. Eight increases with two holes between. Third round.—Chain three as usual, one treble in next hole, one chain, one treble in same hole, \*one chain, one treble in next; and repeat from \* until you have worked one treble into the



SHOULDER CAPE.

next increase in previous round; make one chain, one treble into same hole, and repeat from first \* in third round to end of round. There will be three holes between increases. Work every round on the same principle as you have worked the third, getting an extra hole between increases in each succeeding tween each wheel and sew a pearl to one in each round. Thus, in the fourth round, there will

be four holes between increases, in the fifth, five holes between increases, and so on. When fifteen or twenty-one rounds are done, accord-

five holes between increases, and so on. When fifteen or twenty-one rounds are done, according to the depth desired, begin the border.

Note.—The idea is that the center of the shawl forms a sort of a yoke to come nicely to the edge of the shoulders, and with this end in view it is often worked a little closer than the lighter border, even if the same needle is used throughout. Taste will dictate style, and both center and border can be made of any depth wished, as will be seen from the instructions.

Border.—First round.—Make two double crochet under chain in every space.

Second round.—Three chain, one treble, one chain, two treble, all under top loops of first stitch "miss one stitch, then two treble, one chain, two treble, all under the top loops of next stitch, repeat from \*to end of round; join last shell to first.

Third round.—Slip stitch round the top loop of the next treble into the hole in middle of first shell in previous round, then three chain, one treble, one chain, two treble, all into hole in first shell (this first shell is the one you have just slip stitched into the middle of), \*two treble, one chain, two treble, all into the middle of next shell, and repeat from \*to end of round; join as before; slip stitch to middle of first shell.

Fourth round.—Three chain, two treble, one chain, three treble, in hole of first shell,\* three

round; join as before; slip stitch to middle of first shell.

Fourth round.—Three chain, two treble, one chain, three treble, in hole of first shell.\* three treble, one chain, three treble in hole in next shell, repeat from \* to end, join as before and slip stitch to middle of first shell. Repeat fourth round continuously, and be careful that it does not draw. If it seems to need widening, use a larger hook or work more loosely, or lay it on a table and mark eight spaces in the round as nearly as possible above the increases in the center portion, and at each of these spaces when working two treble, one chain, two treble, one chain, two treble, one chain, two treble, one chain, two treble, all into the one shell. This gives spaces for two shells in next round. When shawl is deep enough, the final round is a scallop.

Scallop round.—\*Double crochet between the



shell first worked and the next, nine treble in middle of next shell, and repeat from \*

To protect the boys' knees, and at the same time save wear in stockings and trousers, the knitted knee caps are invaluable.

Knit on small rubber or large steel needles.
Cast on sixty-eight stitches.
Knit four and one-half inches of ribbing

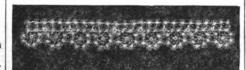
Cast on sixty-eight stitches.

Knit four and one-half inches of ribbing (knitting two stitches plain, two stitches seam). Then knit six needles plain, widening one stitch at end of every needle (making seventy-four stitches). Next knit alternate seam and plain, leaving one stitch at end of every needle till there are eight stitches left. Slip all the stitches on a string and pick up on the side of work which was seamed seventy-four stitches; knit alternate seam and plain, leaving one stitch at end of every needle till there are eight stitches left.

Pick up all stitches on each part, taking one

stitches left.

Pick up all stitches on each part, taking one from each side together; this joins the parts to form the double knee—there will be seventy-four stitches. Knit six needles plain, then four and one-fourth inches ribbing. Bind off and



CROCHET COTTON No. 50.

Mrs. M. H. Clark of Pigeon, Mich. is one of our dear, smart cousins. Although she is over sixty years old, she does her own work and a man's work about the place and is helping the neighbors nearly all the time. She says she has made \$200.00 worth of lace the past year and she has sent a sample of her tatting collars which we here illustrate. These collars are very easily and cheaply made she having made and given away about one hundred of them during the past five months besides doing her other work, calling this catch up work between times. Mrs. Clark says she cares for the neighbors' children when they go away. She visits the sick, and has just returned to her home from helping a friend whose I little boy had fallen into a boiling-hot DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING TATTING COLLAR.

8 FOR WHEEL kettle full of chicken ieed.

DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING TATTING COLLAR.

Make 8 double stitches pearl edge draw up
and fasten, then make 7 double stitches pearl
edge draw edge en to the first pearl, and so on until you make 8. This

makes the wheel.
takes
wheels f for the collar. To make the edge of the collar,

make 7 double stitches MAKE 9 WHEELS LIKE THIS.

and draw up—repeat until you make 26. Then sew the wheels to the edge skipping one between the wheels. Then make 11 double stitches, pearl edge, draw up and fasten to the one



### New Inventions and Discoveries.

The average depth of the Texas spouting oil wells is a few feet more than a thousand, and the height to which the oil is ejected is from sixty to two hundred feet.

Locomotives to burn oil are appearing in the Pacific States. They are built with the cab and furnace in front and the smoke stack behind. The tender is discharged and the oil and water are conducted in pipes.

The construction cost of the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo was \$9,000,000; of the Paris Exposition of 1900 \$10,000,000; of the World's Fair at Chicago \$18,000,000, while St Louis will spend \$30,000,000 in constructing the Louisiana Purchase Exposition buildings in 1903.

The earliest known lens is one made of rock crystal, unearthed by Layard at Nineveh. This lens, the age of which is to be measured by thousands of years, now lies in the British Museum with its surface as bright as when it left the maker's hands.

hands.

It is said that in France 88,000,000 picture post cards pass through the post office annually. That country takes the lead of all the others, Austria-Hungary coming next with 31,000,000. The total in circulation throughout the world in one year is said by experts to be 2,360,000,000.

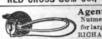
It is now said to be possible to telephone from an electric car moving at its fullest speed to a person in another moving car on the same line, no matter what the distance is. It is also claimed to be possible to hold a conversation from a moving car with any one in his private house in the city, even if the train is between two cities. A wire is

CASH SALARY. Twenty dollars for a few hours' work. No canvassing. Rare opportunity either sex. Send stamp for particulars. The Oriental Rug Company. Plattsburg, N. Y.

# A RING FREE

Send your name and address at once, and on receipt of same we will send you one box of Red Cross Pepsin Gum, express charges prepaid. You can sell it in an hour among your friends and neighbors, and send the proceeds (\$1.00) to us. upon receipt of which we will forward the ring you select, charges paid. Could anything be easier? You don't inselling the gum. We also give Wutches and other presents for selling larger quantities. List sent with gum. Send TODAY—don't wait until they are all gone.

RED CROSS GUM CO., 813F Schiller Bldg., CHICAGO



Agent's Outfit Free.-"Success" Nutmeg Grater-only perfect grater, Send

LADIES State your case and be cured at home. Our treatment gives into n given to all forms of female diseases. Address Woman's Medical Institute, Dept.42, Detroit, Mich.

Set, full size tableware, handsomely decorated and gold traced. We also give when the state of t

"DR. SHOOP RHEUMATISM CURE, guaranteed by CORSETS Girdles, Skirts, etc. Agents Wanted. Samples Prec. J. E. Wood & Co., Syracuse, N. Y. Wrinkles cured forever by Radico, flesh food. Elegant box, 50c. Advisory Co., Marshfield Hills, Mass. SILK for crazy patch, large pkg. pretty pieces 10c.; 3 pkgs., 25c. Ladies' Art Co., 58, 8t. Louis, Mo. LADLES, Pin Money, Flavors, Perfumes, Credit. Agt. terms free. Herbene Agency Co., Bx 354, Station L, New York.

AGENTS wanted to sell our Flavoring Powders.
Sample FREE. Steady work. Large profits.
Waiters Manufacturing Co., 30 Cable Building, New York. MAKE MONEY, My new plan, success as-sured. Send One Dollar full information. G. Pfister, Wellsburg, W.Va.

WOMEN WANTED DO Sewing. \$9.00 week. Steady work. Material furnished free and sent prepaid. Send stamped addressed envelope for par-ticulars. Universal Co., Dept. 29, Walnut Street, Phila.,Pa. BICYCLES Old Reliable
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Write how to get one Free.

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THE YANKEE FIRE-KINDLER Builds 100 Fires

No kindlings. Warner and 3 years. Greatest Seller for Agente ever invented. Sample with mp prepaid, 10c. YANKEE KINDLER CO. BLOCK 69 (O.NEK, ILL.

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Cured by Electricity. No Drugs.
6 months' trial FREEI
W. J. TINDALL, B. 10, Cohoes, N. Y.

FREE TO AGENTS
Plat thin knife cuts loose a perfect cake. HOUSEHOLD NOVELTY WORKS, Chicago, 111., or Buffalo, N.Y.

Mashington greturn

Hall Chemical Co., Dept. R. St. Louis, Mo.



### PRIZE PUZZLE SCOPE.

Here is a good puzzle for every reader of this magazine—just to make you think a little and think quick, as we are very anxious to learn the aptness of all our readers for puzzle solving, because we have a lot more good puzzles that it will pay you well to see.

A NOVEL
FREE.

To infroduce among our friends and give all an opportantity to enjoy reading a clever story by the ever popular will be a secured exclusive control and have published in book form her most powerful work entitled, "Above Suspicion, or The Price She Paid," a cleverly written love tale that you cannot resist until you finish the last word of the last chapter. As a novel method of introducing the above work we present the above Historical Prize Puzzle Scope and you are to guess what famous general is represented, and every person that will send their solution giving name of General with but 2c. in stamps for postage, will receive as a Prize a copy of "Above Suspicion, or The Price She Paid," also a special prize of a book of 12 Prize Picture Puzzles, and for the solution of these puzzles other prizes are given. Attend to this now, enclose your answer with 2c. for postage and get the fascinating story to read. With the story there goes a chapter on "What Women Like to Know," and several Prize Rebus offers. Address

COMFORT, Box 708, Augusta, Maine.



have no hesitancy about ordering at once.

SPECIAL OFFER. If you will send us the second of the second second of the second seco

our monthly for one year at 25c, we will send as a free gift a because of the address and to you we will send as a free gift a because of the address and to you we will send as a free gift a because of the send of the send

as if by magic. They bains Backache, Neuralgia, Nervous and Sciatic Pains, Colds, Coughs, Quinsy, Croup, Pleurisy, Pneumonia, Pneumonia Feer, Soreness, Stiffness, Lameness, Strains, Sprains, Duts, Wounds, Growing Pains in Children, Lumbago, "Stitch in the Back," Inflammation, and other bodily Aches and Pains.

2. When used in connection with Oxien, the Wonderful Food for the Nerves, they promptly relieve and permanently cure Influenza, Nervous Prostration, Kidney, Liver, Heart, Lung, and Stomach troubles, Dyspepsia, Sick Headache, Anemis, Female Disorders, Malarial affections, etc.



act as an infallible safeguard against con

them as a chest protector.

adults.

4. Their electrical action, and soothing, healing, and vitalizing qualities, render them a blessing to Weak, Weary, and Despondent Men and Women, whose starved nerves and pain racked systems cry

UPROOTS DISEASE. BANISHES PAIN, SOOTHES, HEALS, CURES, IMPARTS GIANT STRENGTH.

out for that Nourishment, Relief, and New Vig which Oxien, the Wonderful Food for the Nervet and Oxien Electric Plasters, alone have been four

which Oxien, the Wonderful Food for the Nerves, and Oxien Electric Plasters, alone have been found to give.

5. They are a handy, cheap, ever-ready relief for Pains and Aches, peculiar to Females, and are the safest, simplest, surest and cheapest Woman's Pain Cure ever discovered.

Although the price of Oxien Plasters is 25c.each, to the first seven hundred new friends who can prove they have never before used the Oxien Remedies, and will agree to test the powers of our Wonderful Discovery, and tell their friends if they find relief from their miseries, we will send a sample Oxien Electric Porous Plaster post free. Thousands in America have been made. Write at once -today-and we will also send sample box Oxien free.

Remember. This is a bona fide free offer to new friends only. No attention will be given orders under this offer from any but new customers. It is made to get people to try Oxien Remedies who have not before used them.

NOTICE. No orders will be filled from any place having a resident Oxien agent. Address

THE OXIEN ELECTRIC CO., 29 Willow St., Augusta, Mains.

CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.



HE Sun reaches his greatest northern decination and the summer begins at about seven minutes past four o'clock in the morning of the 22nd of June, this year, Washington mean time. At that moment the 22nd of June, this year, Washington mean time. At that moment the 22nd of June, this year, Washington mean time. At that moment the 22nd of June, this year, Washington mean time. At that moment the 22nd of June, this year, Washington mean time. At that moment the 22nd of June, this year, Washington mean time. At that moment the 22nd of June, this year, Washington mean the 22nd of June, this year, Washington mean the 22nd that year the property of the moment the 22nd that year the Moon will be nearly conjoined with Saturn in the 8th house.

Mercury is the ruler of the figsme and he is found especially strong in the rising flouse, though being retrograde detracts somewhat from the measure of good promised. His postfion is indicative of improvement in the public condition, and that "merchants and tradesmen and all such as give their minds to learning, arts and sciences shell have a successful quartier:" marked advancement in literary enterprises and methods of communication, invention and discovery; increased travel by water and much discovery increased travel by water and much discovery; increased travel by water and made communication. Jupiter, the great benefic, in the 9th, promises successful voyaging and increase of travel by long journeys; "menshall be ingenius and also children and youth, and readily attain to things taught them."

Mars opposing Herschell from our nation's ruling sign and so near the ascendant, gives indication of aggressiveness of authorities over commercial relations and adjust

CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR JUNE, 1902.

JUNE 1-Sunday. The forenoon is not favorable for religious exercises and does not encourage early rising; the afternoon gives improvement and invites thee to busy the mind with literature and the intellectual engagements.

2-Monday. Begin this day early and urge all manner of business to the utmost during the forenon; especially favorable for the merchant and tradesman; purchase goods for trade; seek money accommodations and deal generally with corporations of wealth, public and private treasurers, and railways and their employees; as the day draws towards, its close a baffling condition is found to exist which hinders progress to matters in hand and forbids the commencement of any new and important enterprise; be sure that no matrimonal engagement is enterprise; be sure that no matrimonial engagement is made during the latter half of this day, if comfort and happiness in the relations is desired.

3—Tuesday. The very early hours are the best ones, especially for any of the literary engagements and for commercial contracts of magnitude; have business dealings in the early morning with persons in the polite avocations and with traders in fancy and artistic goods of all kinds; have care in the afternoon lest extravagance will characterize thy dealings; seek no favor from persons of wealth and postpone collections.

wealth and postpone collections,

4 - Wedweaday. Enter into no agreement to pay
money in the morning or become bound as surety for
others; after the morning the day should be fully improved for all honorable undertakings; bargain for lands
and houses; make contracts for their improvement and
deal with aged persons, the agricultural classes and mechanics; surgical operations and chemical experiments
should not be performed, nor should trade be conducted
in cattle, machinery, hardware, chemicals, glassware, or
electrical apparatus.

5—Thursday. Have no dealings on this day with public officers or managing authorities or superintendents in great corporations or upon large public works; save no dealings with real estate men or those engaged a agriculture or mining.

6-Fridny. Do not deal with corporations or any organization of men; do not court or marry or expect much pleasure from social engagements or any of the elegant pursuits; give preference to the afternoon for the best work of the day.

work of the day.

7—Saturday. One of the superior days of the month and REGULUS advises his friends to engage actively in the prosecution of their several callings, but particularly those in the strictly intellectual pursuits; these hours are particularly favorable for the artist and literaticalike and should be fully improved for the inauguration of principal efforts, the forenoon hours being the best for commercial ventures and for all manner of appeals to mind; woo and seek favor at the hands of the fair sex and expect pleasure and success in dramatic and musical entertainments.

entertainments.

S-Sunday. The forenoon is the best part of the day; the afternoon is likely to give fallacious reasoning and unsoundness of doctrine to the religious discourse.

9-Monday. Do not expect much profit or advantage from the elegant avocations or from dealings in artistic or decorative goods in the forenoon of this day, when thou shoulds not have any dealings with public officers or persons in government employ.

10—Tuesday. Keep the eyes wide open against losses of money on this day; make no purchases for trade nor have any dealings with banks or other monied institutions or men; seek business favors from large corporations and thine employer.

corporations and thine employer.

11-Wednesday. A day of increased mental excitement; the mind in the forenoon is likely to be rash and quarrels are easily provoked; keep a civil tongue, be slow to take offence, avoid all controversy, be not careless with fire; be deliberate in judgment and particularly avoid rashness or impulsiveness in business ventures; beware of engaging in new enterprises now presenting themselves. The afternoon is the best part of the day and should be fully improved for urging every honorable pursuit; it is particularly favorable for the intellectual and literary pursuits and for engagements in business in fancy goods, jewelry, wearing apparel, and the nice things in life; the evening gives unusual pleasure from the social, musical and dramatic entertainments.

12—Thursday. An evil day; ask no favor from persons in authority, especially in public life nor expect advancement in employment; railway employees and officials in charge of public works are uncivil and not disposed to grant favors; scrutinize very carefully all business enterprises offering themselves on this day; for no matter how rosy the picture presented the outcome threatens to be very unfortunate. This is especially true for persons claiming this as the anniversary of their birthday or who wize born about the 10th of March, 10th of September, or 12th of December, of past years, and they cannot be too careful in their undertakings and of their health; ladies so born are likely to be upon or are in the midst of unpleasant experiences, misfortunes or sorrows through their husbands, fathers, brothers or lovers and will need to be unusually circumspect in all their acts; marriageable ladies so born should shun the matrimonial alliance at this time and be patient with surrounding circumstances; many of them will feel rebellious, prove headstrong and rush into danger fatal to their future happiness and success. Men so born will need to "watch all the corners," act very conservatively in business, and avoid rupturing existing business relations if they would study their own interest and welfare.

13—Friday. The early forenoon and late afternoon are the best parts of this day; use the former for business with plumbers, plasterers, glaziers, farmers, contractors and builders and the classes generally who are engaged in the laborious and dirty avocations; as the evening approaches conditions favor the mechanical trades, chemists, pottery workers and brick and tile manufacturers.

14—Saturday. Give preference to this day for active pursuit of business, replenishing thy stock in trade and

14—Saturday. Give preference to this day for active pursuit of business, replenishing thy stock in trade and dealing with judges, bankers, and all persons of wealth and prominence.

15—Sunday. The forenoon of this day is the best, especially for matters appropriate; the afternoon is baffling and disappointing; do not expect satisfaction from dealings with the aged or infirm.

16-Monday. Begin this day with the dawn and give all thine energies to business; pursue literary avocations, travel, engage servants, do important correspondence, and deal particularly with all the intellectual

classes.

17—Tuesday. Make no engagement towards wedlock nor expect success in the elegant pursuits or from
dealings in dry goods or fancy or ornamental wares.
REGULUS especially advises the fair not to let wealth
or show tempt them to wed in these passing days for disappointment and unhappiness will in nearly all such
cases fail to their lot, particularly if their birthday anniversaries fall upon the days indicated in the 12th paragraph. Buy no goods for trade nor deal with banks or
wealthy persons. The purchases are likely to be unsatisfactory if not extravagant.

18—Wednesday. The forenoon is the best part of

18—Wednesday. The forenoon is the best part of this day, especially for any dealings with miners, plumb-ers, excavators, shoemakers, dyers, or farmers, and gen-erally urge the agricultural pursuits.

19—Thursday. Be slow to anger in the morning hours, avoiding all disputes and controversies and hasty words or decisions in business matters; avoid real estate transactions during the noon hours; but urge all honorable pursuits in the latter half of the day; buy goods to sell again and seek money favors and extensions of credit.

20-Friday. Beware of inaugurating any important venture on this day; avoid all kinds of controversy with public officials and do not offend thine employer or any superior in business.

21-Saturday. Defer correspondence and all literary undertakings in the early part of this day, but push all general business during the balance of the day.

22-Sunday. The afternoon and evening are the best parts of this day and favor engaging the mind with the elegant in literature and art.

23-Monday. Avoid quarrels and contentions; do not travel unnecessarily, especially in the very early or very late hours of the day; conditions conduce to explosions and accidents from chemicals and machinery.

24—Tuesday. Urge all the mechanical trades on this lay and have dealings with glass workers and traders, truggists, chemists, surgeons, cutters, tanners, cattle raders, and brass and iron founders. Make collections and have money dealings with banks and persons of wealth.

25—Wednesday. Give preference to the latter half of this day for the active pursuit of business; make contracts, travel, pursue literary and scientific undertakings; deal with booksellers, lawyers, printers and mathematicians; push commercial ventures and prosecute mathematical and scientific studies; the forenoon bids thee postpone dealings in fancy goods and apparel and all the nice things in life.

26-Thursday. Use the forenoon hours for dealings with government officials, politicians, and persons in authority generally; ask favors from thine employer and expect advantage.

expect advantage.

27—Friday. Keep a bridle on the tongue on this day; avoid haste in act and deed, and shun controversies. Surgical operations should not be performed during the foremoon unless absolutely necessary to save life; deal not with any organization of men nor with municipal or state authorities; use the afternoon for transactions pertaining to real estate or its improvement or with farmers, miners, or horticulturalists.

28—Saturday. The morning hours invite care in all transactions conducted by writing and in all the literary efforts and undertakings; sign no writing obligating thyself financially and be careful not to offend thine employer.

ployer.

29-Sunday. An especially fortunate Sabbath day, indicating religious zeal and promoting pulpit eloquence and the enjoyment of literary productions.

30-Monday. Be stirring early and employ every waking moment of this day, preference being given to such as depend upon mental labor; urge correspondence; make contracts, especially those affecting legal and educational matters; hire help and push all matters of trade and business.

### ORANGE LILY

Cured me of painful periods, leucorrhœa, displacements, ulceration, etc., after doctors gave me up and all other remedies failed. No physician required. cian required. I will send a trial box free to any lady. Address Mrs. H. L. Fretter, Detroit, Mich.

YOUR FORTUNE TOLD FREE

BY ASTROLOGY 2 PRD (1972/2014 CBP)

oroscope of their life absolutely Fl dison is the most wonderful Astroio FREE. stamp for the return postage, at once and your Horo-scope will be sent FREE by return mail. Address PROF. EDISON, Dept. T. Binghamton, N. Y.



many prominent society ladies, who have used this safe, use and rapid method Inclose stamp to pay postage Address

AURUM GO., Dept. HB, 55 State St., CHICAGO

If ruptured write to Dr. W. S. Rice, 1019 Main St., Adams, Y. Y., and he will send free a trial of his wonderful nethod. Whether skeptical or not get this free method and try the remarkable invention that cures without ain, danger, operation or detention from work. Write order. Don't wait. to-day. Don't wait.

ANY LADY Can Easily Make \$18 TO \$25 callty and as the position is pleasant and profitable the year round we will gladly send particulars free to all. Even your spare time is waluable. This is no deception, and if you really want to make money address WOMAN'S MUTUAL RENEFIT CO., Box 17, JOLIET, ILL.

A woman's discovery By m a n y years of constant study and experiments, I have perfected a simple, harmless vegetable remedy that will quickly cure all female diseases, as well as the piles. It is nature's own remedy and will not only relieve, but will absolutely, thoroughly and permanently cure the ailments peculiar to women, such as falling of the womb, leucorrhea (whites), displacements, ulceration, granulation, painful or scanty periods, irregular menstruation and all the pelvic ills of women. It positively cures rectal ulcers, piles, hemorrhoids, tumors, itching, blind or bleeding piles in either sex. It cures promptly, privately and permanently without the repugnant methods in general use by physicians. You can escape embarrassing examinations, avoid humiliating exposures, cheat the surgeon's knife out of baptism in your blood.

The treatment is so simple, mild and effectual that it will not interfere with your work or occupation. Thousands and thousands of letters are being received from grateful persons from all parts of the world who have been cured by the use of this remedy. The first package is free, sond for it—send today. I know that a fair trial of it will result in your becoming its enthusiastic advocate and friend. With it I will send literature of interest and value. Do not neglect this opportunity to get cured yourself and be in a position to advise ailing friends.

Consider well the above offer and act upon it at once. It is made in the sincere hope of alding you and spreading the knowledge of a beneficent boon to sufferers. Earnestly, hopefully, faithfully, MES. CORA B. MILLER, 329 Comstock Bidg., Kokomo, Ind.

BIG MONEY selling Flavors, Perfumes, Credit, Agt. terms free. Herbene Agency Co., Bx 554, Station L, New York. Home Work 60c. a sheet, copying. Send stamp. Wholesale Supply Co., South Bend, Ind.

FITS Epilepsy; the only sure treatment and quick cure; free to poor. Write Dr. Kruse Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Farmers' Sons Wanted with knowledge of farm stock and fair education to work in an office; \$60 a monthwith advance-ment; steady employment; must be bonest and reliable. Branch offices of the association are being established in each state. Apply at once, giving full particulars. The Veterinary Science Association, London, Canada.

HOW TO QUIT TOBACCO.

A new discovery odorless and tasteless, that Ladies can give in coffee or any kind of food, quickly curing the patient without his knowledge. Anyone can have a free trial package by addressing Rogers Drug and Chemical Co., 3270 Fifth and Race Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio.



ERIEMFG. 00., Dept. 22, Chicage

MILO DRUC CO., Dept. 19 St. Louis, Mo.

Upon receipt of this FORM carefully filled out, and enclosing a few hairs, or a sample from the daily combings, we will send you a dainty BOTTLE of Cranitonic Hair Food and a trial cake of Cranitonic Shampoo Soap by mail prepaid and a diagnosis and complete REPORT upon the condition of your hair after scientific microscopical examination by our Physicians and Bacteriologists, absolutely FREE.

Applicant's Name in full\_ Address in full\_ Is the Dandruff Oily or Dry?\_\_\_ Have you Dandruff?\_ Is your hair falling out?\_\_\_\_ \_ Losing Color ?\_ \_\_ Any scaly eruptions?\_\_\_\_ Does your scalp itch?\_ Any eczema on scalp or body ?\_\_\_\_\_ Occupation\_\_\_\_ Ser



MICROBES HAVE JUST AT TACKED

A-The Hair. B-The Scalp.

A sure sign of "hair dis-ease" is itching and dan-Adruff.

turns gray.

it alive.

Heretofore the treatment of diseases of the Hair and Scalp has been a matter of guesswork, without regard to the cause.

Hair needs food to keep

If the roots have been

weakened by the attacks of the scalp microbe, your hair falls sick, falls out,

In the laboratories of the Cranitonic Hair and Scalp Food Co., of New York, the only Institute in America devoted to diseases of the hair and scalp, the cause of the disease is learned by means of a Microscopic Examination of the hair, and a cure effected by exact and scientific methods.

The Cranitonic Hair Food and Shampoo Scalp Soap were formulated for the exact purpose of pre-venting and curing all hair and scalp diseases, and are sold by druggists.

For purposes of scientific research and investigation, and in the perfection of its formulae, the Cranitonic Hair Food Co. has already expended more than \$200,-

In a microscopical examination of 1,000 different samples of human hair made in the Cranitonic Hair and Scalp Laboratories and Institute (incorporated under the laws of the State of New York) 24 different diseases of the hair and scalp were discovered, many of them HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS AND ALL FATAL TO THE LIFE OF THE HAIR.



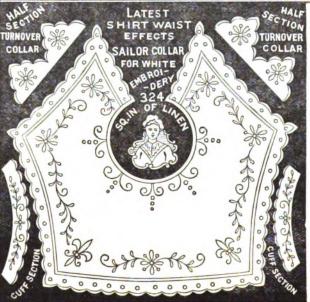
THE DANDRUFF MICROBE which causes Itching and Dandruff, followed by Falling Hair, and finally Baldness.
From Micro-Photograph by Dr. E. Fahrig,
Chief Cranitonic Laboratories.

### FREE HAIR FOOD

If you wish to be cured of itching scalp, dandruff, to save your hair and grow more, write giving address in full, and you will get a FREE BOTTLE of Cranitonic Hair Food and Shampoo Soap, also a 48 page illustrated "Hair Care" Book.

CRANITONIC HAIR FOOD CO., 526 West Broadway, New York City.

### NEW SHIRT WAIST SET LARGE & SMALL COLLARS & CUFFS



The Grent Popularity of the stamped linen fancy embroidered collars and cuffs has induced us to get up this "Comfort Shirt Waist Set." These sets are to be worn everywhere the coming season and the ladies are now ordering their patterns so as to be ready and get them worked in scason for spring and summer wear. It would seem that one of these sets would make pretty nearly a whole waist as there are 324 square inches of linen in the assortment, we send you free. If you have an old waist you want to dress up and make a new one of it this is just what you want. This latest Shirt Waist Set including Sailor Collar, Turnover Collar and Cuffs, are easily embroidered in colored or white mercerized linen floss. Can be attached to any waist. They are washable and when laundered present a stylish and chic appearance, No ladies' wardrobe complete without one.

FREE

CLUB OFFER.

FREE

CLUB OFFER.

In order that a few women can get a set carly and the complete without one.

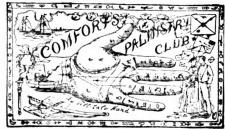
FREE

CLUB OFFER.

GLUB OFFER.

In order that a few women can get a set carly and the complete without one.

Get a set carly and the set of the se



CONDUCTED BY DIGITUS.

### CONDITIONS.

CONDITIONS.

To have one's hands read in this department, by Digitus, one of the finest living paimists, it is necessary to observe the following conditions:

Impressions of both hands must be sent, fully postpaid and having the name, address and nom de plume of the sender enclosed in the package also.

The package must in every instance be accompanied by the names and addresses of eight new subscribers at twenty-five cents each, the whole amount, \$2.00 being remitted, with the package, addressed to Comport Palmistry Club, Augusta, Maine.

No notice will be taken of impressions and requests for readings unless the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank paper over a candle or similar flame, until they are heavily control with the smoke. Then lay these pieces down, smoke side uppermost on a pad of cotton. Now place the two hands, paims downward, one on each sheet of paper, pressing firmly and steadily down, but taking care not to more the hand. Keep them so for one minute and lift carefully, so as not to disturb the impression. Have ready some fixatif, which can be bought at a drug store or an art store or made with gum arabic and water in an atomizer. Spraythis over the impressions before they are moved and allow them to dry. Then they are ready to send.

Smoked paper impressions are the best. But if it is desired.

pressions before they are moved and allow them to dry. Then they are ready to send.

Smoked paper impressions are the best. But if it is desired to send a plaster cast, take plaster of Paris and dissolve in water to the consistency of thick cream. Pour this into a large shallow dish and when it is hardening place the hand, well-greased, pulm downward, in the plaster, pressing downward. Secreta minutes will be required to get this impression and great care must be taken in removing the hand, not to break the plaster. Casts are exceedingly difficult to send without breaking and should be very carefully packed in a box with the name of the sender written on it. Putty is sometimes successfully used in place of plaster. A good photograph if sufficiently well taken to bring out all the lines, can also be read, although in all cases the smoked paper is the best, if properly treated with fixalif.

Bear Im Mind that all the above conditions.

### Bear in Mind that all the above conditions must be observed.

Also, that letters not complying with them will go into the waste-basket. Readings cannot appear for several months after impressions are sent.

SHALL lead off this month with the description of a hand belonging to one of the most distinguished Americans, Honorable Chauncey M. Depew. You will notice that his recent marriage is plainly indicated in his hand. Mr. Depew's hand is of the Grecian type—broad, full, with fingers of nearly an equal length, a strong, well-developed thumb and a well-rounded wrist, powerfully charged with magnetism and electricity. The little nerves drawn at the wrist show that he has a remarkable government over the supply of magnetic and electrical forces. The chemicals of his body consist of a full supply of sulphur, phosphate of iron and carbonate of calcium, so well proportioned that he should live to a very old age, as nature has given him a generous supply of life principles.

The little nerves at the wrist are called governments. They serve him as the reins serve the driver. By them he guides every expression, plan, execution of all business matters. To these little nerves he is really under obligation, because he uses them constantly—or, in other words, he uses them as a check or break to his rapid development of thought and action. These nerves, which are in direct vibration with the faculties of caution, comparison and calculation, are the chief executors of Dr. Depew's quick, sharp, keen, spicy wit and humor.

With his full hand and well-developed fin-

With his full hand and well-developed fingers, these flexible nerves give him the wonderful adaptability to govern and amuse. The skin on the back of the hand is very flexible. The expression of nerve cells and fibres indicate a fine organism, so acute to atmospheric, elemental and human vibration that he would make not only a good weather prophet, but a prophet as well in business and political life. The hairs on the back of his hand and wrist are charged with electricity and strength.

The thumb is indicative of logic, persistence and determination. The lower part denotes power to execute, to promote, to establish principles and to bring them into action. Palmists would say that he was possessed of a strong love power. As to sentiment, Dr. Depew possesses so much logic that his heart will never govern his head.

His activity has been so exercised that the sentiment. With his full hand and well-developed fin-

been so exercised that the senti-ment of love to him is more like a pretty sunset— to look at and ad-mire and then let

it fade in its own natural way. His first finger denotes a natural inquisitiveness into financial matters. The first finger is nearly as long as the second, which the second, which denotes success in



takings. The first knuckle shows mental activity in the fi-The second denotes thoo for science. While the nancial world. The second denotes thought and consideration for science. While the first finger points to qualities productive of financial success, it also shows that in home life he would be easily irritated and impatient, preferring seclusion. Domestic anxieties would arouse his temper to emphatic sarcastic remarks. Small matters of detail would greatly approx him nancial world.

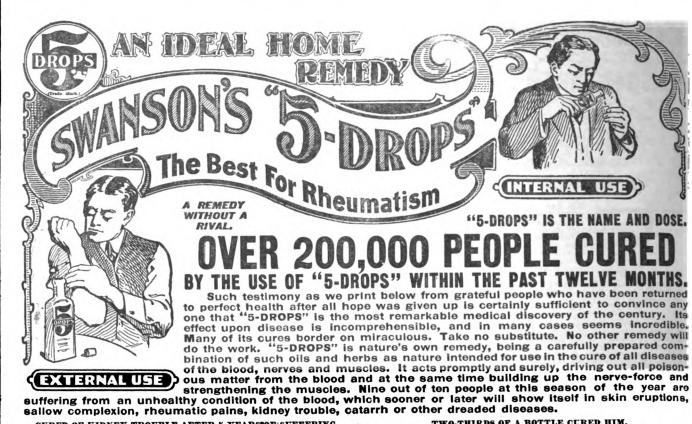
marks. Small matters of detail would greatly annoy him.

The little finger is extremely long. This is significant that he is capable of accumulating property, generally benefiting by speculative investigation—in fact, drawing to himself the good and luxurious things during life.

Dr. Depew belongs to the earth and air element. He should avoid using medicines of the mineral order. I doubt if his mental activity

Dr. Depew belongs to the earth and air element. He should avoid using medicines of the mineral order. I doubt if his mental activity would allow him to rest, for the flow of blood through the veins in the hand is significant of a force which would prevent him from mental rest. If he does not force himself, and soon begin to use the governmental nerves to check his mental activity at intervals, he will cause a resistence in the flow of blood which stimulates the veins, the result of which will be that rheumatic and gouty symptoms will begin to show themselves.

Miss Thelma sends a good impression of both



CURED OF KIDNEY TROUBLE AFTER 5 YEARS OF SUFFERING. "For the past five years I sufferered with Kidney Disease so bad that I could not sleep half the night. I began the use of "5-DROPS" and I cannot express to you my thanks for the good I have obtained from your remedy. I can truthfully say that I am entirely cured."

Harvey Haver, New Comerstown, Ohio.

entirely cured."

Harvey Haver, New Comerstown, Ohio.

COULD NOT REST DAY OR NIGHT.

December 2, 1901.

"I have been a sufferer from Rehumatism for years before I began the use of "15-DROPS," but today I can say I feel better than I have in many years. I suffered so much pain I could not rest day or night. I had a numbness in my hands and arms that was very disagreeable. I cannot say too much to recommend "5-DROPS" to all sufferers. Your Salve is also a wonderful remedy."

Gertrude Simpson, Chaplin, Ky.

TWO-THIRDS OF A BOTTLE CURED HIM.

"The bottle of "5-DR6PS" you sent cured me of Rhematism which I had for eight or nine months in my left shoulder. I took about two thirds of the bottle and that has done the work. Have had no symptoms since. Think it is the best medicine I ever saw."

### WAS CRIPPLED AND COULD NOT WORK.

"I want to thank you for your grand remedy. It is wonderful. I suffered so with one of my hands and was so crippled that I could not do any work. Your "b. DROPS" has done me the greatest good and I do not want to be without it."

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AN INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL REMEDY THAT WILL GURE RHEUMATISM AND NEURALGIA.

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hands, from which I read that she is of a fairly even disposition, fond of music and pretty things, with a taste for the romantic in literature. She has a fine life line, very long and with many lines leading up to it, which is always a good sign. She is a very ambitious person and her ambitions will be realized, although not without some difficulties with herself. Her fate line indicates that she will succeed in whatever she undertakes. She will be twice married. She has always been very attractive to the opposite sex and will continue so as long as she lives. Hers is a curious character, and while she is dependent upon others for sympathy and affection, she is yet very capable of standing on her own feet and forming her own judgments. She is very fond of home and will never travel a great deal, rather preferring to stay among her own people where she is known and

among her own people where she is known and loved. In addition to be ing ambitious, she is also gifted with a sufficient amount of energy and courage to enable her to go ahead. While she will be glad to accept kindnesses from others and help from



THELMA

ers and help from others, she is in no way dependent upon them, and will succeed without it She will make a good mother, as she is fond of children and will sympathize with their nature. She will also make a good teacher, for the same On the whole, here is a hand indicate ing success and good luck in many different

Herbert has a hand indicating a high moral nature, one that would not stoop to any low or underhanded act. He has a good business hand, but one that indicates also higher intel-lectual powers and would, I should think, make an excellent lawyer, as he has logic and

hands, from which I read that she is of a fairly | oratorical powers well developed. He is a man | sun and heart lines, would indicate a trouble

of excellent judgment and strong will, but knows how to hold himself well in hand. I should say that if he does not rise to the heights which I predict for him, it would be for lack of ambition rather than anything er than anything else. His life line is excellent, showing long life with many helpful influences,
especially between the age of
twenty-five and forty. A mark which he considers a triangle on the life line, I



HERBERT.

should pronounce an island along side of it, in which case a severe illness would be in the neighborhood of his fiftieth year. I should say that while he will recover from that illness, his

powers will be somewhat weakened thereafter. On the whole, his is a very excellent hand indicating excellent prospects for its owner.

"Anchor America" asks several questions, most of which have already been answered in this department, as she will find if she looks over her files. However, we will answer most of them of them.

Pinhead dots or dimples on the line are bad signs. On the heart line they indicate griefs, on the life line illnesses at the age where they

sun and heart lines, would indicate a trouble connected with love and marriage. If this line forms a star at the conjunction with the head and fate line, this would be a bad indication as a star in the center of the hand usually is. If the other lines are all strong and good, the ill effects of the star may be avoided. A cross on the first phalanx of the first fingers would indicate sterility in a woman, and would not be a luck sign in any hand.

A descending branch line from the life line, cutting the liver line, is a sign of the weakening of the powers of the body at the age where it appears.

An influence line, cutting the fate line on the Mount of the Moon, shows an influence of a

An influence line, cutting the late line of the Mount of the Moon, shows an influence of a person of the opposite sex.

Emma asks if when two marriage lines are well developed between the base of the little finger at the heart line, but seen to cross each other in either hand, what is the meaning?

It might mean a hinderance which would prevent a marriage but remember that the

prevent a marriage, but remember that the marriage lines under the little finger amount to nothing unless there is another marriage line following either the fate or the life line. These second marriage lines are little lines running parallel with the fate or life lines, close to them, but not joining.

ning parallel with the fate or life lines, close we them, but not joining.

The lady from Troy who sends an inquiry asking why her pencilled drawing of hands have not been read, will please notice that we have never received them and that to have hands read in this department, she must positively comply with the above conditions.

I am glad so many are interested in this department, but would like to call attention to the above conditions and ask you all to read them carefully.

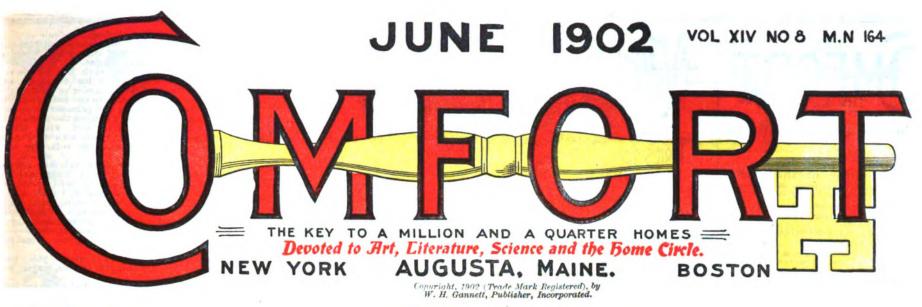
them carefully.

on the life line illnesses at the age where they appear, and on the head line severe brain troubles or business troubles, as may be indicated in other ways.

A triangle in the middle of a star, would be a part of the star and read as such.

The difference between long and short fingers should be apparent to almost everyone. A good way to decide the question, however, would be to compare them with the palm of the same hand and if they are longer than the palm they can safely be called long fingers.

The worry line starting from the fork on the Mount of Venus, cutting the life, head, fate,



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It is claimed that this is an age in which the reading of the Bible is entirely or almost omitted. While this may be true as a question of religious application it is no less true that as a matter of literary importance Bible reading is on the increase. A recent edition of the Bible arranges its contents in a purely literary form and classifies it as history, genealogy, prophecy, poetry and philosophy. Within the bounds of the Bible are more than sixty books, the product of different writers, produced in different ages and languages. Part of the Bible was written in Greek, part in Hebrew but there is a spiritual unity which gives the book cohesion. The literary version of the Bible prints the Psalms as poetry in rhythmic form and also gives this form to many of the prophetic books. New force and significance is given by this plan while more of the spiritual meaning upon which the Bible has been wont to base its demand for reading is lost.

So many humorous paragraphs have been written on the variety of uses that women make of a hair pin that the mere word "hair pin" is a text upon which to pin a smile. It has long lived the double life of a button hook and a paper cutter but at last it has attained to real dignity of existence. A famous surgeon has noted the number of practical uses to which hair pins are put and has written an article on the surgical uses of the hair pin. The hair pin when taken seriously seems to offer a compendium of possibilities. No small basis to its claim for serious recognition lies in the fact that it is almost universally present. However, the doctor suggests that the hair pin may now be added to the articles a man carries in his pocket or may even be raised to the dignity of a place in the instrument case. As a working member in the "first aid to the injured" cases, the hair pin will be seen to take first honors. It may compress a blood vessel in controlling a hemorrhage, pin on a bandage, be used as a probe, wire bones together, heated to redness may be used as a cautery. These are only a few of the uses to which this article of feminine convenience may be applied. The world will watch with amused and curious interest the passage of the hair pin from jest to earnest.

The coronation of King Edward in June will be one of the notable events of the twentieth century. One feature connected with the ceremonies of coronation week is of particular interest to Americans. The Crystal Palace of London celebrates its golden wedding. It is just fifty years ago that international expositions were inaugurated by the opening in 1852 of the Crystal Palace. The development of the idea in national and international exhibitions has revolutionized the industries of the world. Fifty years ago at this first exhibition it was evident that England led the world in the variety and extent of her manufactures. Today America claims the commercial empire as her own. The manager of the Crystal Palace has announced that the special exhibition during coronation week will consist exclusively of American products. English companies organized to manufacture and exploit American inventions will be eligible as exhibitors. There is no doubt that American manufacturers will seize this opportunity for in ordinary years over two and a half million people visit the Palace and at this time the attendance will be greatly increased. The opportunity for reaching representative men from all over the world is unequalled. This gracious compliment from the old commercial ruler of the world to her young and vigorous successor is only another illustration of the kindly feeling between England and America.



CHAPTER IV.

Rose's consternation at this discovery was

Rose's consternation at this discovery was very great. The cry that rose to her lips was instantly suppressed. In an instant, she had assumed the most nonchalant air.

"Pray walk in, Major Cleveland. You've come opportunely. Let me make you acquainted with Captain Fuller. A friend of my father's. A neighbor. Captain Fuller, Major Cleveland. Allow me to commend you, gentlemen, to each other's better acquaintance."

"A rebel officer!" said the major, stalking stiffly into the room, "this is really very extraordinary."

"A rebel officer:" said the major, starking stiffly into the room, "this is really very extraordinary."

"Let me see you shake hands, gentlemen," continued Rose, "for here, you know, you must be friends. Of course, you sheathe your swords, and swear peace in the presence of a lady."

"Miss Elsworth will rebuke us," said the major, walking over and offering his hand. Armstrong took it ceremoniously.

"Now. gentlemen," said Rose, "sit down. You, major, shall have a seat upon the sofa by my side. Captain Fuller, please take the chair near you. Now, you see," said she, "I am between you, and shall prevent warfare. I here proclaim a truce. The captain, major, wants to join our ball tonight. I have promised him my hand the next after yours."

"I'm quite ready, Miss Elsworth," said he, "to laugh at a joke, but really I cannot understand—"

"Why two gentlemen cannot meet under my

Why two gentlemen cannot meet under my

father's roof, as his guests, and not fall to tear-ing each other to pieces! Is it the modern way to make war in parlors, instead of the field?" "Strange, very strange," resumed the major, without replying to Rose, still closely scruti-

really Captain Fuller, I shall be very glad to shake hands and drink a glass of wine with you; if Captain Armstrong, you must become my prisoner."
"I have but one reply to make," answered Walter; "if you attempt to arrest me, I shall defend myself—and will escape if I can."
While these words were exchanging, Walter stood near and with his back to the window.

with these words were exchanging, waiter stood near and with his back to the window. The major stood near the center of the apartment, with a table before him. Rose, meanwhile, unobserved, had closed the door; and standing erect by a chair, with pale cheek and glittering eye, watched the progress of the scene. At this juncture a couple of shots were heard, and suddenly a figure came bounding through the window into the room, followed almost instantaneously by two soldiers. The soldiers, surprised to find themselves in the presence of their commander, fell back and stood erect. The pursued was no less than Mr. Metcalf, the schoolmaster, who upon seeing Walter, ran up to him, exclaiming—

"Bless me, Captain Armstrong—" broke in the major.

in the major.

in the major.

"All is lost!" said Rose, and dropped into the chair by her side.

"Eh? what?" exclaimed the poor pedagogue, a good deal confused, and with a bewildered idea of being guilty of some mischief.

"What was the cause of those shots fired now?" inquired the major.

"This fellow, sir, attempted to pass without the countersign," responded one of the men.

"You see, sir," said Mr. Metcalf, whose droll humor could not be silenced by the occasion or the presence, "you see, sir, I was just about to



WHOLE PARTY OF SOLDIERY WITH TORCHES CAME RUSHING AROUND THE CORNER OF THE HOUSE—AMONG THEM MAJOR CLEVELAND.

nizing Walter. "Your pardon, Captain Fuller, but I cannot help remarking that you closely resemble a description I have received of one

Captain Armstrong."
"Dear me," said Rose, "and who is Captain
Armstrong, pray?"
"A rebel, madam."
"I like him for that."

"A spy."
"But what has all this to do with Captain

Fuller wear Captain Armstrong's scarf, worked with Captain Armstrong's name?"
Walter's scarf was a present from Rose, with his name embroidered upon it. Most unfortunately, neither Walter nor Rose had observed that the name was partially exposed. This discovery therefore startled, and threw them both into consternation.
"Miss Elsworth," said the major, freezingly polite, "I'm under the necessity of a disagreeable duty. I am compelled to consider our truce at an end. Young sir, you are my prisoner."
The major walked to the window, but Walter drew his sword and threw himself before him.
"If you speak aloud," said Walter, "or attempt to call aid, I will strike you dead. I shall not yield without resistance. If you molest me, blood will be shed."
The major smiled, and drew a small pocket-

me, blood will be shed."

The major smiled, and drew a small pocketpistol from his breast, and placed it by his side.
"I am better armed than you supposed, sir,"
said he; "it would be awkward for any collision to occur in the presence of a lady, and yet
I shall not hesitate to do my duty. If you are

"DO YOU KNOW, THAT I WISH TO SEE YOU UNITED TO SOME ONE WHO COULD GIVE YOU THE PROTECTION WHICH ONLY A HUSBAND CAN EXTEND?"

enter to call on my friend Mr. Elsworth, to sip an afternoon glass with him, when a big-booted fellow cried out, halt. Now, sir, the idea of asking a man well in both legs to halt, is prepared. is preposterous—"
"Pshaw!" interrupted the major, and with a

wignificant gesture, he motioned the men to Walter's side. They stepped up, and placed their hands on his shoulders.

"You will resign your sword now, I trust, Captain Armstrong. Resistance would be en-

"But what has all this to do with captain Fuller? I have known the captain, major, for some years, and I think you can take my word for it, he is no spy."

"Do Captain Fuller and Captain Armstrong wear the same colors?"

"All continental officers wear the same colors," said Walter.

"The same complexion, height, and—" rising, walking over to Walter and pointing to his scarf, "the same love tokens? Does Captain Fuller wear Captain Armstrong's scarf, worked with Captain Armstrong's scarf, worked with Captain Armstrong's scarf, worked with Captain Armstrong's name?"

Walter's scarf was a present from Rose, with his name embroidered upon it. Most unfortunately, neither Walter nor Rose had observed that the name was partially exposed. This

in the hands of his guest.
"I regret to say, my dear Elsworth, that this gentleman must for a few hours remain my prisoner. I shall have to make use of one of your out-houses, sir. It is really a pity that the captain must be deprived of the dance tonight, but I will take care that his confinement shall not be severe."

night, but I will take care that his confinement shall not be severe."

"This, sir," said Rose, "is a shameful breach of hospitality. Captain Armstrong is my father's guest, no less than yourself. Every consideration of delicacy and honor requires you to consider him so."

"Miss Elsworth, I could wish you not to consider me wrong or cruel in this."

"I judge, sir. by what I see."

"You are severe."

"I am glad you find me so."

"I am glad you find me so."
"Will you not say peace?"
"War, Major Cleveland, to the last."

"Daughter, more courtesy."
"Oh! father, they may claim and bind our poor country, but they cannot find a way to chain a free woman's tongue."
Rose walked the floor with blazing eye and cheek. The major gave his command, and Walter was led away under guard. Major Cleveland had stepped into the hall, and given his orders respecting the prisoner to a subaltern. As he did so, a sudden thought seemed to flash on Rose's mind; and, upon his reentering the room, her whole manner changed, and flinging herself upon the sofa, she burs into laughter.

into laughter.

"Really, Major Cleveland, this has been an absurd scene. Poor fellow! There won't be anything positively serious, will there, eh? But, don't you think, major, I made a good champion? It was really presumptuous for the fellow to come here, though. These rustic clowns thrust themselves everywhere."

Major Cleveland stared, and exclaimed—

"What, Miss Elsworth, Captain Armstrong then is nothing—"

"The control of the control

"What, Miss Elsworth, Captain Armstrong then is nothing—"
"Nothing in the world, I assure you, but a harmless country lad. Do tell me, major, am I not a good actor?"
"Excellent!" cried he, but at a loss to know whether the previous or the present scene was acted.

whether the previous or the present scene was acted.

"Your arm, major. There come some of the guests. I remember that my hand is for you in the first dance."

Major Cleveland offered his arm, and they left the room together.

"I really could have supposed," said the major, "that this American stood high in your esteem."

"Oh, I like him well enough. He is among the best the country affords, but that is very bad, you know."

"Then you bear me no malice?"

"Not enough to kill a gnat."

"Ah, Miss Elsworth, this assurance gives me greatest pleasure."

"Don't hurt the poor fellow though, major, I beg of you. I should be quite sorry if anything happened to him. He is a good-natured, useful neighbor enough—an unpolished jewel, papa calls him."

"The affair will prove a bagatelle, dear madam, I assure you."

"Ah, major, our social wants in this commu-

"The affair will prove a bagatelle, dear madam, I assure you."

"Ah, major, our social wants in this community are lamentable enough when we are obliged to content ourselves with such poor substitutes as you have seen, for all the polish and manner of London circles."

"Lamentable, indeed, Miss Elsworth."

"The war brings one boon, at least," continued the lady, "the society of gentlemen."

"Very true, indeed," was the complacent rejoinder.

The major handed her to a seat in the parlor The major nanded her to a seat in the parlot, and begged a moment's leave from her side.
"Humph, Major Cleveland," muttered she as he walked away, "I'll so wheedle you this night you shall cry enough to a woman, even if itso happens that you have never done it to a man."

### CHAPTER V.

CHAPTER V.

It was very evident that Major Cleveland was completely fascinated by Rose; and from the moment of Walter's unlucky discovery our heroine exerted all her powers to render the control she had over him secure and lasting. Her power of pleasing was very great. Few men could resist the charm of her smile, or the fascination of her glance. Her spirits were fine, her wit joyous, her manner agreeable beyond description, and her beauty superior. It would have been hard if a colder man than Major Cleveland had not yielded to a combination so powerful and so rare. As for the major, he was completely overcome. He was spellbound by her side. He was enraptured, and did not attempt to conceal his rapture. Rose smiled upon him, shot glances at him from her glorious eyes; her wit played about him in one incessant stream, spirited, brilliant, glad; she tickled him with the adroitest compliments, flattered him in a thousand ways; in short, with diplomatic skill, played her part to perfection. Bold, dazzling and daring, she conducted the intriguand yet all the while her heart shrunk from the course. She felt, however, that Walter's only hope of safety depended upon the extent of the influence she could obtain over the English of ficer. To save Walter Armstrong was her resolve—she could not be scrupulous about the means.

Twilight was settling down, and while those

Twilight was settling down, and while those of the guests already arrived were gathered upon the piazza or about the lawn, Rose and her admirer, by a movement which the major must have learned in his tactics, found themselves sauntering off apart from the rest through the mazy turns of the garden. They came to a bower, and the major gently urged Rose to take a seat upon a rustic bench there provided. She did so, secretly trembling, but resolved to dare all, when all was at stake. "Do you know, that I wish to see you united to some one who could give you the protection which only a husband can extend?"

"Ah, Major Cleveland!" said Rose, sighing behind her fan and dropping her head plaintively. He took her hand.

"Miss Elsworth! Rose!" He bent over her until his cheek touched her curls and wisspered, "Confide in me. Law work friend."

"Miss Elsworth! Rose!" He bent over her until his cheek touched her curls and whispered, "Confide in me. I am your friend."

"I believe you, Major Cleveland. I—I—really sir—I have nothing to confide."

This she said confusedly, and with agitation. "Do not be offended, Miss Elsworth. I have your interest at heart. Pardon me—but Captain Arbald—"

tain Arbald-A little start and appearance of agitation from

A little start and appearance of agitation from Rose.

"Captain Arbald, Rose, believes, or at least hopes, that he is acceptable to you. I am very deeply his friend—very deeply yours."

"It is very pleasant to hear you say so, Major Cleveland."

"Then you do look wron him with favor?"

Cleveland."

"Then you do look upon him with favor?"

"Alas, Major Cleveland, these wars, these wars! They separate us from those who are dearest to us—they come between us and our hearts' affections. Do they not daily threaten us with a heart widowhood?"

"Ah, Miss Elsworth, I see you are thinking of the young captain. You love him!"

"Major," exclaimed Rose, "let me beg of you one thing—let me hear you promise what! will ask you. You assure me you are my friend. Then grant me a pledge, Promise me to—to protect—""

The captain-

"He who is to be my husband."
"You delight me. Are you then pledged?"
"We are. His life is almost in your hands.
Often you can save him from danger."
"Will you marry—"
"Yes."

"I give you the pledge then, you ask. Make him your husband, and for your sake I will defend and protect him to the extent of my power." (CONTINUED ON PAGE 5.)





### PORTRAITS AND PARAGRAPHS OF **PEOPLE** THE PUBLIC PRINTS.







1. Not a great many years ago there were in all the newspapers, pictures of a man whom Queen Victoria had said was the handsomest man in the world—Colonel Nicholas Smith of Kentucky. He married a daughter of the famous editor, Horace Greely, who was rich, and he flourished mightily. Then for years he was heard of no more. His pictures are again in the papers but now as old and poor and moving to prevent paying rent. His wife is dead, her fortune spent, and he and his two daughters are struggling to live.

2. During the past winter, no one in society in Washington has been so much talked about as the young Countess Cassini, niece of the Russian Ambassador. The particular thing talked about is the wonderful variety and style of hats that she wears, designing them herself. Just before Easter she celebrated her twentieth birthday by a party at which all the ladies wore headdresses of the olden times.

. . . 3. 4. According to European ideas no statesand the second of the second o hish House of Commons when during a discussion of Irish affairs Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, got into a wrangle with Mr. John Dillon, an Irish member, and the latter called the former a "d——liar." Dillon was suspended by a vote of two hundred and fortyeight to forty-eight.

Kentucky girls are famous the world over, and the last one to come into public notice is Miss Lotta Greenup, the seventeen-year-old daughter of Judge Greenup, of Paducah. Her father is making speeches in his campaign to get the nomination for Congress, and she accompanies him and at every meeting plays a number of selections on the violin, opening and closing with "Dixie."

6. One of the discomforts of being rich, when one has a family of children, is the danger of having them kidnapped and held for ransom. Recently A. R. Peacock, a multi-millionaire of Pittsburg, Pa., gave up his fine home in that city and came to New York to escape from kidnappers who threatened to steal Mr. Peacock's three children unless he paid them \$25,000. The children were guarded by detectives in New York, and have now been placed in a school where they are under the eyes of their teachers at all hours. teachers at all hours.

7. Mrs. Conger, the wife of the American Minister at Pekin, has broken all social records at the Chinese capital by giving a luncheon at at the Chinese capital by giving a luncheon at which there were eleven princesses and ladies of the Chinese court and the Dowager Empress sent her greetings. This departure from the traditional Chinese exclusiveness never before occurred. Mrs. Conger was assisted by the ladies of the American Legation and the Missions.

8. Mrs. Wm. B. Leeds, wife of the President of the Rock Island R. R., and a steel magnate, has recently bought a great place near New York and will entertain lavishly this summer. Mrs. Leeds was a noted belle of Cleveland, Ohio, (Miss Worthington), and in order to marry her it is understood Mr. Leeds paid his former wife one million dollars to release him by divorce. by divorce.

9. The famous Indiana author, Booth Tarkngton, has recently succeeded in securing the Republican nomination for the state legislature, and it is said the suggestion to try for it came from Miss Louise Fletcher of that city, to whom it is understood he is engaged to be married. She is the model of his heroine in the novel he is now completing.

10, 11. Two of the best known prize fighters in the world are James Jeffries, present champion heavyweight, and Robert Fitzsimmons, from whom he wrested the belt. Jeffries at his home in Los Angeles, Cal., and Fitzsimmons at Bensonhurst near New York City, are now in daily training for a fight to the finish for the championship. It will occur somewhere in the West during the summer. where in the West during the summer.

12. The widow of the late Collis P. Hunting-12. The widow of the late Collis P. Huntington, railroad magnate, has discovered that the estate, supposed to be worth seventy millions of dollars, has shrunk at least a half. It was found that Mr. Huntington had loaned two millions of dollars in small loans, mostly to women who appealed to him for help, and none of it can be recovered. His adopted daughter, Princess Hatzfeld, to whom he left a million dollars, threatened to sue and her portion was increased to six millions. Even yet the widow is not in poverty.

13. Santos Dumont, the wealthy young Brazilian who has made himself famous by his ballooning, has come to America from Paris to consult with the authorities of the St. Louis Exposition about giving aerial races during the show. He is anxious to have balloon races this summer in the United States, but thinks that

prize of fifty thousand dollars should be of-

14. Judge Noah Davis, who died recently in New York at the age of eighty-three, was for twenty-eight years a Judge of the Supreme Court of New York, half that time its Chief Justice. William M. Tweed, the most gigantic robber of modern times, was tried and convicted before Judge Davis, as was E. S. Stokes who killed the notorious Col. Jim Fisk. Judge Davis was born in Haverhill, N. H., in 1818, Sept. 19th.

15. Twelve years ago Mr. Frank Conger, the Brooklyn millionaire, who died in Detroit in March, found in a railroad wreck a little girl two years old, lying beside her dead father, Rev. E. S. Stewart of Rochester, N. Y. Mr. Rev. E. S. Stewart of Rochester, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Conger had no children and they adopted little Oressa Stewart, who became the idol of her foster father. After Mr. Conger's death it was found that he had left six millions of dollars to Oressa. Though she has an income of \$250,000 a year, she is simple and demogratic, and is very nonular. ocratic, and is very popular.

16. Queen Alexandra of England has been over to Denmark to assist at the birthday festivities of her father, King Christian. She is a dutiful daughter and fond of her father, a very nice old gentleman, though a King and fatherin-law to more royalty than any man in the world. The Queen will be crowned in June.

17. Wu Ting Fang, Chinese Minister to the United States, has had charges filed against him at Pekin by the Six Companies of San Francisco, with whom he is not in favor. He says the charges are made by disgruntled high-binders whose practices he condemns. Consul General Ho Yow, Wu's brother-in-law, is included in the charges.

. . .

18, 19. Edward H. Green died at Bellows Falls, Vt., his home, several weeks ago, at the age of eighty years. Though a man of means, Mr. Green was unknown except as the husband of Hetty Green, "the richest woman in the world," so called. At one time Mr. Green was doing an immense business in New York, and becoming involved, his wife came to his rescue. She was the heiress of \$9,000,000 when he married her. In her work to save him she acquired business habits which remained with her, and for many years she has been a noted figure in for many years she has been a noted figure in financial circles in New York, and no one knows how many millions she has accumulated. She is very eccentric and penurious. She opened an office at her husband's home with a corps of clerks, and remained near him during his last illness. There are two children, Edward R. H., a power in Texas Republican politics, and Sylvia, who is her mother's constant companion. companion.

20, 21. General Miles, Commanding General of the army, has been having more trouble with President Roosevelt, and it is currently reported that he will be forced to give up his position and go on the retired list. It is also reported that the President is anxious to have his friend, General Leonard Wood, in charge of affairs in Cuba, created a Major General and put at the head of the army to succeed General Miles.

22, 23. John D. Rockefeller may be the richest man in the world, but he is not the happiest. For a long time he has had stomach trouble which has prevented his receiving proper nourishment, and all his hair has fallen out, and he has left another whether when her had been applying and whiteless. ishment, and all his hair has fallen out, and he has lost eyebrows and whiskers. The great strain of his enormous business has made him extremely nervous and he is now trying to get relief by letting part of the burden rest upon the shoulders of his son, John Jr., who was recently married and is a young man of ability and high character. and high character.

24. Very few serious scandals have grown out of the new relations assumed by the United States since the war with Spain, but one in Cuba involving postal officials was bad enough to count for many. However, the offenders have been brought to justice, and at the trial in Havana, C. F. W. Neely, an Indiana man, was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment and fined \$56,701. His associates, E. G. Rathbone, got ten years and a fine of \$35,324; and W. H. Reeves, the same time and \$35,516 fine.

• • •

25. Every rich man seems to feel the necessity of having a yacht among his various pleasure vehicles, and Mr. Frank J. Gould, of New York, aged twenty-four, who came into ten millions from his father's estate when he was twenty-one, and took to himself a wife about six months ago (Miss Helen Kelly of New York, aged eighteen), has recently launched his new yacht "Helenita," so named for his wife. Her picture herewith shows her to be a very hand-some young woman, and both she and her hus-band are fonder of each other and the plain things than they are of society.

26. Within a very few years the game of golf has spread all over the United States and it is now one of our most popular sports. It is an ancient Scotch game. The United States Golf Association has recently elected as its President, Mr. R. H. Robertson, a New York

architect, and a good player, though not a champion.

27. During the illness of the President's son, Theodore, at the Groton school, Miss Helena Ethel Ciscle, a little twelve-year-old girl of Baltimore, Md., wrote and mailed a poem to Mr. Roosevelt which so pleased him that he sent a letter of thanks to her. It is needless to say she will cherish the letter always, even though she may become one of our great poetesses. . . .

28. The most noted philanthropist in America, if not in the world, is Andrew Carnegie, an American born in Scotland, and beginning life as a poor boy at three dollars a week. He retired from business several years ago with over two hundred and fifty millions of dollars, made in the iron business and has been giving made in the iron business, and has been giving his money away for libraries all over the coun-try by the millions, his last gift being ten millions to the government to establish a national scientific school at Washington. There are very many people who think Mr. Carnegie could do much better with his money than by founding libraries with it.

29. Probably the most widely-known police officer in the United States is William S. Devery, former Chief of the New York police force. And Chief Devery's fame was not creditable to him, for all kinds of charges were made against him for getting money from violators of the law. Whether the charges were true or not, he has brought himself into notice since leaving his office by buying property at auction to the value of \$377,500.

30. Our American girls are leaders among foreigners in whatever field they attempt, and the latest to appear at the front is Miss Ann West Shaw, a St. Louis girl of twenty, who has secured an order to paint a portrait of the Queen of England. Miss Shaw, though so young, has painted the portraits of many notable English women, and this portrait of the Queen will crown her ambition. She inherits her talent, being a grandniece of Benjamin West, one of the greatest of American painters. painters.

31. No song written in the United States is better known than "Ben Bolt," which was given a new life and popularity by the novel "Trilby." But not so many persons know who its author was. The words were written by Dr. Thomas Dunn English in 1843, the music by Nelson Kneass, a German American. Dr. English died at his home in Newark, N. J., in April aced 83. He was born in Pennsylvania. April, aged 83. He was born in Pennsylvania. He left a son and two daughters. He had been a writer, journalist, member of the New Jersey Legislature and a member of Congress. He did not like to be known as the author of "Ben Palt".

32. Cecil Rhodes, called "the uncrowned King of South Africa" died recently near Cape Town after a long illness. He was but 48 years old and a bachelor. He was born in England, the son of a clergyman, and went to Africa with his brother at the age of sixteen, for his health. They mined for diamonds and Cecil with his brother at the age or sixteen, for his health. They mined for diamonds and Cecil was driven by a desire to obtain great wealth. He succeeded after many years in combining all the diamond mines of South Africa, and at the time of his death was supposed to be worth nearly one hundred millions of dollars. He founded Rhodesia, brought on the Boer War, and was said to be anxious to become ruler of Africa. He made many mistakes and at the last he had lost much of his power.

33, 34. The most prominent gambler in New York City, which means the Western hemisphere, is Richard Canfield, who owns a great establishment in New York, and one at Saratoga Springs, where he makes, it is said, \$200,000 in the eight weeks' summer season. His patrons are men of wealth, and recently, young Reginald Vanderbilt played for two nights in the New York "den" and lost \$138,000. The young man is at Yale College, and he has promised he will gamble no more. will gamble no more.

35. Possibly the women readers of COMFORT are not aware that there is such a thing as the Dressmakers' Protective Association, but there is, and it recently held a meeting in New York. Its president is Miss Elizabeth White. Memhts president is Miss Elizabeth white. Members from all parts of the country discussed all kinds of women's wear and how to protect themselves in making it and getting pay for their work, and other troubles they have in their business. The session was held in the midst of a fine display of Paris gowns, hats and other finery. other finery.

36. Occasionally we have an American who 36. Occasionally we have an American who deserts his country and swears allegiance to some other, but it does not happen often. This country is good enough for most of us. The latest deserter is C. W. Lynde, a millionaire living on Long Island, near New York City, whose ancestors came over in 1660. Mr. Lynde's wife got a divorce and \$50,000 from him, which hurt his feelings so much that he vowed he would not live in such an unjust country, so he has sold all his property and will become a British subject.



26. Mr. R. H Ro































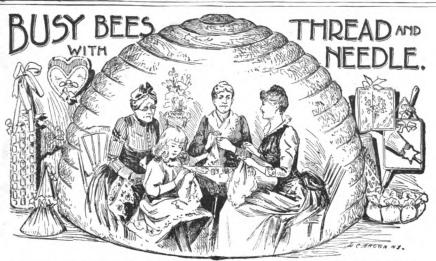












### THE HOME WORKERS COMFORT.

### Modern Lace-Making.

ACE is made the world over, it is a very old art, one that has flourished for centuries and then waned only to be revived again. More than one million people in Europe earn their living by their needles. In Belgium alone there are nine hundred lace schools. Of all valuable collections of lace, Pope Leo, who has always encouraged the art, owns probably the most notable in the world, its value approximating a million dollars. a million dollars.

European laces are always very expensive on this side of the water, only a few can afford to buy the quantity which Fashion now demands. The vogue for lace in an endless variety of dainty dress accessories, such as neckties, turnover collars, yokes, jackets, vests, handkerchiefs, lapels and revers is now at its height. It is being used more extensively for all kinds of ornamentation than ever before, and our women are just beginning to realize the possibilities of this line of decoration, and with realization comes the desire to learn to make it as thoroughly as possible. With many it is simply pastime or rest work, and as the work proceeds slowly the temptation is to hurry or slight it, but each little stitch must be put in faithfully or the finished piece will only be a disappointment. European laces are always very expensive on

slight it, but each little stitch must be put in faithfully or the finished piece will only be a disappointment.

For the benefit of those of our readers who wish to take up lace-making and have had no instruction, we give a number of illustrations showing plainly how the simpler stitches are put in, then we also present a few practical and simple designs, for more advanced workers, which will add a touch of daintiness to any gown. The designs used for our illustrations are both varied and pleasing and the woman would be difficult to suit who does not find one or more to meet her needs.

It may be well to give a few hints on lace making in general. It is such a delightful occupation that a skilled work-woman wonders how any one can hurry through such a pleasant task bestowing neither care nor pains.

A beginner should choose patterns in which the stitches are often repeated as they are easier to manage than where the stitches change. In this way one learns thoroughly and after making a few of each, the work becomes mechanical and goes easily on. Once master a stitch and it is not soon forgotten. The main essential in lacemaking by amateurs are thoroughness and neatness. Beautiful edgings which are almost impossible to wear out, can easily be made and are good practice before more complicated designs are undertaken. The braids most generally used in this work are Honiton, Russian, Duchesse, Italian, Marie Antoinette etc., and can now be purchased at any store where materials for fancy work are sold.

After selecting your cambric pattern baste it onto a piece of oilcloth to keep it firm and smooth. In doing this take small back stitches in the open edge of the braid and on the outer edge of the braid exactly and securely in place and prevents it from curling up.

In basting on the braid, knots and fastenings should be left on the under side of the pattern as otherwise they greatly interfere with the work. Some lace workers use the hoop in putting in the filling-in stitches and the work is usually smoother when it



Figure 1 shows the simple Point de Bruxelles, which is formed with successive rows of button-holes. Start on the left of space in upper corner and make a loop across the work; return by making a loose buttonhole into

FIGURE 2.

FIGURE 1. first loop, forming two loops. For each row fill every loop of the row just made with a loose buttonhole. For filling in where heavier work is desirable, put two stitches in each loop instead of one.

Figure 2 shows the contract of the contract o

instead of one.

Figure 2 shows the Spinning Wheel Rosette, which is made of twisted threads which cross in the center. The working thread is carried around the circle and drawn firmly into place, after which the needle is passed under the first and over the second of these over the second of these threads where they join in the center, and is drawn tight, and close, to form the star.
Figure 3 shows the Maltese Cross in the center. To make this, cross the space with two threads at right angles to each

threads at right angles to each

other; knot and add another line on each side of these, radiating from the center; proceed with under and over stitch until the four arms

on either side we illustrate the Point de Bruxelles, made with both single and double buttonhole, described above.

The center loop is filled in with the Cobweb. Cross the space with four threads, then circle

OF around twice, securing to each thread with loop stitch, cover with buttonholing.

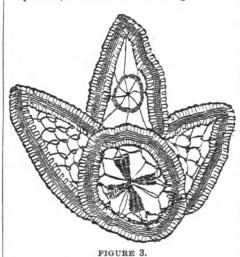


Figure 4 shows the Point de Reprise. Begin at the left, pass the thread over one bar and under the opposite until space is filled. Pass to the corner of the next and repeat.

Figure 5 shows Point de Angleterre. Fill the account is single thread.

Figure 5 shows Point de Angleterre. Fill the space with single thread at equal distances apart and in one direction after which cross the threads in the opposite threads in the opposite the edge and twisted over with the needle to where the first lines cross; then work around pass the needle over and pass the needle ove

pass the needle over and under



over and under to make a spot over the thread to the next cross, twist again and repeat. Continue until all the spots are made over the spaces.

Figure 6 shows a combination of the Ladder Stitch, Point de Angleterre, Skeleton Spider and Point de Reprise.

Each of these are described above excepting the Ladder Stitch which is shown in the center

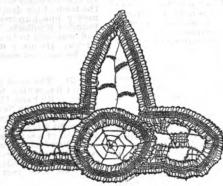


FIGURE 6.

loop. For this start the thread near the apex of the braid laid in leaf design, on the inner sides; cross to the other side at an angle, buttonhole half way back, then cross half way with single thread on an angle, and buttonhole half way back. Repeat until space is filled. filled.

### Patterns We Furnish.

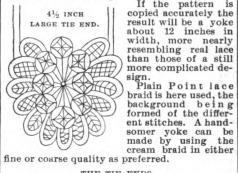
In addition to the patterns described above we illustrate and describe a series of Batten-burg style designs below, which as you will burg style designs below, which as you will notice, we have arranged with the manufacturer to furnish free to our subscribers and club getters, stamped on pink linen. The whole lot and several patterns not here illustrated, come stamped on one large piece 18x24 inches in size, containing over four hundred square inches of material. This set of stamped patterns will be furnished by itself, or we will supply material enough to work several of the patterns, as per our club offer, further on, and as before stated all patterns here illustrated, come stamped on pink linen or cambric and this paper can furnish them without cost to all subscribers who will take the trouble to secure only one can furnish them without cost to all subscribers who will take the trouble to secure only one new 10c. trial six months' subscriber. Besides the patterns illustrated, we also furnish several other decorative articles stamped on the same sheet and included free in above offer. One of the newest effects in lace is the handsome yokes, which can be worn either with low neck toilettes or as an addition to different

waists. The beauty of the one here depicted



DESCRIPTION OF THE DIFFERENT PATTERNS.

lies in the many graceful curves and the cobweb-like stitching.



If the pattern is copied accurately the result will be a yoke about 12 inches in width, more nearly resembling real lace than those of a still more complicated demore complicated de-

THE TIE ENDS.

The tie ends for a scarf of lawn or net are very handsome and fashiona-ble and if made well will stand frequent launder-

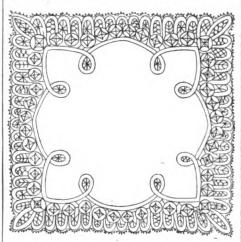
The 4 1-2 inch design is more elaborate, the beauty lying mostly in the stitches.

the stitches.

Plain Point lace braid is employed in either white or cream. The smaller design, which is three inches wide, is developed with a fine Honiton braid and any of the simpler stitches are suitable.



The handkerchief is a very pretty and popular design and requires plain Point lace braid



HANDKERCHIEF 9 INCHES SQUARE SQUARE INCHES OF PINK LINEN.

and fine pearling for the finish. The stitches employed are carefully and accurately marked on our designs and selected as those most likely to add to its beauty; the worker, however, if a beginner may employ a simpler stitch to suit her own taste, as long as the outline of the braid given in the pattern is carefully followed, the beauty of the piece will not be marred. For the center a delicate sheer lawn is used.

BABY'S CAP.

BABY'S CAP.

The infant's cap is a very dainty design of Princess lace and is made throughout with fine plain Point I ace braid, the stitches used are simple and the leaf effects are finished with tiny hand-made rings. No pearling is used as in the other designs, the outer edge being worked with the braid which gives a durable as well as a very handsome finish to the cap.

COLLAR AND CUFFS.

COLLAR AND CUFFS.

The collar and cuff designs are especially effective and handsome and

BABY'S CAP 6 1-2 INCH.

may be made in BABY'S CAP 6 1-2 INCH. cream or white. The collar is in the new French shape and closes in the back. It is made of fine



12 INCH COLLAR.

Point lace braid and finished with a little pearling. Any of the simpler stitches will work in prettily.



why any woman should not become proficient at this work if she has

There is no reason

5 INCH CUFF. e n o u g h patience.
Not how much but
how well, must be the motto, to succeed. In order that our subscribers can easily secure enough materials to go with some of these patterns and do the Battenburg lace work without going to any cash outlay we make you this special club offer for outfit.

To furnish material for the above patterns free we make the following offer: Send us a club of two yearly subscribers at 25c. each and we will send all stamped patterns here illustrated and material enough to make either one of the tie ends or enough for collar and cuffs as desired.

For a club of three at 25c.each, 75c. in all, we will send material to make either the lace dress yoke, or handkerchief or baby's cap, including all patterns as described. The material consist of braid, pearling, Columbia ball thread No. 30, covered rings, etc. as necessary for each pattern. Be sure and state which designs you want material for in sending in your club. If you want the complete lot of stamped patterns only, without any material, we will send all designs here illustrated, and several others besides, Free for only one new six months' trial subscription and 10c. to pay for same and address COMFORT LACE DEPT., Augusta, Maine. dress Maine.



HIS being the season when the moth miller flies until it finds a home in some warm material where it can do its deadly work at its leisure, it is well for every housewife to go carefully over every thing, particularly the clothes which will be worn more or less, and therefore will not be packed away, Of course those being put away for the summer would naturally have a thorough brushing and airing, and be rolled in newspapers and then put in air-tight boxes or drawers, but those which

pers and then put in air-tight boxes or drawers; but those which are left hanging in closets ones that need constant attention, once a week being none too often for taking out and brushing and looking over carefully.

Closets, drawers and boxes should be cleaned now. Get an ounce of oil of cedar and apply with a small brush to all the cracks and groove of boxes and drawers and to the tops of domand baseboards in closets. Use only a littled the oil, as it will soil anything with which is comes in contact, but this treatment will make things moth-proof if closed at once.

Anna M. J. of Oberlin wants some ideas for using up small pieces of silk into a quilt. We illustrate two blocks of a quilt that is easily made, because the very smallest pieces can be utilized, and which is beautiful when finished on account of the opportunity for the fany stitches which the use of small pieces necesitates. The fans in the corners are very decontive, as the small corner piece and the large quarter of black satin, and allow of be a ut if ul

and allow of beautiful decoration in decoration in the line of painting and embroidery. The fan shown here has orchids in purple, lily of the valley



in white and suggested Arrangement. green, and the cardinal flower in the natural color in in the n

green, and the cardinal flower in the natural color in of paints, and this combination of color on the black satin is very effective.

To make the quilt, cut pieces of cotton doth fourteen inches square. Have as many of thee as will make a quilt of the size desired. Base one thickness of cotton batting onto each piece and then baste on your pieces of silk, being careful to turn the edges in deep enough so they won't work out with wear. Arrange your pieces of silk on all of the squares except four, which are for the corners. Make four one-fourth circles of black satin, about four inches wide and baste onto the four squares. Take your longest pieces of silk or ribbon and lay them in lengthwise strips from the inside of this piece of satin to the corner. Then last on a piece of black satin to fit this corner, and so cover the ends of the strips, which resemble the sticks of a fan. In the remaining corner fill in with small pieces of silk.

When all the blocks are basted, work all the basted edges with fancy stitches, and embroider or paint or applique something on as many of the plain pieces of silk as you have a desire to. It is suggested that the sticks of the fan be blind-stitched, instead of fancy stitched, as the resemblance to a fan is

resemblance to a fan is thus more marked. Use skill in combining col-ors. When all are finall are in-ished, seam together carefully and line with what-ever you de-sire. Of course silk is the richest the richest and lightest



FOR EACH CORNER.

lining. Edge with lace if possible, or with a ruffle of ribbon or silk. A silk or ribbon binding may be used if desired.

We illustrate a new takle mat which will appeal to housewives who are particular about the appearance of the table and don't care for the rush mats for hot dishes.

To make the mats, cut an oblong piece of linen the size desired and embroider with a conventional design. Then cut two pieces, each half as large as the top, for the under side. Have these two pieces on the selvedge, and place the two selvedge ends across the centred under side of mat. Baste all together and work the scallop around edge through top and under side. Trim out scallop. Now you have a double mat with an opening across the centre (the short way) of under side. Have a piece of

asbestos paper, which is pliable, a little smaller than the mat. Slip this between by means of the opening. When the mat needs laundering, slip out the asbestos and launder the mat same as doileys or tray cloths, and then slip the



asbestos back inside. If there is not enough selvedge on the piece of linen you are cutting from, of course the openings would have to be

Asbestos is inexpensive and can be bought at a store where lamp shades are sold, in any size

sheets required.

There is a new material on the market for en-There is a new material on the market for entire table covers, in place of the silence cloth, called Asbestos Cloth, which does away with the necessity for table mats altogether. This can be bought in the city stores for \$2.25 a yard, and is forty-eight inches wide.

Those who are fond of old-fashioned odors will enjoy a scent bag filled with the following mixture.

Half a pound of dried lavender, an ounce each of dried thyme and mint, two teaspoons of ground cloves and caraways and an ounce of well-dried salt. Put into little silk bags and slip under the pillow.

### CROCHET TERMS.

CROCHET TERMS.

Ch, chain; sc, single crochet; dc, double crochet; tc, treble crochet; stc, short treble crochet; dtc, double treble crochet; p, picot.

The pattern of Grecian lace was sent in by Miss H. S. and will be found very pretty and desirable for pillow cases, skirts or any articles needing wide trimming.

### GRECIAN LACE.

Make chain 40 stitches, turn.

1st Row. Shell of 6 tc, ch 2, 2tc in 3d stitch,
1 sc in next 3d, ch 2, shell in next, ch 2, skip
2, 4 tc, in next 4 stitches, \*ch 2, skip 2, 1 tc,
repeat from \*3 more times; 4 tc, ch 2, skip 2, 2
shell in 3 d stitch, 1 sc in next sc, ch 2, skip 2, shell in next, ch 2, 3 tc, ch 2, 3 tc in same stitch,
turn.

2nd Row. 3 tc, under 1st ch 2, ch 2, 3tc, under next, ch 2, shell in shell, 1 sc in last shell,



GRECIAN LACE.

ch 2, shell in shell, 1 sc in last shell, ch 2, shell in shell, ch 2, 4 tc, on 4 tc,2 tc under each next 4 spaces, ch 2, 4 tc on 4 tc,\* ch 2. shell in shell, \* 1 sc in last shell, repeat from \* to \*, ch 3, turn. 3d Row. Shell in shell, 1 sc in last shell, ch 2, shell in shell, ch 2, 4 tc on last 4 tc, ch 2, 4 tc on 4 tc, ch 2, 4 tc, ch 2, 1 tc, ch 2, 4 tc, ch 2, shell in shell, 1 sc in last shell, shell in shell, ch 2,3 tc, under ch, ch 2, 3 tc, under ch, ch 1, turn.

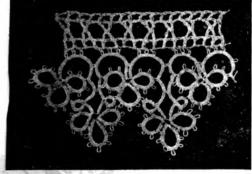
4th Row. 3 te under ch, ch 2, 3 te under ch, ch 2, 3 te under ch, ch 2, shell in shell, 1 sc in last shell, ch 2, shell in shell, ch 2, \* 4 te, ch 2, repeat 3 times from \*, shell in shell, 1 sc, ch 2, shell in shell, 1 turn

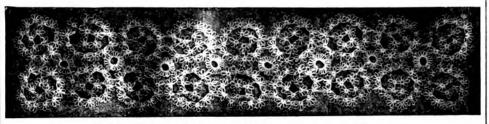
shell in shell, turn.

5th Row. Shell in shell, 1 sc in last, ch 2, shell in shell, ch 2, 4 tc, \* ch 2, 1 tc, repeat from \* once, ch 2, 4 tc, tc, 2, shell in shell, 1 sc in last, ch 2, shell in shell, 1 sc in last, ch 2, shell in shell, ch 2, 3 tc in each

space, separated by ch 2, turn.
6th Row. 3 tc, ch 2, 3 tc in each space, separated by ch 2, shell in shell as before directed, ch 2, 4 tc, ch 2, 24 tr, ch 2, shell in shell as be-7th Row. Same as 1st row. Continue next

six rows like the first 6. At point of 12th row work 4 to between 2d and 3d to, \*ch 2, 4 to under ch, repeat from \*4 times, ch 2, finish like





NO. 3 TOP FOR NEW OBLONG PIN CUSHION.

then 6p with 3 d bet. each 5d and close. The middle ring consists of 5 d 7 p, each separated by 3 d, 5 d and close. Join to the 1st ring by 1st p on the side and join 2d ring by 1st p on the other side.

then 6p with 3 d bet. each 5d and close. The middle ring consists of 5 d 7 p, each separated by 3d, 5d and close. Join to the 1st ring by 1st p on the side and join 2d ring by 1st p on the side.

After making the first clover leaf, use 2 threads and make a ch of 12 d, 3 p, each separated by 3d, 6d, then very small p, 6 d, join to center p of 2d side ring of clover leaf. Make 6 d, very small p, 6 d, now make a small ring of 5 d. Join to 6th p of middle ring in clover leaf, 5 d, 1 p, 3 d, close, ch 6 d, then another clover leaf like 1st one, joining 1st side ring by 1st p to 2d p of small ring last made. When this clover leaf is finished make ch 6 d, then small ring 3 d, join to 1st p of side ring in clover leaf, 5 d, 1 p, 5 d, close.

Metage of the first close of the search of the side ring in clover leaf, 5 d, 1 p, 5 d, close.

Metage of the first close of the search of the side ring in clover leaf, 5 d, 1 p, 5 d, close.

When she of 6 d, ioin top of conposite at 6 d.

The releaving the first alliberty to construe in favor of anybody she might elect. He thought favor of anybody she might elect. He thought it was her intention to marry Arbald—she secretly meant it for Walter, and if necessary, she was resolved by some means to clandestine-ly marry him that very night, if no other chance offered for his safety.

"Bold! bold! what will he think of me? It was the finished make ch 6 d, then small ring 3 d, join to the same of the finished make ch 6 d, then small ring 3 d, join to the same of the finished make ch 6 d, ioin top of corposite at 6 d.

The releaving the care at liberty to construe in favor of anybody she might elect. He thought two same high the secretly meant it for Walter, and if eavor of anybody she might elect. He thought two same plants the secretly meant it for Walter, and if any of anybody she might elect. He thought two same plants the secretly meant it for Walter, and if any of anybody she might elect. He thought twas the same rich any of anybody she might elect. He thought two same plants the s

\* to the end.
2d Row. Ch 5 \* miss 2 stitches,
1 tc in next, ch 2, repeat from to

end.\*

3d Row. Ch 5 \* thread over hook twice, hook in next tc, draw thread through, then through 2 stitches on hook, thread over, insert hook in next tc, thread over and work off loops by twos ch 2, a tc, over the tc made where they meet, ch 3 and repeat from \* to end.

4th Row. Same as 2d row. end.

TERMS USED IN TATTING DIRECTIONS.

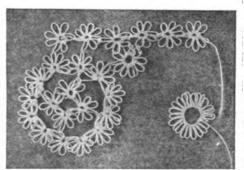
D, double, P, picot, ch, chain, bet. for between, S. P., short picot, L. P., long picot.

TATTING DESIGNS.

These were sent in by one of our Busy Bees, Mrs. M. H. C.
This work is easy to do and also very pretty and effective. Illustration 2 is a doily and No. 3 represents top for the new oblong pin cushions, which at present are so popular. When made of fine thread and placed over a silk cushion it is very handsome; one can either finish simply with bows of ribbon on the ends, or with full ruffle of silk of ribbon on the ends, or with full ruffle of silk

or Swiss.

In illustration No. 1 we have the wheel which is used in both designs. The doily consisting of 7 of these, is made by joining the picots in the manner illustrated.



WHEEL ETC., USED IN NOS. 2 AND 3.

For the pin cushion cover, it takes 18 large

wheels and 8 small ones.

Directions for large wheel: Make 7 dp stitches, draw up, 1d join to 1st, 6 d, draw, repeat twice, fasten and break thread.

Now make 1 d, join to center p, make 7 d,

draw, continue thus, joining every 3d one to one of the center 4. This outside row consists

The small wheels each have 22 dp stitches and are joined to large wheels by the 6th, 11th, 16th and 22d picots.

### A Girl's Wit.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.)

"Oh, major, you make me happy. I have been tormented at the prospect of some dreadful fate befalling him. I am, major, a foolish girl—I place, perhaps absurdly, so much confidence in your ability to rescue him from many dangers—that I should like—should like—sir, let me wear this ring" (slipping one from his finger) "as a friendly pledge that you will be his guardian, his watchful protector."

"Let me kiss the ring upon your hand as a formal seal to my pledge. Your husband, while under my command shall be my especial care."

"Do not mention this to him, major." For my sake you will keep your pledge."

to 1st p of side ring in clover leaf, 5 d, 1 p, 5 d, close.

Make ch of 6 d, join top of opposite, ch 6 d. Reverse the work, make p, (thus bringing the p on the inside of ch), reverse again, 6 d, join top on opposite ch, 6 d, 3 p, each separated by 3 d, 6 d, very small, p, 6 d.

Make 3d clover leaf like 1st, joining 3 p of 1st side ring to the p that was made on inside of ch, and the middle ring by the 2d ptc the p of small ring. After 3d clover leaf make ch, 6 d, join to p on opposite ch, 6 d, 3 p, each separated by 3 d, 6 d, very small p, 6 d, join to middle p of side ring, 6 d, then small ring like 1st one, join it by 1st p to 6th p of middle ring, continue in this way, following directions to length desired.

For crochet heading use thread size finer than that used for tatting. Fasten in 1st p at top of chain.

1st Row. \* Ch 1, fasten in next p, ch 5 fasten in next p and repeat from \*to the end.

2d Row. Ch 5 \* miss 2 stitches.

NO. 2 DOILY.

terror almost escaped from her lips, and for a single instant her presence of mind forsook her. The major had, mean while, given some rapid orders to the officers.

"Hunt him out," said he; "I wouldn't lose my hold on him for the value of a dozen ordinary rebels. If necessary, set the whole regiment to work."

"Gentlemen gentlemen" gried Possin great

ment to work."

"Gentlemen, gentlemen," cried Rose in great apparent consternation, as she unseen, unclasped a bracelet from her arm and flung it far over head into the shubbery, "gentlemen, I've lost my bracelet—a valued bracelet. Five minutes ago I had it on my arm. Major Cleveland—Captain Arbald—I beseach you to search for it. What could have become of it?"

This outbreak arrested the departure of the

This outbreak arrested the departure of the young officers, who had started to execute the orders of their superior.

"Gentlemen, I implore you to search for it. Major, it may have dropped in the bower. Go look for it, sir. Captain Arbald and Lieutenant Marvin, why do you stand idly there? Do you refuse to search for my jewel? I've lost my bracelet, I tell you, sirs. Is this the way you attend upon the wishes of a lady?"

"Really," broke in Cleveland, "duty—"

"Don't talk to me of duty, sir. I would not lose my bracelet for the wealth of the world. A valued token from a dear friend; I swore never to part with it. I tell you I value that bracelet with my very life."

"But the escaped prisoner, Miss Elsworth," interrupted Major Cleveland, who was not willing to lose the hold he fancied he possessed upon Rose by any act of opposition to her will, while at the same time he felt himself imperatively urged to secure the escaped rebel.

"What is the prisoner to me," passionately

"What is the prisoner to me," passionately exclaimed Rose, "what is he to my bracelet? Must I lose my bracelet for the sake of a runa-way rebel—a miserable clown who may either hang or run, I care not. Some one will tread upon my bracelet. I would not lose it for worlds."

"Indeed, Miss Elsworth, I assure youinterrupted Arbald.

"Indeed, Miss Elsworth, I assure you—"
interrupted Arbald.

"Oh, no assurance, sir," turning upon the
captain like a tigress; "where is your devotion
to me? Where your willingness to sacrifice
everything for me, as I have heard you swear
more than once? If you ever expect to come
into my presence again, you must first clasp
that bracelet on my arm. I will hear nothing,
listen to no excuse, and if you refuse to obey
me, never let me see you again."

Major Cleveland saw his great object in danger and hastened to retrieve matters.

"Gentlemen," said he, "do you remain with
Miss Elsworth, and search for the missing
jewel. I will myself give the necessary order
for the search for the missing prisoner." He
lifted his hat to Rose, and walked away.

Rose immediately dispatched the young officers in different directions, and no sooner was
she unobserved than she darted into the shrubbery in the direction she had seen Walter gliding avery. He was powere the search to

"Do not mention this to him, major." For my sake you will keep your pledge."
"As you wish, my dear Miss Elsworth."
The promise obtained from the major was in view of a bold and daring plan vaguely and dimly forming in her mind. Inasmuch as Captain Armstrong could only be saved by some desperate means, her quick wit had suggested the way it might be done—through the medium of the spell she held over Cleveland, and by an act which though she shrunk from performing, she yet was resolved to attempt. She had adroitly drawn a promise from the guard posted there. The shrubbery here was

dense, consisting of thickly tangled lilac bushes, snowballs, a few evergreen and the like. In the midst of these bushes, thickly screened in front by dense spruces, the captain lay prostrate upon the ground. Through the bushes he saw Rose and whispered her name. The light by this time had nearly faded out of the west, but there was a full moon, riding clearly and directly above their heads. The moonlight rendered the open walks almost as bright as day, but the shadows were dense and black.

black.
"They are searching for me with torches, Rose," whispered Walter, "and will be sure to find me. Is there no opening by which I can glide through to the forest?"

Rose looked around. Not a chance seemed to offer.

Rose looked around. Not a chance seemed to offer.

"No, Walter," said she, "but I might get you to the house. There you could effect a disguise."

"We must, at least, try it," was the reply. "I saw your bracelet trick, dear Rose, and found it for you, before I crawled away. Why it is the very one I gave, and had a kiss for once."

"Hush!" muttered Rose: "be cautious, Wal-

the very one I gave, and had a kiss for once."

"Hush!" muttered Rose; "be cautious, Walter, I implore you!"

Rose and Walter succeeded in getting to the shadowed side of the house unobserved; but between the screenwork of shrubbery through which they had forced their way, an open space was to be crossed—a space in shadow, to be sure, but dangerous and exposed, nevertheless. After a consultation, they made an attempt to cross, but at an unfortunate moment. They had not run a dozen yards, before a whole party of soldiery with torches came rushing around the corner of the house—among them Major Cleveland. Walter turned and darted back, but he was seen and a rush made in the direction he disappeared. Several shots were fired, and the clamor that arose was startling. The whole scene, indeed, was wild and picturesque.

Rose stood spellbound, with palpitating heart, looking at the scene. The power to move seemed to be suspended. Her cheek looked blanched even in the darkness in which she stood. Suddenly a voice fell upon her ear, close at her side. She started, and looked up. Major Cleveland's face was bending over her shoulder.

"What am I to think, Miss Elsworth?" said

Major Cleveland 5 and shoulder. "What am I to think, Miss Elsworth?" said he. "I find you assisting at this fellow's es-

he. "I find you assisting at this fellow's escape."

"Think!" exclaimed Rose, vehemently, "that I would give the world for Captain Armstrong's escape."

"Humph! That would be a useless gift. Look and see for yourself."

The major pointed to where the torches had congregated, and were swaying to and fro in the struggle of the capture. In a few moments more, a party of a dozen soldiers came crashing through the shubbery, dragging the unfortunate Walter a prisoner in their midst.

"Great Heaven!" cried Rose, burying her face in her hands.

"How's this, Miss Elsworth?" whispered the major in her ear. She started and stared at him proudly, with all her self possession regained.

the major in her ear. She started and stared at him proudly, with all her self possession regained.

"I rejoice that we meet again," said Cleveland, lifting his hat with mock politeness to Walter, as the party came up. Walter shook off the hands that were upon him, and folded his arms in silent disdain. As he did so something glittering dropped upon the grass at his feet. A soldier picked it up, and stepped forward to present it to the major. As Cleveland received it, he started with undisguised surprise. It was the very bracelet he had seen on Rose's arm and the one she had lost, and for the discovery of which she was so clamorous. A light broke upon the major's mind. He began to divine matters. A torch was at his elbow. He held the jewel to the flame, and read the inscription—"To Rose, From Walter." He smiled, though at heart deeply chagrined and enraged, and stepping up to Rose, extended the bracelet to her.

"I am glad, my dear Miss Elsworth, to be the means of restoring this valued token from a dear friend. Would it not be a strange vicissitude if the finding of the trinket should be the means of losing the friend?"

Rose violently compressed her lips, but did not reply. The major whispered an order, and Walter was led off to his former quarters. Rose stood with tightly clasped hands her eyes following the cortege. Cleveland uttered her name in a low tone, when, starting from her reverie, she turned upon him fiercely:

"Major Cleveland, Captain Armstrong must be allowed to go free. I have your promise. I hold you to it. He must—he shall be free!"

"My promise, madam?"

"Look!" exclaimed she vehemently, holding up her hand and pointing to the ring he had given her in the bower.

"Aha! I was beginning to suspect the trick!"

"Your shrewdness would have done you more credit if you had detected it before. As it is, I have your signet and your promise to save Captain Armstrong!"

"But the promise referred only to your husband."

"Gaptain Armstrong is my betrothed hus-

"But the promise referred only to your husband."
"Captain Armstrong is my betrothed husband."

"Aye, but at present is a prisoner. You see, madam, I hold the trump card."
"Your pardon, sir, but I have the game."
"Eh! Is not the captain in my hands?"
"Before tomorrow morning he shall be in

mine. "Confound it, madam," exclaimed the major, allowing his rage to escape, "I'll keep so strict a guard upon him, a fly sha'n't light upon him without my knowing of it."
"Do so, and if you were argus-eyed into the bargain, I'd marry him before tomorrow morning."

ing."
"Ha, is it come to that? I'll march this hour."

"Ha, is it come to that? I'll march this nour."
"It would be too late."
"This moment, then."
"I would anticipate you." Could any one have seen the blaze and flash in Rose's eyes during this scene, he would have remembered it to his dying moment. She was superb, beautiful, grand, in the full sway of her reckless, vehement purpose.
"Madam," exclaimed the major, astounded at what appeared her audacity, "you talk idly."

"Madam," exclaimed the major, astounded at what appeared her audacity, "you talk idly." "Sir, you talk without reason." "Why, madam, I'll go to him at once, put a pistol to his head, blow his brains out—" "And make me his widow!" "Deuce take it, you're mad!" "Mad, if you will, Major Cleveland. It is a struggle between us. Look to it, sir. You may be bold, valorous, cunning, but you have a woman's wit against you, so look to it." "A challenge, Miss Elsworth?" "A challenge, Major Cleveland!" (TO BE CONTINUED.)



CHAPTER II.

The opening chapter of this intensely interesting story appeared in May Comfort. Back numbers may be obtained by enclosing two cents to Comfort, Augusta, Maine, for each number desired.

"I COULD PUT MY FINGER ON THE MAN, BUT I WON'T.

HEW!" blew the big high sheriff of Walton county through his red whiskers. He slicked the perspiration from his forehead with his fingers.

The time was three o'clock of the afternoon following the day of the disappearance of Squire Caleb Brett of Mansfield village. The sheriff was standing in the broad doorway of the Purinton Mill. Round about the door, along the fences in the locality and in scattered knots in the upper section of the establishment were townspeople and strangers who had been attracted to the place, newspaper reporters and anxious men of affairs from distant cities, men whose business dealings with Squire Brett were left uncomfortably in the lurch by his mysterious taking-off.

The sheriff had arrived in the early dawn and had led the search. From the mill, after the old structure had been ransacked in all its parts, the quest extended to the fields, pastures and the waters. The water was drawn out of the mill's pond, the brook was searched and boats patrolled the salt water bay. Back again to the mill came the sheriff and his satellites and at the starting place he frankly avowed to the crowd standing about that he hadn't the least idea what had become of the Squire-if he were alive-or what disposition had been made of the body, if he were dead.

of the body, if he were dead.

"Keep on hunting, boys," advised the high sheriff. "Maybe you'll dig something up, though it does seem as though we had given this place 'round here a fine-tooth goin' over. I'd stay with you but the county attorney has sent for me to come to the tavern."

The county attorney had unneated his bog

sent for me to come to the tavern."

The county attorney had unpacked his bag in a stuffy little bed-room at the village hotel. On top of two law books sat a fat bottle built on the same expansive model as the attorney. "Help yourself, Hiram," he said, and the sheriff prepared himself for the interview.

"Well, what have you done?" the attorney inquired briskly.

"Hunted everywhere, squire," replied the sheriff, wiping his beard with his broad handkerchief.

"Have you been all through the mill base."

"Have you been all through the mill basement to see if the dirt has been disturbed?"
"Been over every square inch with lanterns."
"Not a clue, then?"

"Not a clue, then?"

The sheriff unrolled some articles from a piece of newspaper. They were the battered beaver hat of Squire Brett and the piece of peeled orange that had been found on the top of the slab pile. "Those seem to be the only things the Squire saw fit to leave, except ye reckon in them snips of cloth sticking to the slivers in the sluice."

The two men sat for a space and looked at each other. Then the sheriff, giving the attorney a keen look, remarked:
"You've probably heard more of less of the talk that's flyin' round?"
"Sure."

"What do you think of it?"

The prosecuting attorney squinted one eye at the sheriff. "You say," he remarked enigmati-

the sheriff. "You say," he remarked enigmatically.

"Well, this is 'tween you and me and the bedpost there," the sheriff said rather hesitatingly, "and I don't want to start in jumping at conclusions or suspecting my own neighbors, as you might say, but—"

"What you mean is that at least three persons here in this town were a little too closely bunched up with the Squire along about half past ten yesterday?"

The sheriff leaned back, stretched his right leg and drew a long slab of tobacco from his trousers' pocket. "That's nigh enough to what I'm thinkin'," he replied.

"Now, Hiram, we are alone and we can talk

"Now, Hiram, we are alone and we can talk plainly. How do you figure it? Accident or suicide or murder?"

suicide or murder?"

"Old Cale Brett never committed suicide in
the Lord's world," the sheriff snapped. "As to
accident—wal, he might have tumbled down
there, but most of us know the Squire too well

there, but most of us know the Squire too well to size it up that way. And then again the body was moved—hid."

"That's the singular part of it," broke in the attorney. "Supposing any one had an interest in pushing the Squire down that sluice, why didn't they push and then let well enough alone? With the body on the slab pile the accident theory would have been a hard one to disprove."

"You never can tell what the chief operator

"You never can tell what the chief operator in such a case will do," said the sheriff. "There was the Walker case in Monburn. Some one killed old Gus Walker in his barn, left the pistol to indicate that the old man had done it pistol to indicate that the old han had took a forkful of hay and carefully dumped it over the corpse. You see you can't reckon on what a green hand at the murder bus'ness will act

"Has the family any suspicions?" asked the

attorney.

"The women folks are too much broken up to say a word," said the sheriff. "Last night George Brett was on a toot and today he's on his high and mighty; says he don't know anything about the case, and don't want to have

GREAT PURINTON MILL MYSTERY

any officers chasing him 'round and bothering him with questions."
"To-o-o-de-do-o-o!" vocalized the lawyer.

"Latest edict from the Prince de Mansfield! "Latest edict from the Prince de Mansfield! Well, George Brett can run the grand balls over to the Corner and he can boss the bartender at the Oriental hotel and can make certain women stand around but he can't tell the officers of this county what to do."
"Well, you can make him talk when he is under oath at the coroner's inquest. That's the only way to drag evidence out of some of these suckers around here. They won't talk straight unless they are on the witness stand."
"How in Tophet are you going to call a coroner's inquest without a body to view," demanded the attorney. "We haven't proved death yet."

death yet."
"That's so," murmured the sheriff, somewhat abashed. "I've got so used to thinkin' that the Squire is dead I've forgotten all about we haven't found the remains." He looked regretfully on the jammed hat and the orange.
"You can't even arrest any one for murdering the old man till we prove that he's been murdered, eh?" added the sheriff.

murdered, eh?" added the sheriff.

"We can arrest if there are reasonable grounds for suspicion but there's a provision in the law regarding corpus delictum that a shrewd lawyer for the defense would be sure to take advantage of. That is, a man can't be convicted of murdering another man until some portion of the victim's body has been found."

"And both don't sweet" "sweet"

"And hats don't count," remarked the sheriff

slab pile and from his wallet produced one of the snips that he had pulled from a sliver in the sluice. Minute as was this fragment there was no mistaking that both pieces had come from the same weave of cloth. Therefore it might be concluded that in some way the Squire's body had come in contact with the spikes in that beam. The relative positions of sluice and beam precluded the possibility that the body could have struck the spikes in the downward rush. Was it raised afterwards and hung on these spikes for temporary concealment? The detective indulged his suspicions and reserved his conclusions. and reserved his conclusions.

COMFORT.

and reserved his conclusions.
Then day after day he proceeded on his quest for information among the people of the town. He held many conferences with the heart-broken women of the Brett family and to them as his employers explained his progress. Mrs. Erskine still hoped desperately that her father was alive. It was this hope, vain as it was, that Erskine still hoped desperately that her father was alive. It was this hope, vain as it was, that had provoked a bitter quarrel with George Brett, one of the three heirs to the large Brett property. At first Mrs. Erskine kept the knowledge of this dispute from the detective. It was as though she were afraid to reveal her suspicions. And if suspicion had grown in her mind she was at the first unquestionably willing to sacrifice her desire for vengeance to her pride in the honor of the family.

Despite Detective Ordwell's unvarying rule

Despite Detective Ordwell's unvarying rule to search all motives and glean all information before allowing his prejudices or opinions to get at work, he found his suspicions leaning more and more toward George Brett. He had discovered that since his uncle, the Squire, had established him in business at Mansfield Corper the young man had been leading the round. ner the young man had been leading the rapid life of "the rural sport." His affairs were in such shape that his creditors would have closed his store were it not for the fact that he would one day come into a share of the Squire's es-

tate.
It was known to every one in town that durit was known to every one in town that during the few weeks before the Squire's disappearance he and his nephew had been having a bitter quarrel over the woman George wanted to marry. She was a flashy girl whose employment had been in the cloth hall of the local woolen mill. Her reputation was not of the sort to be tolerated by the Brett family and the Squire had declared that George must forselve her or he disipherited. The roune man "It is one of the cases, Hiram," said the sake her or be disinherited. The young man county attorney, replacing his law books and while in his cups had discussed the affair in

have tried and tried, Mr. Ordwell to drive suspicion out of my mind, but I cannot. George has been here time after time during the past few weeks and each time he demands that he estate be administered upon."

"Appears to be pretty certain that his uncle is dead, eh?" said the detective grimly.

"Isn't it horrible, Mr. Ordwell? He says he needs money badly and must have it. He vows that he will marry that girl, even though his uncle's last demand was that he should give her up. He has raved at me and threatened me until I am nigh distracted. The last time he was here he said that he had married the girl secretly some time ago. Perhaps that was why he was so persistent in fighting his uncle's wishes."

wishes."
"I have found out that the marriage actually took place some time ago in New Hampshire," said the detective.

Mrs. Erskine's face grew white. "I am willing to stand by my family and kin until the last ditch," she said, "but when a member insults and disgraces the rest of us it is only fair to retaliate. There is one thing that I have not told you, Mr. Ordwell, for I hoped that the suspicion of this crime might be diverted from George—and—and others."
"If you want this case ferreted out, Mrs. Erskine, I think I ought to have your full confidence. If not—"
"I would be restricted to the standard of the standa

George—and—and others."

"If you want this case ferreted out, Mrs. Erskine, I think I ought to have your full confidence. If not—"

"I shall be party to no step to hide a crime, Mr. Ordwell. The last time George was at the house he left in a great passion because I would not hasten matters to a division of the property. On his way to his team he met Grace in the path. 'I want you,' he said 'to prevail on your mother to settle up this property matter. Uncle is dead and I won't be kept out of my money any longer!' Grace told him there was no proof of the Squire's death. 'He's dead,' George repeated, angrily. He had been drinking that day and perhaps he said things that he didn't intend to let out."

"Drunken men lie and bluff quite as often as they confess," commented the detective dryly. "But go on."

"'He's dead,' he repeated. 'I'm sure of it for I know who killed him. I can place my finger on the man in ten minutes, my dear cousin, and if I should do so it would tear your hear into inch pieces. There are two reasons why I don't want to lead the sheriff up to the man. In the first place he did a trick that has helped me out of a tight place. I'm always grateful whatever else I am. In the second place, my dear Grace, I don't want to hurt your love affairs. I know what it is to be in love and have things go wrong. Understand, eh? But mind ye, you swing your mother into line or I'll forget that lovers ought to stand together, and I'LL PUT MY FINGER ON THE MAN THAT KILLED UNCLE BRETT!'" The intensely interesting solution of this fascinating story can only be solved by at once sending your subscription to Comfort, Augusta, Maine. Next month we have another dramatic story to announce, and by subscribing or renewing your subscription now either for six or twelve months, you can keep in touch with all of the good things being added to Comfort from month to month.

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the bottle in his bag, "where the law must be slow and sure. The only persons open to suspicion are—well, we won't mention them now. They occupy such positions in this community that the law mustn't even blow the breath of suspicion on their good fame just now. Keep at work and consult me every day."

During the next twenty-four hours these matters had been accomplished: the town of Mansfield had offered a reward of \$500, supplemented by another \$500 from the Brett family, "for any information leading to detection of the person or persons who removed the body of Caleb Brett from Purinton's mill on the 24th day of June." It was thought best not to allege foul play at first.

Within twenty-four hours, several state

day of June." It was thought best not to allege foul play at first.

Within twenty-four hours, several state detectives, as these licensed constables are termed, were at work as volunteers, their expectation of recompense the reward. A dozen newspaper reporters from big city papers were skirmishing over town with equal zeal and half the people of Mansfield had constituted themselves detectives pro tem. Advised by a lawyer in a near-by city, in whose hands Mrs. Erskine and Grace had placed their affairs, Thomas Ordwell, licensed state detective, was employed by the family. Ordwell was spare and sallow and as matter of fact as a book agent. He didn't disguise the circumstance that he was a detective and he went about his work as regularly each day as though he were an apple tree ularly each day as though he were an apple tree

spent two days in examination of the mill and its immediate surroundings. Every time he came on the upper floor he looked at the myriad footprints in the dust about the mouth of the sluice and sighed. The whole story of the struggle, if struggle there had been, would have been clearly told in signs had he been the first man to enter that mill when the search for Sonire Brett commenced, so he pondered.

Squire Brett commenced, so he pondered.
On the second day of the search the detective was sitting on top of the slab pile with a lantern between his legs. He was alone and was looking about him and meditating. How and

where?
He stood up and raised the lantern. The height of the slab pile lifted him close against the beams supporting the flooring. The beams were huge stringers and here and there from them projected the ends of rusty spikes. From one of these spikes he pulled a frayed remnant of cloth. Twas worsted. He sat down on the

every bar room and with all his intimates. He had declared that he would marry the girl. The Squire had been almost as open in inform-The Squire had been almost as open in informing his friends that his nephew should be forced to break away from the entanglement. It was an open secret that on the forenoon of the tragedy George Brett had driven over to Mansfield village to have one final talk with his uncle. The old man had declared previously to the family that unless his nephew ceased all communication with the girl before the week was over he would make a will cutting him off without a dollar.

Under these circumstances it is not surprising that Ordwell commenced to find his calm.

ing that Ordwell commenced to find his calm, reasoning powers warped by the scantily veiled hints and accusations of the townspeople.

Under different circumstances, perhaps, the urging hints of the community would have driven the county officers to make an arrest. But the position of George Brett, unwillingness of the high sheriff to prejudice himself in his candidacy for a second term by pre-cipitateness and the general disposition to be slow and sure in charging people with crime in a New England rural community, all tended to hold matters off. But after nearly four weeks of work the de-tective came to the Brett residence one evening

and announced to the mother and daughter that he was ready to make his final report.

Mrs. Erskine listened, pale and anxious.

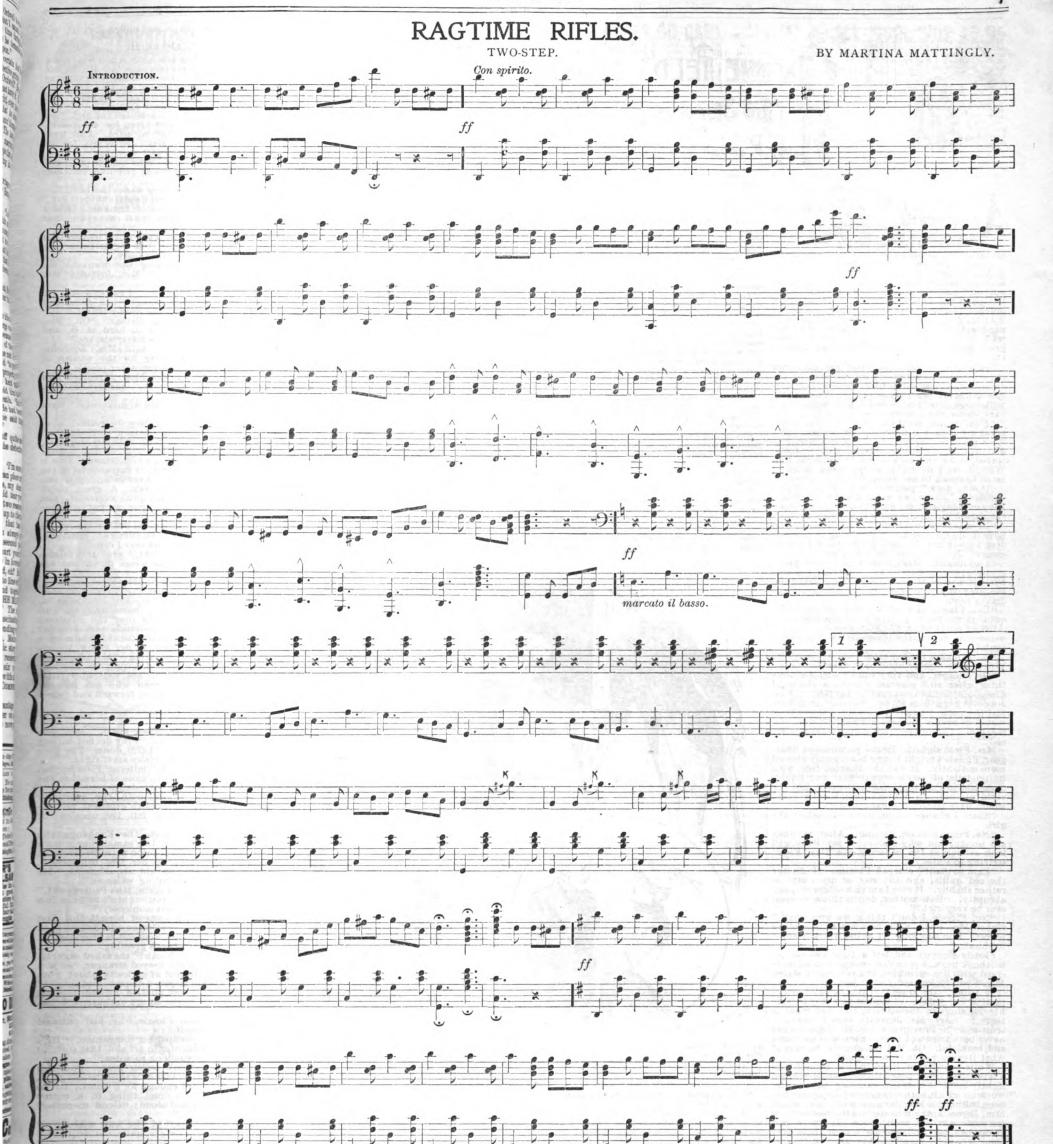
"And you are not prepared to make definite charges?" she said after he had completed his reading of notes.

charges?" she said after he had completed his reading of notes.
"I am not," he replied. "I feel that I have secured every available bit of information bearing on this case, so far as I am able to dig it out by my own agency. You have employed me and I therefore turn it over to you. If now you desire to retain me longer and have me cooperate with the authorities, that is for you to say."
"I certainly do," said Mrs. Erskine. "Grace and I both feel that we cannot rest until everything is done that money and work can accomplish."

thing is done that money and work can accomplish."

"With the amount of information at hand up to this time, madam," said Ordwell, "I don't think I would be justified in saying that I have arrived at any conclusions. I prefer to be on the safer side, especially since I feel I ought to inform you that the reputation of one of your family is seriously compromised."

"I know it—I know it," she murmured. "I



James Whitcomb Riley. The People's Poet and His Work.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



O have written that which has appealed to the hearts of the com-mon people as well as to those in the higher walks of life is worth much. To James Whitcomb Riley, the "Hoosier poet," has been poet," has been given this pleas-ure and distinc-tion. He has had his largest and most appreciative

audience a mong the rank and file of his countrymen. And yet he has not lacked readers and admirers among those in the higher walks of life and those of the highest intellec-

Very few writers have attained the high de-

gree of success attained by James Whitcomb Riley without any special experience or training for literary work.

He was born in Greenfield, Indiana, in the year 1852. His father was an attorney who traveled about the country taking his boy with him on many of his journeys when other boys of his age were in school. of his age were in school.

In this way the boy acquired a roving dis-position and soon became restless when compelled to remain long in one place. His after life gave proof of the fact that the boy was alert in his journeyings and that his youthful

alert in his journeyings and that his youthful mind received impressions that were of value to him in the literary career he chose when his wandering was done.

When he was yet in his teens young Riley left school to adopt the nomadic career of a wandering sign writer, and later on he became connected with a strolling theatrical company for which he wrote songs and re-cast plays beside appearing in the various dramas and farces given by the company in the small western given by the company in the small western towns.

It was about the year 1875 when Riley began to contribute poems in western dialect to the local papers.

These early efforts found many admirers and were widely copied and led to the young poet becoming regularly connected with the Indian-apolis Journal. Many of his best poems have appeared in this paper and his reputation has

been made while writing for the great popular audience the newspaper gives its contributors. Few authors can read their own compositions as Mr. Riley reads his, and no one can give some of his poems as he gives them. His delivery of some of them is so delightfully natural and unaffected, so far removed from the manner of the average "elocutionist," and so irresistibly funny that he never fails to please his audience

He is never more pleasing than as an after dinner entertainer. The writer will never forget Riley's rendition of his uproariously funny prose sketch entitled "An Object Lesson."

It was at a little dinner at the Parker House in Boston after Riley had read to an audience completely filling 'Tremont Temple. On this occasion and at a reception given in his honor Riley said that his favorite poem was one of but three stanzas by an unknown author. He prethree stanzas by an unknown author. He pre-ferred reciting it to reciting any of his own poems and I remember that the first verse was as follows:

ollows:

"He'd nothing but his violin,
I'd nothing but my song;
But we were wed when skies were blue
And summer days were long.
We often supped on dewberries,
And slept upon the hay,
And oft at eve the farmers' wives
Came out to hear us play
The dear old songs, the sweet old songs,
We could not want for long
While my man had his violin,
And I my sweet love song."

The moral of the poem is that young people who wait to accumulate wealth before marrying are unwise, for the last lines are—

"They who wait for houses and lands,
For riches and for kine,
Till youth's sweet spring grows brown and sere
And love and beauty tine,
Will never know the joy of hearts
That met without a fear,
When you had but your violin
And I my song, my dear."

While it is undoubtedly his dialect poems that have made James Whitcomb Riley's reputation, many of his other poems strike a high note and have the ring of the true poet. Exquisite in its tenderness and pathos is the little poem entitled "Away" and beginning with the couplet—

"I cannot say, and I will not say That he is dead.—He is just away!"

His poems "Knee-deep in June," "The Old Swimmin' Hole," "Jim" and "Little Orphan Anny" are among the Hoosier poet's best dia-"The Old lect poems. One has only to read them to un-derstand the secret of James Whitcomb Riley's large audiences and the hold he has on the affections of so many of his readers.

Russian lace makers are a very industrious people. They make exceedingly long days, rising at four or five in the morning, and seldom retiring before eleven or twelve at night.



CHAPTER I.

CHAPTER I.

RE you asleep, mother? Oh, mother, I am so sorry I disturbed you, but I'm all ready to go for the medicine and the other things!"

"Asleep? Yes—no—perhaps I might have been dozing a little, Flossie, dear."

Mrs. Field sat up among her shabby sofa pillows, passing one hand dreamily across her brow. Yes, she must have been asleep, for it seemed to her that she was back in the leafy lanes of her old country home, with her dead husband walking at her side, and the scarlet foliage of the maples rustling overhead. Not much like this dreariest of tenement rooms with its worn carpet and weather-stained ceiling and the solitary window opening on a brick wall. Was it any marvel that life, also, was gray and cheerless in such surroundings as this?

Involuntarily the tears filled her eyes—but

gray and cheerless in such surroundings as this?

Involuntarily the tears filled her eyes—but she strove to smile bravely for the sake of the daughter, who stood before the cracked mirror, adjusting her hat,—a pretty, slender girl, with large blue-gray eyes fringed with thick, dark lashes and a complexion like a rose.

"I do think, mother," said Flossie Field. speaking with a hat-pin in her mouth, "that it's a positive disgrace for old Wurtemburg to give us such a glass as this, all dim and distorted, and a big crack down the middle, too! Why, it isn't fit for a second-hand shop! I mean to speak to her about it!"

"Don't, dear," pleaded Mrs. Field, apprehensively. "It is two weeks since we have paid her anything and she didn't speak to me when she passed me on the stairs this morning."

"Ill-mannered old thing," said Flossie. "I'd have made her speak. We're going to pay her, aren't we, when the money for this embroidery comes? Now, mother, am I all right?"

Involuntarily Mrs. Field's care-worn countenance turned, smiling and dimpling, towards her. It was as if a sunbeam had burst from the gray sky overhead, illuminating all the dreary room.

"But, Flossie—I wouldn't wear those scarlet quills in my hat if I were you," she hesitated. "Why not, mother?" And Flossie turned a wondering gaze to the blurred glass, then back again.

"It—it makes the hat rather showy, don't it?

wondering gaze to the blurred glass, then back again.

"It—it makes the hat rather showy, don't it? Where's the black ribbon bow, dear?"

"Oh, mother, and they didn't cost me anything, after all," pleaded Flossie, a shade of disappointment overspreading her face. "Mrs. Joycotte gave them to me. She said they were just the color I ought to wear. I thought it would be such a pleasant surprise to you, and you don't like my poor little red feathers, after all!"

Mrs. Field sighed. In the picturesque head-gear, Flossie's bright young beauty only glowed more radiantly. It was the dimpled face, with its tendrils of beech-brown hair and liquid, dark-lashed eyes that was noticeable, not the vivid plumes. In a nun's coif, Flossie Field would have attracted equal attention.

"Shall I change them, mother?" asked the

"Shall I change them, mother?" asked the girl.

"No, keep them on, darling. After all they are pretty, and why shouldn't my little girl look as well as the others?" said Mrs. Field, striving to smile.

"I am so glad!" chirped Flossie. "I do like the red quills, and the rest of my outfit is rather shabby. If ever lam rich—"She stopped abruptly. "But, mother, do you think we shall ever be very rich?"

"No. Flossie. I don't think we ever shall."

"No, Flossie, I don't think we ever shall," sighed Mrs. Field. "But here is Mrs. Joycotte's parcel. Don't be long. I think there is snow in the air."

Flossie stooped and left a light kiss on her

Flossie stooped and left a light kiss on her mother's brow, a poor care-worn brow all traversed with fine wrinkles, and ran down stairs. Mrs. Field looked sadly after her.

"I think," she mused, "that the child grows prettier every day. "I cannot feel easy to have her out alone in the streets; and yet what is there to fear? Mr. Joycotte says I ought to trust more in Providence, but Mr. Joycotte has never been tried as I have. Flossie is so young and beautiful. Oh, if I could only be sure of what Heaven has in store for her?"

While poor Naomi Field fretted herself into a fever over life's possibilities, Flossie tripped lightly along the streets, carrying the needlework on which both mother and daughter had been toiling for long days,—a table scarf which Mrs. Joycotte, the minister's wife, had ordered for some wealthy parishioner. It was a raw

Mrs. Joycotte, the minister's wife, had ordered for some wealthy parishioner. It was a raw December day and the girl's poor little gray cloak was sadly insufficient to ward off the biting wind. But Flossie was young, with the blood dancing in her veins like wine, and as she walked swiftly along, she could have sung and danced through the year joyd life. blood dancing in her veins like wine, and as she walked swiftly along, she could have sung and danced through the very joy of life. How gay the streets were, how musical the rumble of carriage wheels. Oh, to be rich, to dwell in houses like these—to wear silken garments and ride in luxurious carriages, for little Flossie had a good deal of Mother Eve in her composition! A girl with a face like hers, however, could scarcely evade unpleasant observation, and more than once she nervously quickened her pace when a bold passer riveted his gaze on her bright cheeks with too evident admiration. She did not like people to stare, yet how was she to avoid it?

As she drew near the great Music Hall on Fifty Seventh Street, her quick glance per-ceived an oblong slip of paper lying as if it had just fallen on the gray expanse of pavement and unconsciously she stooped to pick it up. Did her eyes deceive her, or was it-yes it was—a ticket for a concert at Carnegie Hall on that very day, a ticket for the Paderewski Matinee!

Matinee!

A dark blue victoria, drawn by a highstepping horse and driven by a coachman in sober livery, had just rattled away from the curb. Possibly the ticket had been dropped by the occupant of that nest of satin-cushioned luxury, but Flossie Field saw that it was too late to restore it now, nor, to tell the truth, did she just at first think of restoring it to the rightful owner. She could only reflect on the bliss of having found it. Had she not always longed to see the inside of this Palace of Music?

I've no fault to find with the present arrangement."

He stooped and, picking up the fallen orchids, laid them on her lap.

"Do you like Paderewski?" he asked.

"I don't know whether I do or not," said Flossie, while in her heart she was saying to herself: "It must have been her ticket that I found. I wonder if they can arrest me for stealing! Oh. I wish, I wish I hadn't come!"

"Who on earth can she be?" thought the handsome stranger. "And how came she here?

Had she not yearned, with a yearning beyond description, to hear the great Paderewski? And not for a second did Flossie doubt that this ticket was her own by the primal right of discovery!

A hurried glance at the clock in a neighboring jeweler's window told her that the hour for the concert was very near, and our little heroine flew like the wind to Mrs. Joycotte's house with

her parcel.
"Not at home? Well, it don't matter," said breathless Flossie. "I'll leave the scarf and call again.

The sour-faced old servant looked askance at The sour-faced old servant looked askance at Flossie's bright eyes and glowing cheeks as she took the bundle. This new protegee of Mrs. Joycotte's was far too pretty for her mind. Half an hour afterward Flossie found herself seated in a box on the third tier of the glittering semi-circle at Carnegie Hall, surreptitiously with the property of the property of the grant of the semi-circle at Carnegie Hall, surreptitiously with the property of the semi-circle at Carnegie Hall, surreptitiously with the property of the semi-circle at Carnegie Hall, surreptitiously with the semi-circle at Carnegie Hall, surreptitiou nibbling a bun, while her heart pulsed wildly with the haste she had made, partly, also, with triumph at finding herself in so novel and de-

lightful a position.
"Mother will be uneasy about me," thought she, "but there was no time to tell her, and how pleased she will be when she hears of my ad-venture!"

venture!"
But as the big hall began to fill and the huge vacant spaces became packed with brilliant humanity, Flossie Field grew uneasy.
"I wish people wouldn't stare so much," thought she as she edged behind the boxcurtain. "I don't see why they are so rude."
For it never occurred to her how unlike she was to the rest of the gay throng, in her plain brown serge grown and cotton gloves, to say nothing of the dimpled freshness of her face, with its Madonna curves and long-lashed eyes. Suddenly the doorway in the rear was dark-Suddenly the doorway in the rear was dark-ened by a swift shadow, the curtain was lifted,

Upon my word, this is the strangest adventure I ever stumbled across!"
At this instant, however, a breath of divine music stole like a spell across the silence, and as the heavenly phrases followed one another with ever-increasing volume, Flossie leaned forward with clasped hands and cheeks aflame, the young man watching her the while. At the close of the first number he spoke again. "You are fond of music?"
The spell of the melody had freed Flossie's tongue.

"Oh, very fond!" she cried. "But, Paderewski—" She did not complete the sentence.

The brown eyes shone, the cheeks were suffused with vivid rose; she was prettier than

"He's very fine," acknowledged the stranger. "Isn't it queer, though" pausing to fasten a milk-white orchid in his own coat. "I came here expecting to meet quite a different person, and here I am, seated beside you!"

Again Flossie was silent.
"And without in the least knowing who you

are.

are."
Still she did not speak.
"Won't you tell me by what name I may call
you?" he persisted.
"I—I don't think I ought to."
"Now I am rebuked!" he retorted, lightly.
"But you'll have to. It's Kismet. Do you
know, I had my fortune told this morning by
an old hag on Herald Square. I was to meet
my fate today. I didn't believe it then, but I
do now."

"Hush!" Flossie lifted her finger as the pianist once more crossed the stage. She wished the man would stop talking. She knew wished the man would stop talking. She knew now that she had made a mistake in being here at all, still more in allowing a stranger to sit beside her and address her. All her mother's warnings recurred to her and her poor little frightened heart fluttered wildly.

"Oh, if 1 only were at home again!" she thought.

thought.

The electric lights, the diamonds, the brilliant toilettes swam before her eyes the dreamy, rocking refrain of the "Minuet" sounded far away and indistinct, and it was not until the audience rose en masse, that she knew the concert was over. She started up.

"You have dropped the flowers again," said the low, soft voice of her companion.

"I don't want the flowers," almost sobbed the girl. "I'm in a hurry."

"No, don't be in haste," smiled the gentle-



and a tall handsome man swung himself into a man. "Wait until the first rush is over.

With a surprised gasp, the young man paused a moment as if uncertain what to do.

"But here"—presenting her with a bouquet of white and mauve orchids tied with mauve satin ribbons. "This is the offering I brought for Miss Vaillant. I may as well transfer it to her substitute on the spot."

Flossie turned first red, then white, as she looked down at the exquisite things, whose looked down at the exquisite things, whose whose looked down at the exquisite things, whose whose looked down at the exquisite things, whose looked looke

looked down at the exquisite things, whose like she had never seen before, save in the Broadway florists' windows.

"I—I don't understand you," she faltered.
"Isn't this box 547?" said the stranger, his brilliant black eyes seeming to take in every inch of her with half amused, half wondering

sparkles.
"I don't know," said Flossie. "Please take back your flowers, sir."
"I'll do nothing of the sort," said the stranger. "Don't move, pray," lifting his hand.
"Don't stir, or the whole thing will go to pieces

like a lime-light show. I say, how did you come here, any how? Sure you're not Miss Vaillant in disguise?"

Vailant in disguise?"
Flossie sat silent, wondering if the tall gentleman with the flashing eyes and the heavy black moustache were crazy.
"Don't be frightened," he said, his manner

suddenly changing to an exquisite courtesy. "The lady I expected to meet is not here—but I've no fault to find with the present arrangement."

and a tall handsome man swung himself into a chair beside her.

"Hallo!" he exclaimed. "Why it isn't Miss Vaillant at all!"

CHAPTER II.

With a surprised gasp, the young man paused a moment as if uncertain what to do.

"But here"—presenting her with a bouquet of white and mauve orchids tied with mauve

humming bird, what does she mean by fluttering away like this? Am I such a frightful object? Hello, there are the three red quills just where that fat man blocks the aisle. I have her now! No, I haven't" biting his lip as a plump matron with two pretty daughters stopped him. "So glad to see you, Mrs. Merrill. Yes, the Magician was at his best this afternoon. Pardon me Untriving to everther afternoon. Pardon me, I'm trying to overtake a friend."

He rushed to the pavement, looking this way and that. To the left a scarlet spot glowed in the crowd, in the opposite direction another.

the crowd, in the opposite direction another. The young man whistled softly.

"Now, which is it?" he asked himself. "I'm hanged if I know. I may just as well give up the chase and be done with it. But what a beauty she was! And how on earth did she come to be in Hilary Vaillant's box?"

He walked disconsolately through towards Fifth Avenue, while Flossie Field, hurrying breathlessly in quite a different direction, kept thinking: "Oh, what would mother say? That I wasn't to be trusted out of her sight. And she would be right. I have behaved like a silly child. But after all, perhaps he meant to be polite. Why was I so suspicious? I almost wish now that I had brought away the flowers. Mother is so fond of them, and they were so Mother is so fond of them, and they were so beautiful. And, any how, I have heard Pade-rewski play! I have opened the door of a new world, for just one hour, and I've had a glimpse of Heaven!"

Poor Flossie! With such longings after

beauty in every shape, and such a gray life be

CHAPTER III.

Mrs. Field shook her head when she heard the story of Flossie's escapade, but it was not in human nature to frown at the pretty young

in human nature to frown at the pretty young creature who was so sure of her sympathy.

"But you mustn't do it again, Flossie," said she. "Promise me—never again."

"I promise, mother," assented the girl. "For I was a little frightened—just for an instant, when he looked at me so hard. And now, mother, I'll go to Mrs. Joycotte's for the money."

"No, dear, no. It is growing dusk," said

money."

"No, dear, no. It is growing dusk," said Mrs. Field. "And a young girl like you cannot be too careful."

"But Mrs. Wurtemberg wants the rent."

"Mrs Wurtemberg must wait another day," said Mrs. Field, with gentle firmness. "There are some risks that you must not run, dear child."

are some risks that you must not run, dear child."

"What a dear little care-worn mother you are!" laughed Flossie, but nevertheless her eyes brimmed with loving tears.

Early the next morning she went to the minister's house. Kind Mrs. Joycotte met her at the door.

"Oh. my dear," said she. "I am so sorry, but Mrs. Vannecker has changed her mind and concludes not to take the scarf after all."

Flossie started back in dismay. "Oh, Mrs. Joycotte, and we worked so hard at it, and there's the expense of the materials, too."

"To be sure, my dear," said Mrs. Joycotte.

"And it's a heartless thing for the woman to do, but one never considers other people."

"But what am I to do, Mrs. Joycotte? We need the money so much," pleaded Flossie, with a trembling lip.

Mrs. Joycotte reflected a moment. "Have you five dollars, Flossie?"

"I haven't five cents, Mrs. Joycotte," confessed Flossie, flushing crimson with shame.

"Then I'll lend it to you," said Mrs. Joycotte, taking a new clean bill out of her purse.

"Hush, Flossie, you don't understand. This is only a loan. It will pay your entrance fee at the Art Exchange on Fifth Avenue and you can leave the scarf there on sale. A great many nice people go there,—it's quite exclusive, you see, and when this is sold you can put in something else."

Flossie's face brightened. "Oh, Mrs. Joy-

thing else."
Flossie's face brightened. "Oh, Mrs. Joycotte, how can I thank you enough?" cried she.
"And I'll pay you soon as ever I can."
"There is no hurry, child," said the minister's wife, smiling, as she wrote down the address.

ter's wife, smiling, as she wrote down the address.

So it happened that Flossie Field, beaming like a rose, passed under the Persian draped archway of the beautiful Art Exchange on Fifth Avenue, where tall palms drooped and wine-red satin folds hung over the windows and all the shelves and pedestals were crowded with pretty things. As she turned to admire a beautiful piece of tapestry, her elbow struck against a small oil painting—"Moonlight on the Ocean"—and knocked it from its insecure vantage to the floor. As she uttered a little cry of dismay, a gentleman who was leaning against the counter stepped forward and raised it from the floor.

"Oh, what have I done!" she cried. "The frame is broken!"

"Not broken, only fallen apart," said the

frame is broken!"
"Not broken, only fallen apart," said the gentleman, courteously. "Pray do not annoy yourself. There is no harm done. The picture is mine, and I can easily set it right."
"Thank you so much," faltered Flossie, but she trembled violently in spite of herself as she turned to the waiting attendant.

she trembled violently in spite of herself as she turned to the waiting attendant.

Mrs. Joycotte's card, with the hurriedly scribbled message, proved an excellent recommendation, and Flossie left the needlework with renewed hopes.

As she turned to leave the Exchange she came face to face with the same young man who had been her companion at the Paderewski Matinee. Involuntarily her face brightened. It was like meeting an old acquaintance. He doffed his hat with smilling welcome.

"I'm glad to see you again, Miss Paderewski," said he lightly. "But you oughtn't to have run away from me so unceremoniously."

Flossie laughed in spite of herself, and just

said he lightly. "But you oughtn't to have run away from me so unceremoniously."
Flossie laughed in spite of herself, and just at that moment the gentleman who had rescued the moonlight picture went out raising his hat in response to the other's greeting.
"Who is that gentleman?" she asked eagerly.
"Oh," cried the black-eyed stranger, "so you have a human element of curiosity about you, eh? You are not merely a disembodied spirit!" And as Flossie looked puzzled, he added: "It's a chap I know. Quite an art enthusiast, I believe, in his way."
"Oh, then," said Flossie, "he had painted that picture himself."
"I dare say," assented her companion. "He's rather an experimenter in art and that sort of thing. Why do you look so sober?"
For Flossie did look rather grave. She was saying to herself: "And he wanted to sell it, I suppose. It's hard enough for a woman to be poor—it must be a cruel thing to a man's heart." But she said aloud: "Good morning! I'm rather in haste."
"Mayn't I walk part of the way with you? Really, you know, we are guite ald econsist.

"Mayn't I walk part of the way with you? Really, you know, we are quite old acquaint-

ances."
"I had rather be alone, thank you," said
Flossie, "I've something I want to think

Nevertheless he would have followed her, in

spite of all, if a carriage load of ladies had not drawn up to the curb, beckoning vehemently to him, and before he had answered the questions with which they bombarded him, Flossie

"That's twice she has given me the slip." he muttered. "Who could have believed it? Well, better luck next time. For she is a beaut!"

The streets of New York were an unknown riddle to Flossie Field, but by dint of asking many questions she at last received her own many questions she at last reached her own

home, starting when a stout gentleman stepped before her, arresting her entrance. "Don't be frightened, Miss Field," said Mrs. Wurtemberg's familiar voice. "It's Mr. Joy-

wurtemoerg's familiar voice. "It's Mr. Joycotte, the parson. I didn't know who else to send, and I couldn't shoulder the whole of the responsibility myself, so I got my little boy to go for him."

Flossie glanced up and tried to smile. She had seen Mr. Joycotte a few times before and there was something reassuring in his kind face, and vet-

"Did mother ask to see you, Mr. Joycotte?" she questioned. "We didn't like to trouble

what a mild, infinitely pitiful face it was, shadowed with silver hairs! "Trouble?" repeated he. "As if that signified! Come in, my child. We could not think why you were gone so long."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14.)



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Impressions of both hands must be sent, fully postpaid and having the name, address and nom de plume of the ender enclosed in the package also.

The package must in every instance be accompanied by the names and addresses of eight new subscribers at venty-five cents each, the whole amount, \$2.00 being emitted, with the package, addressed to Comfort Almistry Club, Augusta, Maine.

No notice will be taken of impressions and requests or readings unle s the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large vieces of blank

for readings unle s the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank paper over a candle or similar flame, until they are heavily coated with the smoke. Then lay these pieces down, smoke side uppermost on a pad of cotton. Now place the two hands, palms downward, one on each sheet of paper, pressing firmly and steadily down, but taking care not to move the hand. Keep them so for one minute and lift carefully, so as not to disturb the impression. Have ready some fixatif, which can be bought at a drug store or an art store or made with gum arabic and water in an atomizer. Spray this over the impressions before they are moved and allow them to dry. Then they are ready to send.

Smoked paper impressions are the best. But if it is desired to send a plaster cast, take plaster of Paris and dissolve in water to the consistency of thick cream. Pour this into a large shallow dish and when it is hardening place the hand, well-greased, palm downward, in the plaster, pressing downward. Several minutes will be required to get this impression and great care must be taken in removing the hand, not to break the plaster. Casts are exceedingly difficult to send without breaking and should be very carefully packed in a box with the name of the sender written on it. Putty is sometimes successfully used in place of plaster. A good photograph if sufficiently well taken to bring out all the times, can also be read, although in all cases the smoked paper is the best, if properly treated with fixatif.

Bear in Mind that all the above conditions must be observed.

Also, that letters not complying with them will go into the waste-basket. Readings cannot appear for several months after impressions are sent.

HERE is a story told of the great French palmist, Desbarrolles, which will be interesting to my readers. It is said that one evening during the prosperity of the Second Empire when its structure seemed be ilt on the rocks and the dynasty of the Bonaparte family firmly established, the French palmist was summoned to Napole-on's headquarters and asked to examine and read the hands of Napoleon III. and the beautiread the hands of Napoleon III. and the beautiful Empress Eugenie. To the surprise of even Desbarrolles himself, the first indication he noticed in the royal palm was the absence of any sign of future greatness and the plain indication of a dreamer, a reckless deceiver and an unprincipled libertine. He saw that the ex-



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act date of his death was plainly marked on to old age and he will live out his three-score



also a commercial or scientific hand with a leaning toward romance and bohemianism, such as would indicate a literary worker or a person who had success as a writer of fiction. During the early part of his life he was kept quietly at home and did not develop much. There was also an early affection which lasted until about the age of twenty and was broken off at that time as a matter of indement also thirty was a fixer of her thirty was a matter of indement also the index of off at that time as a matter of judgment, although I do not see that it affected the affairs of his heart. He is a man who is fond of the opposite sex and is much admired by them and even loved by them. A serious affair of the heart appears in middle life from which he the heart appears in middle life from which he will never fully recover. This may interfere with his real success in life but he will go on, and from the age of fifty upward will make some money. He has had his own way to make and has been assisted in doing so by some woman. If this man undertakes literary work he will succeed, especially in fiction. If on the other hand he undertakes music or painting he will succeed equally well in that as he is versatile in his talents and may make a success of almost anything he undertakes. If there is an obstacle in the way it lies in a certain want of perseverance and energy. He can think of plenty of things which would improve his condition but on second thought he is apt to abandon them on second thought he is apt to abandon them and consequently leaves many a loop hole untried. His hand indicates a nervous temperament, fond of the arts and sciences, a man who takes great pleasure in the society of the opposite sex but one singularly free from evil or any complications resulting from affairs with

the life line, the Mount of Luna and the line of Mars and that while he had been extraordinarily lucky hitherto, that he was nearing the end rising from the life line toward the head line Mars and that while he had been extraordinarily lucky hitherto, that he was nearing the end of his brilliant career and had a sad doom in prospect. Turning to the Empress' hand the same ill luck was rearing the end of his brilliant career and had a sad doom in prospect. Turning to the Empress' hand the same ill luck was read to be the end of the prospect. Turning to the Empress' hand the same ill luck was read to be the end of the prospect. Turning to the Empress' hand the same ill luck was read to be the end of the end of

much from criti-cism, often unjust, during the first thirty years of her life, after which all is smooth sailing. She will marry but not until after she has suffered from this criticism, but this criticism, but after she is once married she will be much happier.
At the age of twenty-five or so, she will have a distinct change of affairs and will strike out into a new field or voca-tion in which she will make a repu-tation and some money. She would make an excellent "SARETTA"

actress and if she goes upon the stage would make a reputation for herself in soubrette roles. She will be a takes great pleasure in the society of the opposite sex but one singularly free from evil or any complications resulting from affairs with the opposite sex. His health will be good up of the opposite sex. His health will be good up of the opposite sex and will be a child of fate, a plaything of destiny, and will be ment of the opposite sex.

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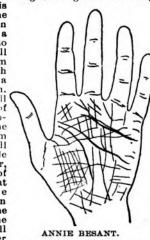
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and be associated with events that make his-

tory. She will be so much admired and courted that there is danger of an unsettled state of



I have one more hand to read and that be-

I have one more hand to read and that belongs to the famous theosophist, writer and lecturer, Annie Besant. The hand of Mrs. Besant shows a very fine organism. It possesses more of magnetic than electric force. The deep, hollow palm denotes eccentricity. There is every indication that her disposition and ambitions in early life were directly opposite to what they now appear. In casting the hand I found that the skin was so moist that it would scarcely accept the plaster. This is a condition invariably found in teachers of the mystic. Her heart action is excellent and her lungs are in good condition. The lower part of the fingers

Her heart action is excellent and her lungs are in good condition. The lower part of the fingers indicate economy in financiering. I should say if occasion demanded, or if she thought occasion demanded, she would be miserly. Her pretense of doing things for the world's good is not as sincere as she would like herself.

Her mentality is exceedingly well developed.

Her mentality is exceedingly well developed. The strongest traits, as shown in the hand, are comparison, calculation and caution. There is

comparison, calculation and caution. There is also a marked tendency toward acquisitiveness. The ends of her fingers are exceedingly sensitive, almost as sensitive as those of a blind person. This indicates intuition and is also an invariable characteristic of the psychic mind.

The governmental nerves in the side of the hand show an emphatic and determined nature. There is both logic and will power. She thinks well of her own suggestions and acts immediately upon them. I should not call the hand an artistic one. The owner of such a hand would always strike to lead in some eccentric movement or reform. It would be essential to existence.

DIGITUS.



## Desserts of Small Fruits.



HERE are some persons who always like uncooked fruit. There are others who once in a while fancy it cooked. They grow tired of seeing berries appear in their natural state and long for a

change. This change they can very easily have and with little trouble, yet many women seem to think women seem to think
that the only way to
make a dessert of fruit
is to put it into a pie.
Now a pie is a very
good thing in its way
and when it is well
made there are few

desserts that taste better. But pies are more or less bother to make, especially in hot weather, and they are not always the most wholesome dainties one can have for summer. So it is as well to learn how to make other sweet dishes. If they do not take the place of the pie in the affections of the family they will at least have the advantage of making them appreciate the pie all the more when they get back to it. And it is quite possible that the other desserts will win a place of their own in the fancies of those who learn to know them.

With the coming of berries a way is made plain for the housekeeper. They are good in so many different dishes that one is almost at a loss what to choose. The beauty of giving a recipe for one kind is that it will very often serve for cooking another sort. For instance,

recipe for one kind is that it will very often serve for cooking another sort. For instance, suppose that one has a recipe that calls for raspberries, red or black. It makes no difference, in the first place, if these are the berries that ripen in the garden or if they are those that the children gather in the fence corners where they grow wild. Then, too, if the raspberries go, blackberries, low bush or high bush, can be used in the place of the raspberries and will be just as good. The blueberries, too, can be put in dishes that call for blackberries and when you have recipes that demand blueberries, the shiny black huckleberries can serve in their place.

so, too, with the currents and cherries. They can be used in much the same way and either one is so good that it is hard to choose a favorite retween them.

It is worth while now and then to put one's self

It is worth while now and then to put one's self out a bit to make a new dish for the sake of the pleasure the surprise will bring to the members of the family who had looked only for the same dishes they had been eating along steadily. Such a change brings an appetite even to a tired worker and is much more in value than the time and trouble it has cost. Change of fare may not do so much good as change of air, but it does not fall far behind it in its effect upon the appetite and so upon the health. upon the appetite and so upon the health.



BERRY MERINGUE PUDDING.

Rub a tablespoonful of butter into one cup of sugar until they are a cream and stir into them the beaten yolks of three eggs. While you are doing this have a cup and a half of fine white bread crumbs soaking in three cups of rich sweet milk. Stir these with the butter, sugar and egg yolks and put into a buttered pudding dish. Cover it, set it in the oven and bake until it is firm. Then draw it to the door of the oven and on top of the pudding strew two cupfuls of fresh berries. Strawberries make a delicious pudding, but raspberries are about as good. Whatever the berries, sprinkle them with sugar, using a little more of this make a delicious pudding, but raspperries are about as good. Whatever the berries, sprinkle them with sugar, using a little more of this with strawberries than with the sweeter raspberries. Have ready a meringue made by beating the whites of the three eggs stiff with a half cupful of powdered sugar. On the top of this stick half a dozen big strawberries, or strew a handful of raspberries. Put the dish back in the oven, brown the meringue lightly and set the pudding aside to become ice cold. Eat it with sugar and cream and return thanks for a delicious dessert. This has sometimes been called the Queen of All Puddings and it deserves the name.

CHERRY OR CURRANT OR BERRY DUMPLINGS. Sift a saltspoonful of salt and two teaspoonfuls of baking powder with three cupfuls of flour. Work into it a tablespoonful each of lard and of butter. Make it to a soft dough with sweet milk. The dough should be as soft as it will handle easily. Roll it into a sheet about half an inch thick and cut it into squares about three inches across. In the centre of about half an inch thick and cut it into squares about three inches across. In the centre of each of these heap as many cherries or currants or berries as the square will hold, strew sugar thickly over them and bring the corners of the paste together in the middle, pinching the edges so that they will not let the fruit escape. Lay with the pinched edges downwards in a floured pan and bake half an hour. Serve with hard sauce.

# HOT BERRY SHORTCAKE.

Rub two tablespoonfuls of lard into four cups of flour and add to it one beaten egg. Into two cups of sour milk stir a teaspoonful of salt and an even teaspoonful of baking powder dissolved in hot water. Pour this upon the flour you have mixed with the shortening and egg and make into a dough. Do not mix it too

stiff. Roll it out



and make into a dough. Do not mix it too stiff. Roll it out into two sheets, the size to fit a baking tin, making one quarter of an inch, the other half an inch thick. Lay the thinner in the bottom of the tin, first greasing this and strew over it thickly berries of any sort. Raspberries, red or black, or blackberries or blueberries may be used or currants or cherries. The latter will need more sugar than the berries. Sliced apples, even, may be used, or sliced peaches. Over the berries lay the thicker sheet of dough and bake it in a good oven. When it is a fine brown, cut the shortcake into squares and pile them on a hot dish. When it is to be eaten, split it open, butter the inside and sprinkle with sugar. Eat hot. It is a very good dish for dessert or for breakfast or supper. Although it is too early as yet for blueberries I cannot refrain from giving the following recipe against the day when blueberries and huckleberries will be plenty. Either may be used in this recipe.

used in this recipe.

BLUEBERRY TEA CAKE.

Cream together two tablespoonfuls of butter and a cupful of sugar. Add to them two eggs beaten very light, and a cupful of milk. Sift two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and one of salt



BLUEBERRY CAKES.

BLUEBERRY CAKES. the batter already prepared. Dredge three cupfuls of blueberries with flour, stir them in lightly and turn all into small greased tims. Bake, butter and eat while warm.

with two cups of flour and add to

BAKED BERRY PUDDING.

BAKED BERRY PUDDING.

Beat three eggs light, the whites and yolks separately, and add to the yolks a cupful of milk and three tablespoonfuls of melted butter. Sift a cup and a half of flour with a teaspoonful of salt and two teaspoonfuls of baking powder; stir in this, add the beaten whites, and when well mixed turn all into a broad pudding dish. Dredge a quart of berries with flour and empty them upon the batter, sprinkle them with four tablespoonfuls of sugar, and then stir berries and sugar lightly into the batter. Cover and bake for half an hour in a steady oven, uncover and brown. Serve from the dish in which it was baked and have either hard or liquid sauce with it.

Blackberries are perhaps best for this pudding although black raspberries are very good for it, too.

CREAM RASPBERRY TART.

CREAM RASPBERRY TART.

Iu spite of what I have said against pies I cannot refrain from giving the recipe for one that is good enough to be better known. For this a pie dish must be lined with a good paste and filled with raspberries, well sweetened. Over the top of these should be laid an upper crust, lightly,—not pressed down at the sides,—and this should be baked. When done the top crust should be lifted and a cream poured under it that has been made by stirring into half a cup of boiling milk half a tablespoonful of cornstarch rubbed smooth in cold milk, a tablespoonful of sugar and the beaten white of an egg. These should have been boiled together for five minutes and cooled before they are put in the tart. Replace the top, sprinkle with sugar and eat when cold.

# ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

L. G. F. HOMER. Is there any way of pre-paring stewed rhubarb except cooking it plain. I do not want it in a pie. Stewed rhubarb is good cooked with raisins

or with dates. For the latter have three quarters of a cupful of dates to a quart of the rhubarb. Soak the dates overnight, stone them and cut each date into three pieces. Put them over the fire with the uncooked rhubarb and stew together. The raisins do not have to be soaked. If they are the ordinary raisins they may be stoned, if they are the Sultana raisins they should be well washed. Allow a cupful of raisins to each quart of rhubarb and stew together. or with dates. For the latter have three quartogether.

J. M. J. OLYMPIA. Is there any way to get rid of big black cockroaches that infest a kitchen?

Make a mixture of two parts of cornmeal, one part red lead and one part sugar. Mix it to a paste with a little water and lay this in the track of the roaches. They will eat it greedily and it will poison them. The rind of green cucumbers is also recommended for roaches. Slice it and lay it about the kitchen overnight. The bugs eat it and it is fatal to them.

Young Housekeeper, York. What is meant when I am told to let my bread rise until light. How am I to know when it is light? The ordinary loaf bread should increase to twice its original bulk. When it reaches this point it is ready to go into the oven. Do not let it rise too fast.

CONSTANT READER. With the beginning of warm weather I am much troubled with red ants. They run all over my shelves and I cannot get get rid of them.

Try laying strips of fly paper on the edge of the shelves where you keep food. Do not leave any food uncovered and surround the articles containing it with fly paper. If they run about the tables leave a piece of fly paper out at night. This is said to clear them out in a short time.

EMMA J. G. Is there anything that can take the place of cream in cookery? It is not easy the place of cream in cookery? It is not easy for me to get it and so many dishes call for

cream.

Nothing takes the place of cream in some dishes. But in others there are substitutes. For instance, if you are making a custard or ice cream, you can often make an extra egg give the rich effect that cream would produce. And in sauces and soups and such dishes if you must use milk instead of cream, add to the milk butter, in the proportion of a tablespoonful of this to a half pint of milk. If you will do this the taste will be about the same as if you had used cream. you had used cream.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR—In conducting this department Mrs. Herrick would be pleased to answer any questions that our readers may ask. It is her desire to please all "COMFORT" readers and in order to find out your tikes and dislikes can't you write and ask a few questions. By so doing you may give us some hint or suggestion as to how this Household Department should be conducted to suit the greatest number of our readers. Mrs. Herrick's mother, MAR10N HARLAND, has made hersely famous by her rare judgment in household matters, and her daughter is equally gifted in this connection. Address all letters Christine Terhune Herrick, care COMFORT, Augusta Maine.



To restore and improve musty flour mix three parts carbonate of magnesia in 760 parts of flour. Use the flour in the usual way.

If you get a little too much salt in any dish add a little brown sugar and the salt taste will be much less noticeable.

Mix white of egg with mustard for plasters and it will prevent blistering.

Take the ink stains off your fingers with lemon

Gasoline applied with a soft cloth to nickel late is preferable to whiting as a polisher, as it oes not scratch.

Two ounces of permanganate of potash thrown into a cistern will purify the foulest water.

The juice of the Virginia pokeweed sprinkled on the white hyacinth will turn it red.

To greatly improve the growth of rose plants, sprinkle them with soot water, made by pouring hot water over soot obtained from a wood fire chimney. When cold use occasionally only.

To kill burdock weeds, cut off close to the ground with a hoe and pour on a little kerosene.

To preserve the polish of silver wash it twice a week, if in daily use, with soft soap and hot water and polish with Canton flannel.

# The Family Doctor.

O many inquiries are received by Comfort concerning the health of the family, that acolumn will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be referred to physicians, not to us. Address The Family Doctor, Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

Mrs. Mary M., Marshfield, Vt.—An excellent gargle for ulcerated sore throat is made of a quarter of a pint of water, half pint decoction Peruvian bark and one drachm of sulpahte of rinc. Use three or four times daily.

Use three or four times daily.

Henry G., Syracuse, Utah.—An effective corn plaster is made as follows: In a piece of cardboard cut a round hole the size of the central portion of the corn; lay the card on a piece of adhesive plaster and warm the spot of plaster exposed by the hole, by holding a hot fron near it for a short time. Then remove the card and sprinkle some finely powdered nitrate of silver on the warm part of the plaster. When cold, shake off the loose powder, get it off thoroughly, and apply to the corn. Two or three applications will usually remove the corn.

Shaker, Ashland, Ky.—An excellent and sinkless.

move the corn.

Shaker, Ashland, Ky.—An excellent and simple tonic for malarial regions is whiskey and quinine. Make the mixture to run about one grain of quinine to the tablespoonful of whiskey. Take a small wineglassful twice a day, morning and night. Say ten or eleven o'clock in the morning, and just before going to bed. Take it one week and stop a week. You will not acquire the liquor habit from the use of this tonic, because it is wholesomely bitter. bitter.

Mrs. J. L., Lonerock, Wis.—Women are subject to headaches from so many causes that a general prescription cannot be given. What might be efficient in one instance would not be of any avail in another. Indeed, might be worse than nothing. Consult your physician.

Miss Harriet L., Tuscaloosa, Ala—If you find that the socalled "patent medicine" is doing you good, continue its use whatever your physician friend may say to the contrary. Medicine is almost entirely a science of experiment and if you are fairly intelligent and use the patent medicine properly with good results, you are doing as much for yourself as the very best physician can do for you.

Mrs. H. L. R., Ridgeway, Pa.—Neuralgia is one of the ills that flesh is heir to, which we must get along with the best way we know how. It is the result of various causes and it prevails more or less everywhere and among all kinds of people in all sorts of conditions. A liniment which will afford relief in many cases is made of one fluid ounce of chloroform, two fluid drachms oil of cajeput, one and a half ounces of camphor, twelve grains versirine and one and a half ounces tincture of aconite root. Any druggist will prepare it. Bathe the part affected.

John K., Mount Anne, Ore.—A simple remedy for

John K., Mount Anne, Ore.—A simple remedy for a weak back is made by pouring a beef's gall into a pint of alcohol and bathing the affected part frequently with the mixture. Of course, do no heavy work or lifting, and do not sleep in a bed whose springs sag very much. The old-fashioned slatbed is better.

bed is better.

Mrs. Kate Mc D., Kirkland, N. Y.—If your dyspepsia is not fully developed and is little more than an annoyance, now is the time to act. You ask about how much coffee you should drink. Don't drink any. Tea is a little better, but not much. Try cocoa with plenty of milk in it. But quit drinking coffee. The good effect will be noticed immediately.

Auxious, Alpha, Mich.—If there is no inherited predisposition to consumption you need not fear that your persistent cough will result in that disease. It is probably climatic, and if you could get away for a month to drier and warmer air you would soon be as well as ever. It is best not to remain where you are until your system is weakened. You are not a great distance from the Adirondacks; go there for a couple or three weeks.

Mrs. J., Mallard, lowa.—If your nerves are "allon edge" and there is no good reason for it, you may find relief in using a mixture that is highly recomended as a nervine. It is as follows: Liquid carbonate of ammonia half a drachm, compound tincture of cardamon half an ounce, oil of lavender eight drops, mint water three ounces. Mix and take in two or three doses.

take in two or three doses.

Miss T., Jackson, Miss.—We cannot give you a prescription for hay fever which is any better than any one of a dozen you may have already tried. Thus far a real remedy for hay fever has not been discovered and one probably never will be if the patient remains in the locality where she has the disease. There is no cure, but it may be prevented by going to various places where there is no hay fever and remaining there until the conditions in your own locality change. It is believed to be caused by the pollen of certain plants floating in the air, and you must go where those plants do not ripen.

Mrs. M. L. I., Kendall, Kans.—A homely and simple remedy for summer complaint may be had from a tea made of the seeds of the sunflower coasted as you would green coffee. Use about half a pint of the seeds. Do not give too much of itasa too sudden stoppage of diarrhœa is hurtful, if not dangerous.

with a hoe and pour on a little kerosenc.

Dip your dogs and cats once a week into a decoction made from pennyroyal leaves and they will have no fleas on them.

To kill flies, boil one-fourth of an ounce of quassia chips in a pint of water, add four ounces of molasses and put in a dish where the flies can drink it.

a pint of the seeds. Do not give too much of mass too sudden stoppage of diarrhœa is hurtful, if not dangerous.

Miss Simple, Marietta, Ohio.—Do not try the remedy you mention. "Take more exercise in the open air, and by all means consult your physician. He knows the conditions and he is the one to say what medicine you should take.



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and Made-to-Order) including Samples.

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The house that tells the truth.



WRITTEN FOR COMFORT



O THE READERS OF COMFORT. It is the intention of the department useful as well as interesting. Questions a bout flowers and their culture will be cheerfully answered. If you don't see what you want, don't hesitate to ask for it. Someone else may want to know the same thing. Unless the attention of the editor is called to it, he might never sk questions. editor to make this

of the editor is called to it, he might never think of it, therefore,—ask questions.

There will be much work to do in June, in order to make sure of fine flowers and plenty of them, later in the season. There will be weeds to pull, seedlings to transplant to places where seed failed to germinate, plants to set out from the window-garden, and insects to fight among the roses. All these things will keep the owner of even a small garden pretty busy.

Weed pulling is not pleasant work, but it has to be done, if you want good flowers. Thorough work at the beginning makes the work to be done afterwards much easier. Get the beds perfectly clean and keep them so. The sooner this is done the better, because weeds are sure to greatly injure your flower-plants if allowed to grow among them while they are small. There is a weeding-hook on the market which can be bought for ten cents. It is a sort of fine-fingered claw. With it you can tear weeds out of the ground at a rapid rate, giving it, at the same time, a scraping which is of great benefit to the plants growing in it. One can accomplish more with one of these weeding-hooks in half an hour than he can in half a day by the old method of hand-pulling. You can not invest ten cents to better advantage.

If you are going to buy a new hoe, let me advise you to get one with a V-shaped blade. The pointed end allows you to work close to a plant without running the risk of cutting it off, as you are quite likely to do if you use a hoe having a broad blade. When you become familiar with the trace of these three three terms and the come familiar with the trace of the come of these three terms and the come familiar with the trace of these three terms and the come familiar with the trace of these three terms and the come familiar with the trace of these three terms and plant without running the risk of cutting it off, as you are quite likely to do if you use a hoe having a broad blade. When you become familiar

as you are quite likely to doif you use a hoe hav-ing a broad blade. When you become familiar with the use of one of these hoes, weeds can be



PARTIAL VIEW OF WINDOW WITH HOUSE IVY, GERANIUM, CYCLAMEN, CINERARIA, BE-GONIA, HELIOTROPE, FUCHSIA, TRAILING ASPARAGUS, CALLA LILY.

Gental Heliotrrope, Fuchsia, Trailing Asparasus, Allar Lity.

picked out of the soil by it as deftiy as you could remove them with a trowel, and the plant growing alongside will not be disturbed in the least. The opposite end—in these hoes the socket for the handle is in the center,—has a broad blade, like the ordinary hoe, except that it is toothed, like a saw. This makes it extremely easy in a soil where it has free play.

Plants which are intended for use in the best of satisfaction. The solud be kept from flowering by the removal of every bud as soon as it is discovered. The branches should have their tips pinched off from time to time, to force the development of other branches, thus making the plant bushy and compact. If they entirely fill their old posts with roots, report them at once, in fresh soil. But do not give any fertilizer, as they will not need it while the soil is fresh, provided it is of ordinary richness. Keep them in an airy place on the veranda, where they will be sheltered from strong vinds and too hot sunshine. And be very sure to give them all the water they need. Evaporation will take place rapidly during how the veranda, where they will be sheltered from strong vinds and too hot sunshine. And be very sure to give them all the water them every day, sometimes twice, if the pots are small. Apply enough to thoroughly saturate all the soil in the pot, and do not be satisfied unless som runs away through the hole in the bottom.

The following formula for an all-around-useful potting-soil is a good one: Loam from the garden, one part. Leafmold, or turfy mater scraped from the bottom of sods turned up in roadside or pasture, one part. Mix these well together.

The collowing formula for an all-around-useful potting-soil is a good one: Loam from the sort of the pots are small. The present is including the wordsthrough the word of the pots are small. The present is including the wordsthrough the word of the province of the past. For in the past the pots are small continuation. The present is inc

up in roadside or pasture, one part. Mix these well together. Then add about quarter its bulk in old, well-rotted cow-manure, mixing in at the same time enough coarse sand to make the compost light and friable. This will be rich enough for any



CHINESE PRIMROSE.

plant.

If we would have good roses, we must fight for them. Worms, aphides, and the rose-

chafer, will soon spoil them if left unmolested. The wise woman will act on the defensive by beginning warfare before the pests come, for it is easier to keep them away than it is to get rid of them after they have taken possession of the bushes. The first insecticide I have any knowledge of is made by melting a quarter of a pound of the ordinary soap of household use in a pailful of water and spraying the entire bush with it. Be sure that it gets to the underside of the leaves. Make this application twice a week, and be thorough with it.

Window-boxes, as usually cared for, are failures, and the owners of them fail to see wherein they are to blame for lack of success which attends their efforts. After one or two seasons of discouragement they give up trying, thinking that they haven't the "knack," or, that window-boxes are "snares and delusions," as a general thing, and they are encouraged in thinking this by the forlorn look which characterizes the boxes of most of their neighbors. The few satisfactory ones they come across, here a nd there, strengthens them in the belief that to have a really fine box of plants you must be the possessor of a "knack," whatever that may be. No w the reason why window boxes are failures, nine times out of fifteen, is simply this: A pint of water is used where it ought to be a pailful. If you keep the soil moist all through, you can grow just as good plants in these boxes as you can in pots. Therefore apply at least a pailful to abox, daily. There will be no danger of overwatering. Try this plan, and see if you are not successful in making the plants in your boxes grow in a way to convince you that at last you have found out the "knack" of it.

ANSWERS TO QLESTIONS.

"Last summer my Asters were infested with



# ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

"Last summer my Asters were infested with aphis. They attacked the roots. What shall I do if they come this year? Mrs. W. W. M." Draw the earth away from the upper part of the roots and dust them well with tobaccopowder. Apply it liberally. It will not injure the plants and it will injure the aphis, if you use enough of it. Then put the earth back about the plant, and scatter the powder generously over it. Do this as soon as you find the first aphis.

"Last year our lawn was disfigured by woods."

about the plant, and scatter the powder generously over it. Do this as soon as you find the first aphis.

"Last year our lawn was disfigured by weeds. Is there any way of getting rid of them without injuring the grass. A. H. W." The only way to get rid of the weeds is to pull them, or cut them off below the crown, in case they are dandelions, or weeds of similar habit. It is hard work and slow work, but a pretty front yard is such an attractive feature of any home that it is worth expending a good deal of work on. All plants having a crown can be destroyed by running a sharp bladed knife across them two or three inches below the surface of the soil in such a manner as to sever crown and root. After cutting the crown off remove it or it may send out roots. Chickweed, and all other weeds of that class, must be pulled up very carefully that no pieces be left to take the place of the old plant.

I want some Hollyhocks for next season's flowering. When shall I sow the seed? Mrs. M. M. L." In July. All perennial plants should be started then if you grow them from seed.

"I would like to know how some persons keep their Sweet Peas blooming until late in the fall. Mine won't. Must I get a particular kind of seed? B. K." What you want to do is to go over your plants every day, after they begin to blossom, and cut away every flower that has begun to fade. Keep seed from forming, and the plants in their efforts to perpetuate their species, will keep on producing flowers. What you do is to interfere with the processes of nature. What the plant does is to attempt to get the start of you. In this way, flowers are secured long after one would expect any of the plants were left to follow out their own instincts and impulses. This applies to other annuals as forcibly as it does to Sweet Peas.



ers.
"How long have you lived here?"
I was "How long have you lived here?"
"Nearly forty years, sah. I was a sailor; then a farmer. Once I was strong and active, but since I came here I haven't been fit for much, sah," he answered, stroking his head, framed in an aureole of white hair and beard.
"Do you think life is so sweet it is worth while under any circumstances?"
"Yes, sah!" he nodded emphatically. "I reckon life is worth having as long as you can."
"But why do you want to live?"
"Because I do."
"How long has it been since you were outdoors?"

"Heow long has it been since you were outdoors?"
"Let me see." The old man rubbed his wrinkled forehead. "I reckon it's been nigh on to seven

# Medical Advice Department for Women.

Realizing the vast amount of sickness and suffering endured by women, many of whom are subscribers of "Comfort," and how thousands are dragging out a painful existence, dreading to consult their family physicians regarding their private ills, and how others are paying out their hard-earned money for treatment without favorable results, we have pleasure in making the following announcement: -

We have made a special arrangement with one of the greatest living specialists in female diseases, which will enable any woman to obtain the fullest and most expert advice about her illness and how to cure it, absolutely without cost or obligation.

This specialist is accredited with having performed more cures of woman's peculiar ills than any other person, and through whose advice thousands of women have been restored to health and strength.

Please bear in mind that this is no "fake" advertisement, and the announcement is made simply for the purpose of putting our women readers who are sick and ailing in touch with this great specialist, at absolutely no cost whatever to them. This offer is made in good faith and will be honorably kept.

All you have to do is to write the symptoms of your ailment out fully and carefully and send it to the address below, and your letter will be put into the hands of this great specialist without being opened or read by any one else, and you will receive in return absolutely free the fullest expert medical advice from the best authority in this country on women's diseases. Address your letter to Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass., telling her you were prompted to write her by "Comfort," then you will be sure of special and prompt attention.

"You've been blind for many years?"

"It seems, sah, most terribly long," he said pathetically.

"You have no relatives?"

"No, sah."

"What pleasure is in life then?"

"It's a pleasure, sah, to wake up in the morning to think of the world, to hear people's voices. To live is to hear human voices. I want to live. I'd like to live foreer," Raby ended, his voice dying away in a mumble through his toothless gums.

"You've never had a large amount of money in your life, have you?"

"No, sah; no indeed." His wrinkles tried to form into a grin. "I always allowed it wasn't no use worrying. I took life as it come and didn't look for trouble. That's the best way to live long—and I reckon I've proved it, sah."

"Isn't it better to live and work and die than to live and work and then live on uselessly?"

"Maybe, sah, maybe," drawing the shawl about his shoulders closer as he feebly shook his head, "but I'd like, sah, to live out this century."

EAR Payette, Idaho, there are two lakes that feed the Payette River. They are situated in the mountains, one being thirty miles and the other five miles long. The peculiarity of these lakes lies in the fact that during one month of the veer the eventuing except the province of the state of t year, the spawning season, they are inhabited by red fish, such as are only found in Siberia. The question as to how these fish get there is puzzling many people of that locality.

# The Juvenile Essays.

There will be no award of prizes on the essays on "Theodore Roosevelt," the subject announced for May, owing to the fact that the conditions were not observed except in the fewest number of instances, and because, while nearly every state was heard from, there were not enough from each state to constitute a competition. "Comfort" is only too glad to give prizes to competing essayists among its subscribers, but it cannot award prizes unless there is competition, because it is not buying essays but endeavoring to encourage its young readers to improve themselves ty putting their thoughts into good shape on paper. The essays in themselves have no value, except in comparison with others. Write the essays and "Comfort" will have the prizes ready.

The result of the competition on the subject "Kindness to Animals," will be announced next month. During vacation there will be no contest.

O test the quality of an Oriental rug drop a live coal on the rug and allow it to burn a little. If, when removed, the charred threads will brush off easily, leaving the colors below bright as the surrounding parts it is a sure proof of the genuineness the rue.



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The first and second installment of Part I. was published in April and May "Comfort," back copies of which can be obtained of the publishers at two cents each.

# PART II.

# CHAPTER XVIII.

IN A TRAP.

"Hold on, there! Open that door!" exclaimed Dodger, when he found himself imprisoned in the back chamber.

There was no answer.

There was no answer.

"I say, let me out!" continued our hero, beginning to kick at the panels.

This time there was an answer.

"Stop that kicking, boy! I will come back in fifteen minutes and explain all."

"Well," thought Dodger, "this is about the strangest thing that ever happened to me. However, I can wait fifteen minutes."

He sat down on a cane chair—there were two in the room—and looked about him. He was in an ordinary bedroom, furnished in the usual manner. There was nothing at all singular in its appearance.

On a book-shelf were a few books and some old numbers of magazines. There was one window looking into a back yard, but as the room was small it was sufficient to light the apartment.

apartment.

Dodger looked about in a cursory manner, not feeling any particular interest in his surroundings, for he had but fifteen minutes to wait, but he thought it rather queer that it

wait, but he thought it rather queer that it should be thought necessary to lock him in. He waited impatiently for the time to pass. Seventeen minutes had passed when he heard the bolt drawn. Fixing his eyes eagerly on the door he saw it open, and two persons entered. One was the hump-backed negro, carrying on a waiter a plate of buttered bread, and a cup of tea; the other person was—not the old man, but, to Dodger's great amazement, a person well remembered, though he had only seen him once—Curtis Waring.

"Set down the waiter on the table, Julius," said Waring.

Said Waring.

Dodger looked on in stupefaction. He was

getting more and more bewildered.
"Now you can go!" said Curtis, in a tone of authority.

The negro bowed and after he had disposed of the waiter, withdrew.
"Do you know me, boy?" asked Curtis, turning now and addressing Dodger.
"Yes; you are Mr. Waring."
"You remember where you last saw me?"
"Yes, sir. At your uncle's house on Madison Avenue."
"Onite right."

"Quite right."
"How did you come here? Where is the old man whose value I brought from the Albany boat?"

Curtis smiled, and drew from his pocket a

Curtis smiled, and drew from his pocket a gray wig and whiskers.

"You understand now, don't you?"

"Yes, sir; I understand that I have been got here by a trick."

"Yes," answered Curtis, coolly. "I have deemed it wise to use a little stratagem. But you must be hungry. Sit down and eat your supper while I am talking to you."

Dodger was hungry, for it was past his usual supper time, and he saw no reason why he should not accept the invitation. Accordingly he drew his chair up to the table and began to eat. Curtis seated himself on the other chair.

"I have a few questions to ask you, and that is why I arranged this interview. We are quite by ourselves," he added, significantly.

"Very well, sir; go ahead."

"Where is my cousin Florence? I am right, I take it, in assuming that you know where she is."

"Yes sir: I know." answered Dodger, slowly.

"Yes, sir; I know," answered Dodger, slowly.
"Very well, tell me."
"I don't think she wants you to know."

Curtis frowned.
"It is necessary I should know!" he said, em-

phatically.
"I will ask her if I may tell you."
"I can't wait for that. You must tell me at

"I can't do that."

"I can't do that."
"You are mistaken; you can do it."
"Then I won't!" said Dodger, looking his companion full in the face.
Curtis Waring darted a wicked look at him, and seemed ready to attack the boy who was audacious enough to thwart him, but he restrained himself and said:

"Let that pass for the present. I have anther question to ask. Where is the document

other question to ask. Where is the document you took from my uncle's desk on the night of the burglary?"
And he emphasized the last word.
Dodger looked surprised.
"I took no paper," he said.
"Do you deny that you opened the desk?"

"Do you deny that you opened the desk?"

When I came to examine the contents in the presence of my uncle, it was found that a doc-ment—his will—had disappeared, and with it a considerable sum of money." And he looked sharply at Dodger, "I don't know anything about it, sir. I took nothing."

nothing."
"You can hardly make me believe that. Why did you open the desk if you did not propose to take anything?"
"I did intend to take something. I was under orders to do so, for I wouldn't have done it of

my own free will; but the moment I got the desk open I heard a cry, and looking round, I saw Miss Florence looking at me."
"And then?"

"I was startled, and ran to her side."
"And then you went back and completed the

'No, I didn't. She talked to me so that I felt ashamed of it. I never stole before, and I wouldn't have tried to do it then, if—if someone hadn't told me to."

"I know whom you mean—Tim Bolton."
"Yes; Tim Bolton, since you know."
"What did he tell you to take?"

"The will and the money."

"Exactly. Now we are coming to it. You took them, and gave them to him?"

"No, I didn't. I haven't seen him since that night."

Curtis Waring regarded the boy thoughtfully. His story was straightforward, and it agreed with the story told by Tim himself. But, on the other hand, he denied taking the missing articles, and yet they had disappeared. Curtis decided that both he and Tim had lied, and that this story had been concocted belied, and that this story had been concocted be-

Probably Bolton had the will and the money

Probably Bolton had the will and the money (the latter he did not care for), and this thought made him uneasy, for he knew that Tim Bolton was an unscrupulous man, and quite capable of injuring him, if he saw the way clear to do so. "My young friend," he said, "your story is not even plausible. The articles are missing, and there was no one but yourself and Florence who were in a position to take them. Do you wish me to think that my cousin Florence robbed the desk?"

"No, sir; I don't. Florence wouldn't do such a thing," said Dodger, warmly.
"Florence. Is that the way you speak of a young lady?"

"She tells me to call her Florence. I used to which was the didn't care for

"She tells me to call her Florence. I used to call her Miss Florence, but she didn't care for

"It seems you two have become very intimate," said Curtis, with a sneer.
"Florence is a good friend to me. I never had so good a friend before."

certain that he would have to remain over

written so creditable a note, but he had greatly improved since he had been under the influence and instruction of Florence.

Dodger now posted himself at the window and waited anxiously for some one to pass, so that he might attract his attention and throw down the paper.

down the paper.

He had to wait for fifteen minutes. Then he the had to wait for fitteen minutes. Then he saw approaching a young man, not far from twenty-one, who looked like a young mechanic, returning from his daily work.

Now was Dodger's opportunity. He put his head out of the window and called out:

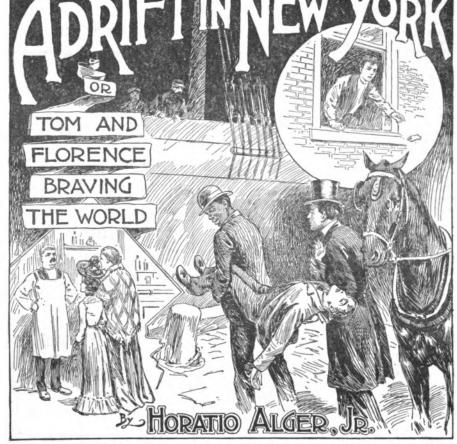
"Hello, there!"

The young man looked and saw him at the

The young man looked and saw him at the vindow.
"What do you want?" he asked.
"Catch this paper, and read what there is on

He threw down the leaf, which, after fluttering in the gentle evening breeze, found its way to the ground and was picked up. After reading it, the young man looked up

and said: "I'll go round to the door and inquire."



"All that is very affecting; however, it isn't to the point. Do you know," he continued, in a sterner tone, "that I could have you arrested for entering and breaking open my uncle's desk with burglarious intent?"

"I suppose you could," said Dodger; "but Florence would testify that I took nothing."

"Am I to understand, then, that you refuse to give me any information as to the will and the money?"

"No, sir; I don't refuse. I would tell you if

the money?"
"No, sir; I don't refuse. I would tell you if Curtis regarded the boy in some perplexity.

He had every appearance of telling the truth.
Dodger had one of those houest, truthful
countenances which lend confirmation to any
words spoken. If the boy told the truth, words spoken. If the boy told the truth, what could have become of the will—and the money? As to the former, it might be possible that his uncle had destroyed it, but the disappearance of the money presented an independent difficulty.

"The will is all I care for," he said, at length.

"The thief is welcome to the money, though there was a considerable sum."

"I would find the will for you if I could," said Dodger. earnestly.

said Dodger, earnestly.
"You are positive you didn't give it to Tim
Bolton?"

"Positive, sir. I haven't seen Tim since last

night."
"You may be speaking the truth, or you may
not. I will talk with you again tomorrow,"
and Curtis rose from his chair.

"You don't mean to keep me here?" said

"You don't mean to keep me here:" said Dodger, in alarm.
"I shall be obliged to do so."
"I won't stay!" exclaimed Dodger, in excitement, and he ran to the door, meaning to get out; but Curtis drew a pistol from his pocket and aimed it at the boy.

and aimed it at the boy.

"Understand me, boy," he said, "I am in earnest, and I am not to be trifled with."

Dodger drew back, and Curtis opened the door and went out, bolting it after him.

# CHAPTER XIX.

AN ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE.

While Dodger had no discomfort to complain of, it occurred to him that Florence would be alarmed by his long absence, for now it seemed

He was as good as his word. He went to the

outer door and rang the bell.
Julius came to the door.
"What's wanted, boss?" he said.

"What's wanted, boss?" he said.
"You've got a boy locked up in a room."
"Who told you, boss?"
"He threw down a paper to me, telling me he
was kept a prisoner."
"What did he say?" asked Julius.
The young man read the note aloud.
"What have you to say to that, you black
imp?" he demanded, sternly.
The ready wit of Julius served him in this
emergency.

emergency.
"Dat boy is crazy as a loon, boss!" he answered, readily. "We have to keep him shut up for fear he'll kill some of us."

"You don't say!" ejaculated the young medanic. "He don't look like it."

"No, he don't look like it."
"No, he don't; dat's a fact, boss. Fact is, dat boy is de artfullest lunytick you ever seed. He tried to kill his mother last week." "Is that true?"

"1s that true?"
"Dat's so, boss. And all de while he looks as innocent as a baby. If I was to let him out he'd kill somebody, sure."
"I never would have believed it," said the

"I never would have believed it," said the young man.
"If you want to take the risk, boss, you might go up and see him. I b'lieve he's got a carvin'-knife about him, but I don't dare to go up and get it away. It would be as much as this nigger's life is worth."
"No," answered the young man, hastily, "I don't want to see him. I never did like crazy folks. I'm sorry I gave you the trouble to come to the door."
"Oh, no trouble, boss."

come to the door."

"Oh, no trouble, boss."

"I guess I've fixed dat boy!" chuckled Julius.
"Ho, ho! he can't get ahead of old Julius!
Crazy as a loon, ho, ho?"

Dodger waited anxiously for the young man
to get through his interview. He hoped that
he would force his way up to the third floor,
draw the bolt and release him from his imprisonment.

He kept watch at the window, and when the young man reappeared, he looked at him eag-

erly.
"Did you ask them to let me out?" he shouted.

The other looked up at him with an odd ex-

pression of suspicion and repulsion.
"You're better off where you are," he said.
"But they have locked me up here."

'And reason enough, too!

"And reason enough, wor.
"What makes you say that?"
"Because you're crazy as a loon."
"Did the black man say that?" inquired Dod-

ger, indignantly.

"Yes, he did—said you tried to kill your mother, and had a carving-knife hidden in the

room."
"It's a lie—an outrageous lie!" exclaimed Dodger, his eyes flashing.
"Don't go into one of your tantrums," said the man, rather alarmed; "it won't do any

good."
"But I want you to understand that I am no

more crazy than you are!"
"Sho! I know better. Where's your carving-knife?"

"Sho! I know better. Where's your carving-knife?"
"I haven't got any; I never had any. That negro has been telling you lies. Just go to the door again and insist on seeing me."
"I wouldn't das't to. You'd stab me."
"Listen to me!" said Dodger, getting out of patience. "I'm not crazy. I'm a newsboy and baggage-smasher. An old man got me to bring his valise here, and then locked me up. Won't you go round to the station-house and send a policeman here?"
"I'll see about it," said the young man, who did not believe a word that Dodger had said to him.

im. "He won't do it!" said Dodger to himself, in tone of discouragement. "That miserable a tone of discouragement. "That miserable nigger has made him believe I am a lunatic.

nigger has made him believe I am a lunauc. I'll have him up, anyway."

Forthwith he began to pound and kick so forcibly that Julius came upstairs on a run, half inclined to believe that Dodger had really

"What do you want, boy?" he inquired from outside the door.

"I want you to unbolt the door and let me out."
"I couldn't do it, nohow," said Julius. "I couldn't do it, nonow," said Juius,
"It would be as much as my place is worth."
"I will give you a dollar—five dollars—if you
will only let me out. The man who brought
me here is a bad man who is trying to cheat
his cousin—a young lady—out of a fortune."
"Don't know nothin' bout that," said Julina

"He has no right to keep me here."
"He has no right to keep me here."
"Don't know notbin' bout that, neither. I'm actin' accordin' to orders."
"Look here!" said Dodger, bethinking himself of what had happened. "Did you tell that young man that called here just now that I was crazy?"

crazy?"
Julius burst into a loud guffaw.
"I expect I did," he laughed. "Said you'd
got a long carvin'-knife hid in de room."
"What made you lie so?" demanded Dodge

sternly.

"Couldn't get rid of him no other way. Oh, how scared he looked when I told him you tried to kill your mother."

And the negro burst into another hearty laugh which exasperated Dodger exceedingly.

"How long is Mr. Waring going to keep me here? Did he tell you?" Dodger asked, after a reasse.

pause.
"No; he didn't say." "When is he coming here again?"

"Said he'd come tomorrow night, most likely." "Will you bring me a light?"
"Couldn't do it. You'd set the house on fire."

It seemed useless to prolong the conversa-

Dodger threw himself on the bed at an early hour, but he did not undress, thinking there possibly might be a chance to escape during the night.

But the morning came and found him still a prisoner, but not in the solitary dwelling.

CHAPTER XX. A MIDNIGHT RIDE. Curtis Waring had entrapped Dodger for a

double purpose.

It was not merely that he thought it possible the boy had the will, or knew where it

was.

He had begun to think the boy's presence in New York as dangerous to his plans.

John Linden might at any time learn that the son, for whose disappearance he had grieved so bitterly, was still living in the person of this street boy. Then there would be an end of his hopes of inheriting the estate.

Only a few months more and the danger would be over, for he felt convinced that his uncle's tenure of life would be brief. The one essential thing, then, seemed to be to get

Dodger out of the city.

The first step had already been taken; what the next was will soon appear.

Scarcely had Dodger failed in his attempt to obtain outside assistance when an unaccountable drowsiness overcame him, considerably to his supprise.

his surprise.

"I don't know what's come to me," he said to himself. "It can't be more than seven or eight o'clock, and yet I feel so sleepy I can hardly keep my eyes open. I haven't worked any harder than usual today, and I can't understand it."

Dodger had reason to be surprised for he

Dodger had reason to be surprised, for he

didn't usually retire till eleven o'clock.

In a city like New York, where many of the streets are tolerably well filled even at midnight, people get in the way of sitting up much later than in the country, and Dodger was no exception to this rule.

Yet here he was ready to drop off to sleep before eight o'clock. To him it was a mystery, for he did not know that the cup of tea which he had drunk at supper had been drugged by direction of Curtis Waring, with an ulterior purpose, which will soon appear.

"I may as well lie down, as there is nothing else to do," thought Dodger. "There isn't much fun sitting in the dark. If I can sleep, so much the better."

Five minutes had scarcely passed after his head struck the pillow, when our hero was fast

head struck the pillow, when our hero was fast

asleep.
At eleven o'clock a hack stopped in front of the house, and Curtis Waring descended from

it.

"Stay here," said he to the driver. "There will be another passenger. If you are detained I will make it right when I come to pay you."

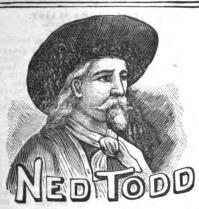
"All right, sir," said the hackman. "I don't care how long it is if I am paid for my time."

Curtis opened the door with a pass-key, and found Julius dozing in a chair in the hall.

"Wake up, you sleepy-head," he said. "Has anything happened since I left here?"

"Yes sir; de boy tried to get away."

"Yes sir; de boy tried to get away."
"Did he? I don't see how he could do that.
You kept the door bolted, didn't you?"
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.)



# The Oklahoma Detective,

# The Strange Cabin in the Wilderness.

BY HENRY DALE.

Author of "Boomers and Cattle Kings," "The Cheyenne Outbreak," "Shadowing a Shadow," "Chepita," "Mormonism Unveiled," Etc.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

The opening chapters of this intensely interesting story appeared in February Comfort. Back numbers may be obtained by enclosing three cents to Comfort, Augusta, Maine., for each number desired.

During the past year portions of Indian Territory were opened to settlement by the Government allotment of lots by chance, and the scenes that were enacted in the years gone by, when Oklahoma was the objective point of settlers from east and west, north and south, were again presented in a much more exciting manner. A Kansas telephone girl luckly secured a lot valued at \$17,000, and others were nearly as fortunate.

fortunate.

Because of the exciting events that have transpired in Oklahoma and Indian Territory, events that have attracted the attention of the whole country, the story of "Ned Todd" is presented to our readers in the hope that instruction and entertainment may be derived from its perusal.

## CHAPTER XIII.

THE WONDERS OF OKLAHOMA.

O sudden was the attack that the horsemen were unable at first to make any move at defense. The affrighted horses reared and plunged and began backing, backing away! Back, back, back, they struggled, dragging the bandits after

them.
"Whoa, hold on, stop!" cried the attacking

party.
"Let go!" thundered Archie.
"Don't you try that on, or we'll open fire on

"Arch Holland, brother, surrender!"
It was the same cold, sinister voice which had all day long rung in his ears. He heard it with a shudder, for well the youth knew the voice. The owner of it had brought more woe to his young heart than all the remainder of the world.

"Oh heaven help me," screamed the beautiful girl, who was about to be dragged from the horse.

Archie's blood was now up. Quick as a flash he snatched a heavy pistol, and felled the ruffian who had seized Daisy. The next moment he had knocked down the man who was

ment he had knocked down the man who was holding his horse by the bit, and the animal bounded away like a flash.

Three or four stunning reports rang out on the air, and Archie's horse gave a spasmodic leap forward, with a more than human cry.

"He's hit," said the youth. But they were too closely pressed to see how bad the wound. The steed madly thundered away at a breakneck speed down a narrow ravine. Archie asked Daisy if she was hurt.

"No," she answered.

"Where is the detective?" the youth asked mechanically.

"Where is the detective?" the youth asked mechanically.

"I do not know," the terrified girl answered.

"I do not think he got away."

Though he listened intently, not a sign of Major Todd was to be seen or heard.

The horse was going slower and slower every moment, and Archie discovered that his side was covered with blood.

"He can't go much farther," he said.

"Then he was badly hit?" asked Daisy.

"Yes, he has got his death shot."

The poor beast carried, by his last aspiring effort, his double load far beyond the enemy. But it was evident that he could not go much farther."

"See he is sinking," said Archie.
"Poor creature, he has given his life for us,"

said Daisy.

The animal was trembling, and frequently stumbled, as he still galloped feebly over the rough uneven ground.

All of a sudden he came to a standstill, and began to tremble and stagger. Archie knew that it was time for them to dismount, and springing from the saddle assisted Daisy to the

springing from the saddle assisted Daisy to the ground. The horse reeled for a moment, and then sank to earth, to rise no more.
"Poor fellow, he has done us a noble service," said the youth, sadly, as he stood by the side of the dying beast. They had no time to give in thought to the faithful brute. The enemy might even then be within ear shot of them, and Archie Holland once more drew the arm of the beautiful girl within his own and started the beautiful girl within his own, and started away through the forest.

Whither should they go? In what direction lay safety and security? These were pertinent questions for both Archie and his fair comanion. Questions for which he had no possible

solution.

"We cannot stay long here," he at last said.

"Do you feel able to travel farther on foot?"

"Yes, I can go all night," she bravely answered, "but what are you going to do about Major Todd?"

"We can at present do nothing. Your safety must now be looked after, and I will have to trust to the Major's own prowess and courage to liberate himself from these desperadoes."

The woods were very dark. There was no moon, as there had been the night before, to

The woods were very dark. There was no moon, as there had been the night before, to show them the way. Dark, angry clouds obscured the sky, and occasionally from far off there came to the ears the distant rumbling Sound of thunder.

Archie Holland was unable to tell in what

Archie Holland was unable to tell in what direction to go. Without either moon or stars to guide him, and not having any compass, he was completely lost. His companion kept at his side, but he could frequently feel her trembling as she clung to him. As they were struggling through the wood they were suddenly startled by a wild, unearthly cry.

gun.
"But that monster, surely it was near."

"It is not so near as it may seem."
The distant rumbling thunder fell upon their The distant rumbling thunder fell upon their cars, followed by a vivid flash of lightning. Though Archie strained his eyes to catch a glimpse of the monster, whose howl he had heard, he was unable to do so. The lightning's flash gone, all was once more an almost impenetrable darkness. The blackness was even more intense than before.

Just as our two wanderers took another step forward, they were again startled by another unearthly shriek from that selfsame monster. "Heaven preserve us," groaned the girl. "Courage!" he whispered.

The last cry was still nearer to them, and so loud and deafening that they almost imagined that they could feel the earth tremble beneath their feet.

their feet.

their feet.

Archie thought that he could see a pair of fiery eyes before him, but was not altogether certain, until there came a flash of lightning, which illuminated the forest far and wide. Through the trees not more than fifty yards away, he saw an object of which he could only at that time catch a glimpse. But that glimpse was sufficient to almost curdle his blood. It was a long yellowish looking monster to him was a long, yellowish looking monster, to him it seemed to be ten or fifteen feet in length. He could make out a pair of fiery eyes, and a great

could make out a pair of fiery eyes, and a great shaggy head.

Though he had never yet seen anything like it, yet he knew from what he had read of it, that it must be one of those monster cougars, that had wandered from the South up into this part of the world. Cautioning the girl not to lose her courage, he cocked his gun, and leveled it in the direction whence he had seen the monster. Even after the flash of lightning had disappeared he thought he could see two fiery orbs.

"Oh heavens, what is that?" the affrighted irl shrieked.
"Do not be scared," said Archie, cocking his

and beating of the earth and bushes could still be heard.

"Oh, is it killed, is the terrible thing killed?" asked the poor frightened girl.

"It has got its death shot. Come on, let us get farther away. It might, in its struggles, spring upon us."

As they went away, the struggles of the monster became more and more feeble.

Soon the struggles ceased and the cougar became silent in death. Hand in hand the two fugitives wandered on through the woods and darkness, hardly knowing which way they were going, whether from or in the direction of the outlaws' strange cabin in the wilderness, from which they had fled.

On and on they wandered, until the storm burst upon them, and then crouching beneath a great oak they waited for it to subside. The wind blew a perfect hurricane, and both were soon drenched to the skin from the rain. Great trees were uprooted and shattered to splinters almost at their feet, and yet they remained unharmed. At last the storm began to abate, and by the time it had disappeared and the sky was once more clear, day had begun to dawn.

"We will wait here until daylight," said Archie. "When the sun is up, and has dried our garments, we will feel more like travel. I must then try to get some food for you."

"And yourself, too," Daisy answered.

"Well, for both of us then, but as for me, I amable to take care of myself. I can really go longer without food than you."

Day dawned and the sun rose bright and clear. The two fugitives wandered through the

Day dawned and the sun rose bright and clear. The two fugitives wandered through the woods, in an easterly direction, until they came upon a great brownish red object lying in the

part of the world. Cautioning the girl not to lose her courage, he cocked his gun, and leveled it in the direction whence he had seen the monster. Even after the flash of lightning had disappeared he thought he could see two fiery orbs.

They halted directly before them, and he could distinctly hear a sullen growl, as if some



monster was crouching for a spring. Archie Holland felt his blood run cold. A shot would be almost at random, he knew, but it was evidently disastrous to wait. He waited a moment for another friendly flash of lightning to come to his aid, and not having the advantage of it, could wait no longer, and fired.

Before sending the shot at the monster, he had taken the precaution to place Daisy Miller behind a tree, and the moment he fired he flung himself upon the ground.

There was a howl of rage and pain, and a large body leaped completely over him. He heard it swish througa the air, and strike against the very tree behind which Daisy was

against the very tree behind which Daisy was crouching. Evidently the monster had been struck and blinded by the shot. Archie dropped his rifle and drew his knife and revolver. A Evidently the monster had been vivid flash of lightning lit up the entire scene. just as the monster bounded over the crouching youth, and having already got his revolver in his hand, he sent a pistol bullet into his

body.

Another shriek of rage and agony filled the air, and Archie Holland bounded to one side. and allowed the monster to make another use less leap in the darkness.

Finding itself at fault, the cougar came to a halt and gave utterance to a most terrific howl, such as was well calculated to make the blood such as was well calculated to make the blood of the listeners grow cold. But Archie had begun a battle to the death, and he again cocked his pistol, and waited for a flash of lightning to show him the monster. Crouching upon one knee with pistol cocked, and the girl half dead with terror at the other side of the tree, he waited. At last the friendly flash came and he saw the monster standing not four paces away, its broad side toward him, and gazing away into the darkness trying to make gazing away into the darkness trying to make out the direction of its enemy. He discovered that it was badly wounded. It was rubbing its great bloody head, while the blood was gushing in a torrent from a bullet hole in its abdomen.

Quick as thought, the youth leveled his revolver at the head, and then leaned forward until the muzzle of his nisted alteret toward.

volver at the head, and then leaned forward until the muzzle of his pistol almost touched it, and pulled the trigger.

A blinding flash, a terrible report, and then all was darkness. A roar, a gurgling cry, and then a terrible threshing and beating of the bushes. Archie got out of the way, and creep-

the savage expression had not left the animal's features. Its great claws were extended, and stuck into the bark of a sapling, so as to tear off

stuck into the bark of a sapling, so as to tear off a great strip. When Archie realized how near he had come to having those claws tearing his own flesh, he could not but shudder.

They quitted the scene and went through the forest until they came to the bank of the river. There upon a high bluff which overlooked the stream and vast valley below, they had a view of the wonders of Oklahoma. What a scene of loveliness! Far as the eye could see down the valley it was a picture of wondrous beauty. rall grass growing and waving in the breeze and trees could be seen singly and in groups, among which the wild deer and antelope played without any rude alarms of civilization to frighten. No hunter's gun had ever shocked their payers and no human face had ever grand. their nerves, and no human face had ever gazed

their nerves, and no human face had ever gazed upon them before.

"I wish we could cross," said Archie.

"Where would we be then?"

"In the valley of the Canadian, and we could there find plenty of game to keep us alive while we traveled to the Seminoles, and get a conveyance home."

"Who are you, and what are you doing here?" a voice that seemed to thrill both hearers counded upon their ears.

Archie turned and discovered sitting on a large stone, not ten paces on his left, Oklahoma Peg, that mysterious being whom we met earlier in our story.

"Are you not the woman whom we met yes-terday?" he asked.
"I am, but you have lost one of your num-

"Am, but you have tost one of your humber and gained one."
"We have. Ned Todd——"
"Oh, you need not put yourself to the trouble to tell me," interrupted Peg. "I know it all without being told. Todd is in the clutches of Captain Snell and this girl is one you have taken from him."

There was a peculiar fierceness in Oklahoma Peg's black eyes, as she glared at the beautiful girl. She seemed as if she would like very

girl. She seemed as if she would like very much to scratch her eyes out. Her look was one of hatred and devilish mischief.

"Didn't I warn you to leave Oklahoma? Didn't I tell you that it was death for you to remain in Oklahoma?"

"We are going if we can. All we want is to

cross this stream," the youth answered.

"Cross the stream, fool, why do you want to cross the stream?" cried Oklahoma Peg. "If death is sure on this side, it is more than certain on the other."

Having given this very unsatisfactory information, she turned about and was going away, when Archie stopped her and said:

"One moment, Peg, are you our friend, or our enemy?"

"One moment, Peg, are you our friend, or our enemy?"

"Your friend or your foe. There are no friends here. We are all enemies to each other. Beware that you do not curse the day that ever you entered Oklahoma. They are nearer to you than you imagine. They may strike you some time when you least expect. Fool, fool, why did you ever come here? Snell is now not half a mile away from here. Look out, look out!" and before he was aware of what she was about, she suddenly darted toward a thicket and disappeared. He sprang after her and toward her, but as he leaped into the thicket, he felt a stinging blow on his head, and staggered, almost falling.

There was a shout and an oath, and a man leaped past him to the screaming girl, who was not half a dozen paces away.

Archie Holland rapidly recovered himself, and leaping on the stranger struck him a blow with the butt of his pistol that staggered him, The road agent recoiled from the blow, and then the two men, with weapons drawn, for a moment stood glaring at each other. It was only the calm before the storm, the lull before the battle. In another moment the conflict of life or death would begin.

or death would begin.

## CHAPTER XIV.

IN THE CAVERN OF DEATH.

IN THE CAVERN OF DEATH.

There was only a momentary lull, then with a yell of rage the stranger fired his pistol, and sprang at Archie with drawn knife. The bullet struck the muzzle of Holland's pistol, and glancing away grazed his shoulder in its flight. His own weapon was discharged, but the bullet went wild of the mark.

The two clinched for a moment, and then their steel blades clashed, while the fire flashed from them. A moment later Archie Holland struck his enemy with the butt of his pistol, and staggered him.

Leaping to one side, he placed the muzzle of his pistol to his heart and fired. The fellow sank with a groan to the earth, and the conflict was over, unless there should be others to contend with.

"Oh, heaven help us, are you hurt?" sobbed poor Daisy, running to the side of her rescuer.

"No," he answered, panting for breath.

"I was sure you were killed. He must have cut you with that knife of his?"

"Not a scratch," panted the victor, gazing on the body of his fallen foe.

"I would not have done it if I could have helped it," he said to himself.

"I am so glad that you are not hurt," wept Daisy. "Are we not free from them now?"

The youth shook his head.

"Then let us go away at once."

Archie Holland had no desire to stay at this spot any longer. He did not care to gaze upon his victim, and as soon as he could gain breath enough from his struggle, he said he was ready to go.

They wandered down a path which led to a pine forest and wandered on and on for miles.

enough from his struggle, he said he was ready to go.

They wandered down a path which led to a pine forest, and wandered on and on for miles. At last he came upon a small lake at which a fawn was drinking. It was a very pretty little creature, and it looked like a pity to shoot it, but they were exceedingly hungry, so he leveled his gun and shot it dead in its tracks. He proceeded to skin and dress the animal, while Daisy prepared a fire and cooked the meat.

Both were so hungry, that they believed that this was the best meal they had ever eaten.

Their breakfast over, they resumed their wanderings. Both had begun to suffer from sore, bruised and bleeding feet. But they were flying from a foe that was merciless, and neither made any complaint.

That afternoon as they were wandering down a rocky ravine, they suddenly came upon the mouth of a cavern.

It was large and there seemed to be a well

mouth of a cavern.

It was large, and there seemed to be a well worn path going into it.

worn path going into it.

Caverns are not uncommon in the great West, and they would not have thought there was anything strange about this one, had they not seen a wall made of stone built across it. It seemed as if it had once been almost if not entirely blocked up with stone. It was no ordinary masonry. The stone was cut and smoothed and fitted down so nicely, there was no doubt but that a skillful hand had placed those blocks there.

"Don't go near that awful place," said Daisy.
"Why?"

"Look at that dark hole in the earth. I am certain that it must be death to any one to enter it."

"There is something very remarkable about that cavern," said Archie, "and yet there can't be any supernatural powers about it. I think that some one has occupied it long ago, and that there are wonders in there to be discovered, if we only go into it."
"But oh! don't go."

She pleaded so earnestly with him that for a few moments he was inclined to respect her wishes, but after a few moments he began to argue with her, and urge her to consent to his exploring the cavern.

exploring the cavern.
"What advantage can it be?" she asked.
"It may be a great advantage," he answered.
"We may discover a hiding-place in there, which will at some time be very convenient for

Looking at the subject in a new light she as-

Archie gathered some pine knots that would form excellent torches for his exploring expe-

"Will you stay above ground, or will you go with me?" he asked Daisy, as he arranged to

go below.
"I will go with you," she answered. "There might be horrors below, but they would be nothing compared with remaining above alone"
He lighted two of the torches, and turning

to Daisy gave her one, saying:
"Here, take one. We will need two to light

our way."
"Let me carry both, and you keep your hands

"Perhaps it is a good suggestion," he answered. "Take both, and I will look after my weapons." They descended into the cavern, and at first

found a very narrow, cramped passage, con-siderably strewn with loose stones and other

"Look, what is that?" asked the girl, pointing to an ancient firelock, the like of which Archie had never seen before. He glanced at it (CONTINUED ON PAGE 16.)



14

# Practical Dressmaking.

To Make Old Clothes Look Like New.

So many questions are asked "Comfort" by thrifty housewives all over the country, how to make over last year's things, and the best way to utilize old things, remnants and scraps, that this column will be devoted entirely to this commendable, many-times-necessary economy, and every woman is cordially invited to ask "Comfort's" help in this important branch of her work for adults and children. Address, Economy Editor, "Comfort," Augusta, Maine.

Mrs. R. T. H., Portsmouth, O.— Your old-fashioned lace sack comes into play for the dainty lace bertha, to be worn with the new silk gown. Cut off the bertha from the bottom, then you have the short sack to be cut into an exquisite silk waist covering. This is economy indeed—giving lovely trimming for two garments, so entirely different in design. Your fine old lace, too much worn to be used of itself, can be appliqued in bolero form on bodice or on revers, collars or cuffs. It can also be used on a bit of velvet in the same way in trimming hats. It depends on your quantity—whether you make a crown or rim—either will produce a most refined and elegant effect. These days of elaborate lace decorations call out the old-time tatting shuttle and crochet needle, also.

Miss Fannie B., Nestorville, W. Va.—You can remodel last season's white silk waist by a delicate touch of color. The dainty finish in some color, green, blue, or black, in tiny bands of silk stiched in white or with French knots, or both. Pale blue waists rank next to white this season. Your white linen will look like a new waist and can be made quite dashy by embroidery in shades of green with a bit of black here and there. Embroider white cloth waist in black.

Mrs. H., Emporia, Va.—It will depend on the kind of material your dark spring dress is made of.

of the black.

Mrs. H., Emporia, Va.—It will depend on the kind of material your dark spring dress is made of, whether or not it can be made over with light trimming for summer. If it is a dark cloth coat suit, rip up, clean, turn and put together with new linings. Wear it with white, or light waist of any kind. If it be a plain dress, do likewise, but cut the waist by a later pattern and lighten with any trimming in harmony with the material and color.

Mrs. G. R., Lamar, Wis.—You can make a very pretty waist of the skirt of your last season's plain blue lawn. Rip, and carefully press; cut the waist dibson pattern or any you desire; trim with bands of white India linen, briar stitched or French knotted with blue silk, or embroider in tiny flowers.

Miss Hattie G., Milo, Iowa.—Your scraps of lace and ribbon and flowers will trim your new spring hat nicely. First immerse your black lace in a bowl of alcohol, spread out to dry, and that will be as good as new. With the black velvet ribbon and black lace your large white roses will look fresh. Arrange the flowers and black lace on front of the hat, and the velvet ribbon in loops and ends at the back, any arrangement that is becoming will be the most effective.

Mrs. Kate R. Bethany, Ill.—Pillow show descriptions.

back, any arrangement that is becoming will be the most effective.

Mrs. Kate R., Bethany, Ill.—Pillow sham dressing sack. First rip the wide lace from your old pillow shams; take out the inserting, whip these together; cut a deep yoke of the linen; tuck in clusters; cut a straight piece of the linen; tuck in clusters; cut a straight piece of the linen, allowing for a slight fullness, and put this on to the yoke. Then make a deep full ruffle of the lace and inserting, and sew that on and finish neck and sleeves with lace. Your dressing sack will then be complete, and at no expense of money.

Miss F. L., Pineville, N. C.—Your old lace curtains are certainly valuable. You can, by careful handling, arrange an attractive and pleasing trimming for almost any kind of summer dress or an exquisite lace bertha can be made. First soak the curtains several hours in soft warm water, with half pint of ammonia, well stirred before putting them in. When thoroughly cleaned, pin them down to dry. Cut out the daintiest leaves and flowers and lay the bertha pattern on the very thinnest parts. After cutting out, transfer the leaves and flowers in as artistic a manner as possible. Then for one dollar and forty-nine cents your windows may be drapped as artistically in muslin curtains as you will be in your pale blue.

muslin curtains as you will be in your summer dress.

Miss F. R. M., Bradford, Ills.—If your pale blue taffeta waist is not much worn it can be made quite pretty by trimming with bands of white silk stitched with blue, to form a yoke, or extend them to the belt. The most important fact in dressing is to have the garment suit the woman, whatever it may be. In selecting your wardrobe, first remember if this or that will harmonize with the figure or complexion of the wearer. You should never select stripes for your own use. They make a tall, slender person look taller. In using hair cloth, the hair in the cloth must run around the skirt (not up and down) and must always be shrunk before using. Many have the impression that hair cloth should be confined to skirts alone. It is used in coats, lackets and fur collars. The edges must be bound. (2) Certainly your ribbons can be made almost new, by washing in warm soft water and melted Ivory soap. Do not wring, but rinse well in warm water, stretch and pin down, rub with a dry cloth gently, until perfectly smooth. Never iron ribbon; and when dry roll them over a round box or a roll of paper. This is a bit of economy well worth of paper. This remembering.

of paper. This is a bit of economy well worth remembering.

Miss Maud R., Jackson, O.—All the dainty thin waists button up the back. Any becoming way you desire to trim your waist will be up to date, as there is every conceivable form of decoration. Any way you choose to arrange it, but something original, no doubt, would be more pleasing than many styles alike. You could make a tucked yoke and tucked elbow sleeves, or a straight yoke of fine embroidery with an embroidered ruffle below the yoke, and on the sleeves, finish the tucked yoke with ruffles of lace or of the goods with tiny inserting set in above the hem of the ruffle. That makes a dainty ruffle for most any kind of thin waist or dress. (2) A very pretty and simple way to remodel your satin waist is to trim with bands of the same, embroidered in tiny flowers; a white waist in Forget-me-nots; a lavender, in pansies, and so on. Make all the shadings of your flowers as near to nature as possible. You can scatter the flowers over the waist anywhere if you are unable to get material for the bands, making the waist entirely changed.

# EVERY LADY READ THIS.

I will send free a positive cure for all female diseases, irregularities, etc. A simple home treatment, a common sense remedy that never fails. FREE with valuable advice. Mrs. L. D. HUDNUT, South Bend, Ind.

# The Latest Fashions.

By a special arrangement with the manufacturers, we have secured a line of the most popular and latest designs in fashions, and offer our readers patterns of the various styles illustrated Free for Club Subscriptions. Our pattern bears a number and the size in which it can be supplied can be supplied.

DIRECTIONS FOR MEASURING AND ORDERING DIRECTIONS FOR MEASURING AND ORDERING PATTERNS. For all fitted garments for ladies, the bust measure only is necessary; this measure should be taken moderately tight around the figure under the arm and over the fullest part of the bust. Take the measure the same for tight-fitting, half-loose, and perfectly loose garments, and be governed by the exact measure taken, as the proper allowance is made in the pattern for the difference in the closeness of the fit.

of the fit.

Skirts must be ordered according to the waist measure, in sizes either medium or large. The medium size is cut to a waist measurement of twenty-six inches, and the large size to a waist measurement of thirty inches.

For children's patterns the age only is necessary.

sary.
In ordering patterns, order only one of the sizes given, and write the number of the pattern plainly; when two numbers are given in the same illustration, they indicate two patterns, and when both are ordered it is the same as ordering two different patterns.

CLUB OFFER. For a club of only three 6 months' trial 10c. subscriptions to this paper we will send free any two patterns you may select.

may select

For a club of four yearly subscribers at 15c. ach, we will send you any four patterns free. each, we will send you any four patterns free.

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way to secure them is to send us the subscribers' names who have actually paid for
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Department, Augusta, Maine.

2251. HERMIONE SHIRT-WAIST.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, & 40 Bust Measure.

An elaborately designed shirt-waist, made over a fitted lining, has an exquisitely shaped yoke, tucks down the front and a fitted strap about the neck. The woman who desires to have considerable work on her shirt-waist cannot do better than to follow the Hermione design, and the pattern is eminently adapted to any of the light woolen fabrics and also in silk.

249. LEHIGH SHIRT-WAIST.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38, & 40 Bust Measure.
The Lehigh Shirt-waist is the model waist of the season. It is quite plain and has three forward turning plaits at the neckband. There is no yoke or other trimming or complications about it. As a pattern it is most desirable because from it all waists may be modelled, and no end of tucking and decorations may be wrought upon it before placing the pattern on the cloth.



# 1138. JUAN SUIT. Sizes, 4, 6, and 8 years.

Sizes, 4, 6, and 8 years.

A standard and becoming design for a boy's sailor suit, and is suitable for all fabrics generally employed. The blouse generally matches the trousers, but ofttimes the blouses are made of washable fabrics and the shield and large collar are made detachable so that various changes may be made. Serge, tweeds and cheviots are the popular woolen materials, while linen, duck and Galatea cloth are much used for the warm season. Rows of narrow braid are used for trimming, and anchors or stars are embroidered on the shield piece and collar.

2118. MUSETTE FROCK.

# 2118. MUSETTE FROCK. Sizes, 8, 10, and 12 years.

A favorite style of the ever popular "sailor frock."
The frock is cut snug-fitting in the back, while the front has the blouse effect and revers. The skirt is gored. Woolens and heavy cottons are the materials most desired, with some contrasting color for the revers and chemisette.

# 2261—THISTLE FROCK. Sizes 12, 14 & 16 Years.

Sizes 12, 14 & 16 Years.

The Thistle frock, designed for a girl of twelve, fourteen or sixteen years, is dressy and exquisite in its style. The waist consists of a soft silk blouse, held to position over a fitted lining. Over the blouse there is a natty little bolero, trimmed with a decorated band around its edge, and also with two smart velvet bows. The sleeve reaches to the elbow, and is trimmed with a circular ruffle over a plaited one.

2208. HARVARD FROCK.

Sizes, 6, 8 and 10 Years.

The sailor suit really takes precedence over every

Sizes, 6, 8 and 10 Years.

The sailor suit really takes precedence over every style of girls' frocks for general wear. This design has a circular skirt, a waist that has a tight lining, and the loose sailor waist blouses over it. The shield-piece is faced on the lining, and the blouse is finished with a wide sailor collar. Light-weight woolens and heavy cotton fabrics are most desirable for this design.

sirable for this design.

2259. OSWALD BOLERO WAIST.

Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 & 40 Bust Measure.

The Bolero waist shown here is a combination of shirt-waist and bolero, and is very smart. The trimming is hand embroidery, although passementeric may be made to serve. The waist is silk, and is gathered to formulate a yoke at the shoulders and line of the bust, and the velvet girdle secures it to position. A combination of black and white would be very attractive.

2266. EUNICE FROCK. Sizes, 6 and 8 Years.

Sizes, 6 and 8 Years.

The frock is a simple little costume designed for six and eight year old girls. The waist is lined, and the skirt is a circular one, while the seam joining the two is concealed under a shaped belt. A figured percale, with corded pique forms a dainty combination. Wool and silk combinations will develop a pretty "best" frock. Blue and green suiting with vest of cream white, or red and black with rest stee of plain red silk would also be attractive. vest, etc., of plain red silk would also be attractive.



2334. Skirt, 1874.

2262—COLUMBIA FROCK.

Sizes, 6, 8 & 10 Years.

An especially pretty design for little girls. It has the wide turned-over sailor collar which so admirably trims the back of the frock. The skirt is circular fitted with a dart on the side and has an inverted box-plait at the middle of the back. Narrow braid and buttons provide the necessary decoration. Blue silk gingham, with white vest and braid, and pearl buttons, would make a dainty frock. Percale, pique, chambray and woolens generally are also in good taste.

2101. DAHLIA FROCK.
Sizes, 6, 8 and 10 Years.

Quite a novelty for a sailor suit is shown in this design. Instead of being gathered in front, the little blouse is laid in plaits, stitched a quarter of an inch from the edge. The back is plain and the sleeves are the full bishop style. The skirt is plaited and stitched to the blouse. If preferred, the plait may be left unstitched or gathered. It is suitable for woolen or cotton fabrics, trimmed with band or flat trimming.

band or flat trimming.

2258. SAVOY BLOUSE.
Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 & 40 Bust Measure.
2257. SPENCER SKIRT.
Sizes, Medium and Large.
The blouse jacket seems to be the one in popular favor this season, and this design, though simple, is very jaunty when well made, decorated with stitching and lined with silk. Developed in black broadcloth it will prove useful to wear with odd skirts. The skirt is an excellent design for silk, wool or wash fabrics. The seams and edges of the founces may be simply stitched or decorated with applique insertion, narrow velvet ribbon, or bias folds of silk according to the taste of the maker.

2334. BALFOUR SUIT.

applique insertion, narrow velvet ribbon, or bias folds of silk according to the taste of the maker.

2334. BALFOUR SUIT.

Sizes, 6, 8 and 10 Years.

This pretty suit for boys is made of wool goods or of pique or linen, and is exceedingly smart and up-to-date. This pattern is a treasure to the woman who has a tailor-made skirt of her own to make over into a boys' suit. While these little suits are quite expensive in the stores at this season, they may be made at home at a triffing cost. The trousers blouse slightly over the knee. If made up in cotton goods, the goods should be well shrunk before making up.

2317. THORNTON JACKET.

Sizes, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 Bust Measure.

2256. VESTA SKIRT.

Sizes, Medium and Large.

The Thornton jacket is very natty in its lines, and very graceful and dressy. While suited to any materials made into street gowns, it may be developed in corduroy or velvet, and have white silk collar and cuffs decorated with French knots, or the silk may contain its own polka dots. The jacket has the habit back now so popular, and the sleeve has the wide cuff turned back loosely like a gauntlet. The skirt is a handsome five-gored pattern. The seams are strapped and stitched, and the style is suitable for woolen goods. the style is suitable for woolen goods.



Waist, 2258. Skirt, 2257.

2330. DAISY WAIST. Sizes, 14 and 16 Years.

Nothing could be daintier for girls of the age mentioned than this waist. The yoke consists of tucks that are loosened for a full blouse. Embroidered daisies outline the yoke. Three yards of goods are required to make this waist. It would be an attractive design for a graduation gown.

2332. THEODORA WAIST. Sizes, 14 and 16 Years. 1874. ANNIS SKIRT. Sizes, Medium and Large.

This is a good suggestion for making a gingham, batiste or foulard frock for a young miss. The one in the design is blue and white china silk trimmed with novelty lace; the chemisette is white silk trimmed to the skirt is a simple four-gored design, with the fullness gathered in the back. It has two circular ruffles five inches deep set on the bottom of the skirt, which makes a convenient as well as attractive finish, as the skirt can be lengthened at any time, and the plecing hidden by the ruffle.

## Flossie Field.

(CONTÍNUED FROM PAGE 8.)

"Oh, thanks," said Flossie, as he led the way into Mrs. Wurtemberg's somewhat tawdry parlor, "but I must go to my mother at once. She will want me." The minister hesitated a moment, then raised his hand to check her as she would have glided

his hand to check her as she would have glided past.

"My child," said he, tenderly, "she will never want you any more. I would like to break the awful tidings more gently, but I don't know how. It is best, perhaps, to know the worst at once. Your mother is dead, Flossie. It is scarcely an hour since she passed away, very quietly, in her sleep, without even a pang."

Flossie looked wistfully at the kind old face. Was he talking to her? Or was it someone else? Surely those dreadful words could not be meant for her. She was excited, overdone-perhaps her mind was unbalanced!

In a second, however, she broke from his restraining hand, pushed past Mrs. Wurtemberg, who vainly strove to block the door, and rushed to her mother's room.

"Mother! Mother!" she cried, wildly. "Speak to me! Oh, merciful God, she is dead!" The continuation of this interesting serial will be published in the July number of "Comfort," and that you may not miss any chapters you should send in your subscription at once. 25c. for one full year, or 10c. for a special six months' subscription. See Special Coupon Subscription Offer on another page, this issue.



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I had been ailling for fifteen years from back-ache, headache, constipation and prolapsus. I had been treated by some of the best specialists in the country without avail. Your brace cured me. The organs have gone back to proper position and remain there.

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# The Little Dutchman.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY GENEVIEVE FLEMING.

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UNSHINE, dancing, gleaming sunshine everywhere! It glowed in the azure sky flecking the lazily drifting clouds till they glistened like snow; it glinted on the rippling water of the great rolling river till one thought only of the beauty of its playful surface and the terrors of the deepness and darkness below were blotted out. Even the plain little ferry office on its floating wharf shared some of its glory, and the old scarred, white painted thing was so softened and mellowed by the red evening glory that an artist

might have seen fit to put it in a picture.

There was only one object who seemed somehow to have missed the brightness. It shone all about him, but not on him. He looked up as the heavy ferry boat jarred against the wharf and the blue eyes in his round German face searched the faces of the landing passengers in

a pitiful, dazed sort of way. They were used to seeing him there. Every evening during the summer he had come down after his work in the car shops was over and had sat there, gazing into the water as if he imagined it were the ocean across which he might catch glimpses of the Fatherland. There were not many traces of sentiment in the round, rosy face, but there must have been some, somewhere in the square little frame, for only a sentimental person could have cared to bring his loved one's letters down to the river in order to read the same one over evening after evening until another came, and so on all during the summer months.

He was not a bit ashamed of his little romance either for one day a ferryman had laughingly seized the letter and looked for the signature and ever afterwards had teased him signature and ever afterwards had teased him about his little Gretchen, but he only succeeded in provoking a foolish, hasty little smile and a deepening of the rosy hue in his face. No one could really tease him about Gretchen. She was his hope, his sort of earthly heaven, and the thought of the time when he should have saved money enough to bring her to America and have her with him always was what sustained him and made his laborer's existence almost happy and content.

sustained him and made his laborer's existence almost happy and content.

His actions did not seem at all strange to himself. He could not have Gretchen with him on his evening strolls, so what more natural than that the precious white leaves of paper inscribed with the dear loving words of his own country, written by the hand he loved best on earth, should accompany him.

"Ich liebe dich, Ich liebe dich, mein Fritz," she so often ended, as though her whole letter had not breathed her love in every line. When Fritz came to these words a glad light would spring to his eyes, making his plain face beautiful and if he thought no one were looking, he would press the paper passionately to his lips.

Today, the light in his eyes had gone out and left them dull like some animal's eyes dazed with pain.

left them dull like some animal's eyes dazed with pain.

The collector of the ferry rallied the little Dutchman as usual as he passed him on his way up the levee. He was going home to supper and his children were waiting for him in a wagon at the top of the hill, but when his good-natured jokes failed to elicit any response he stopped and laid his hand wonderingly on Fritz's shoulder.

"What's the matter, old man? Has Gretchen gone back on you? You seem rather under the weather this evening."

The little Dutchman's face grew a trifle more stony and he never turned his gaze from the sunny water.

"She is dead," he answered, and his voice

"She is dead," he answered, and his voice sounded strange, even to his own ears.

The ferryman felt his voice grow husky as he pressed 'Fritz's hand, but his sympathy seemed to fall on deaf ears and he turned away, feeling that the German preferred to be alone.

The glorious sunlight slowly faded, climbing higher and higher, up the stone piers of the massive bridge which spanned the river several yards lower down stream. A passenger train went over it and one or two freights thundered across but Fritz did not notice them. His eyes were ever on the rapidly flowing water at his feet. He watched it change from ruddy gold to a pearly pinkish grey in the sunset light, then it grew dark and cold as the rosy flush died out. The Government was widening the channel some distance below and a force of night work men had been put on to hurry the work through before high water. Their lights glowed like fairy lamps on the dark water and the clink of their hammers on the rocks sounded through the sweet evening stillness.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER ECHOED.

If any be distressed and fain would gather If any be distressed and fain would gather Some comfort, let him haste unto Our Father.
For we of hope and help are quite bereaven. Except Thou succor us, Who art in heaven. Thou showest mercy, therefore for the same, We praise thee singing:

Hallowed be Thy name.
Of all our miseries cast up the sum; Show us Thy joys and let
Thy kingdom come.
We, mortal are, and alter from our birth; Thou, constant art;

We, mortal are, and alter from our birth;
Thou, constant art;
Thy will be done on earth.
Thou madest the earth, as well as planets seven,
Thy name be blessed here
As 'tis in heaven.
Nothing we have to use, or debts to pay,
Except Thou give it us.
Give us this day
Wherewith to cloth us, wherewith to be fed,
For without Thee we want
Our daily bread.
We want, but want no faults, for no day passes
But we do sin.

But we do sin.

Forgive us our trespasses.

No man from sinning ever free did live,
Forgive us Lord our sins,

As we forgive.

If we repent our faults, Thou ne'er disdain'st us;
We pardon

Them that trespass against us.

Them that trespass against us.

Them that trespass against us.

Forgive us that is past, a new path tread us;
Direct us always in Thy faith,

And lead us—
Us, Thine own people and thy chosen nation,
Into all truth, but

Not into temptation.

Thou that of all good graces art the Giver,
Suffer us not to wander,

But deliver
Us from the fierce assaults of world and devil
And flesh; so shalt Thou free
Us from all evil.

To these petitions let both church and laymen,
With one consent of heart and voice, say

Amen.

Amen.

star-lit sky. He had always believed that God was somewhere up beyond those revolving worlds, but he could not find him there, only

people who had died could go there.

A light seemed to dance in his tortured brain.
Only people who had died; then why should he not die? A restful peace stole into his soul.
The river splashed gently just at his feet. It was deep and cool and he was tired and lonely. He began to realize how long the waiting had been now. Gretchen must want him, too, he thought, and he would not wait any longer but

been now. Gretchen must want him, too, he thought, and he would not wait any longer but go to her tonight.

The lights of an approaching ferry shone like two great burning eyes as it steamed slowly under the bridge and then shutting off some of her steam, moving slowly in toward her landing. As she came nearer the water between her side and the wharf was ploughed up by the paddle wheels into lashing foam. The collector at the gate was just reaching out his hand to open it, as they were only a few feet from the wharf, when a short, thick-set form was seen to plunge headlong into the churning water.

They were several hours finding the body but at last it was discovered where it had drifted down near a pier of the bridge.

"It is the little Dutchman," some one said. "He must have been struck by the paddle wheel for he was a good swimmer."

They all thought it was an accident, all but the collector on the day boat. He knew that a tragedy had been enacted after he left the wharf that night and that Fritz had gone to find little Gretchen, but somehow those two names had become sacred to him and he never told the little Dutchman's secret. Only a merciful God knows all.

ciful God knows all.

# Suggestions for the Invalid's Bed.



some time, soon or late, to every family, no matter how carefully guarded, and as a trained nurse is not always obtainable, it behooves every wo-man to know just how to prepare and change the bed for an invalid too ill to be readily moved. The best bedstead for use in sickness is of brass or iron, six and one-half feet in length, two or two and one-half feet in height and three feet in width. These hos-pital bedsteads may

S sickness comes at

be procured at any first-class furniture store, and will be found invaluable in all cases of

sickness where the attendant is obliged to do much bending over her patient.

The mattress should be of hair, as that can be readily cleaned and disinfected. Cotton makes the best material for sheets in this climaters with the contract of mate, as linen is apt to chill, and three should the draw. Blankets of good quality make the best covering, with a light-weight counterpane at the top. A large pillow of hair and one of feathers, with as many small pillows as the exigencies of the case require, complete the furnishing.

nishing. nishing.

In making the bed, pin the lower sheet carefully into place on the under side of the mattress, that the patient, if uneasy, may not work it up into wrinkles. Fold the draw sheet and pin across the middle of the bed, allowing for it to extend from the patient's shoulders well below the hips. Put on the upper sheet, leaving it a little loose for the feet, and long enough to turn over the blanket at the top. The the clink of their hammers on the rocks sounded through the sweet evening stillness.

Fritz heard all the sounds about him. He was conscious every half hour that the wharf was shaken by a landing boat, and that people passed him and that some even cast curious glances at him, but his soul was crushed under some terrible weight which he could neither battle against nor see his way through.

Once or twice he murmured, "Mein Gott, mein Gott," but it was more in a puzzled helpless way than as a cry of pain. Gretchen was with God, he reasoned; then he was alone.

"Allein, allein, immer allein!" The thought terrified him. He got up and went nearer the railing. His simple German mind was lost amid such vast thoughts as eternity and the infinity of God. Poor, blind human reasoning! He must find God—and Gretchen. Always Gretchen; she was the one sure thing in his whirling fancies. He raised his eyes to the

# LOSS OF WEIGHT IS DANGEROUS

# Loss of Weight Means a Loss of Strength and May Lead to Dangerous Sickness.

# KEEP FAT IF YOU CAN == THIS TELLS HOW.

health is loss of weight. Flesh is strength, and loss of flesh is loss of

strength. Loss of flesh is one of the most persistent

symptoms of consumption.

Feverishness, constant cough, shortness of

breath, loss of appetite, lack of ambition.

All these form "corroborative testimony," as the courts call it.

And if the germ is there, it is high time for

drastic measures.

The way to build strength and flesh is to take a course of the Dr. Slocum treatment for weakness and weak lungs.

It is a complete system for the building up

of a dilapidated system.

A scientific, antiseptic, prophylactic system for all who are in danger of going into a

It consists of a course of four medicinal preparations and scientific concentrated tissue foods and builders that create flesh and strength and so conserve the failing vital

They make strength and keep it. One of their ingredients is a germicide of case.

out the fresh ones and pin in place. Put the clean upper sheet on over the soiled one, tuck in on one side and then remove the soiled one. The draw sheet is made by folding an ordinary The draw sheet is made by folding an ordinary sheet lengthwise once, so as to make it half of its original width, or using an old sheet for that purpose. It is laid across the bed and tucked in, all the extra length being at one side of the bed, so that it may be drawn along to get a fresh part under the patient.

To turn a patient easily on a draw sheet a yard wide, loosen the sheet at each side of the bed, then draw gently in the direction preferred. It is easier when two people do this.



PROMINENT doctor has recently stated that baldness is a disease caused by microbes, and that it is contagious. In his opinion he states that "it is caused by a specific microbe that lives and multiplies in the sebaceous glands and causes the loss of hair by action the loss of hair by action on the roots." It is not a disease of old age, but rather one of youth. Hair restorers, while they may check the falling of the hair, can never cure the disease nor cause a new growth.

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Married in white, you have chosen all right.
Married in gray, you will go far away.
Married in black, you will wish yourself back.
Married in red, you will wish yourself dead.
Married in green, ashamed to be seen.
Married in blue, he will always be true.
Married in pearl, you will live in a whirl.
Married in yellow, ashamed of your fellow.
Married in brown, you will live out of town.
Married in pink, your spirit will sink.

One of the first signs of rapidly failing great potency, absolutely harmless to the human system.

The Slocum treatment purifies the body

of germs and of the poisons which germs

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Its use has cured many thousands of a consumptive taint-many thousands of actual consumption infection.

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# I WAS BLIND

Dr. Coffee Restored My Sight, says J. M. Davis.

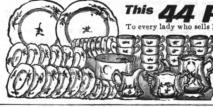


Mr. Davis had been afflicted with weak eyes for many years. They would get better and then worse, andfinally a year ago, he was taken with a terrible inflammation of the eyes, ulcers for each eye hall, which made him blind in 4 weeks; and having a neighbor who had been cured by Dr. Coffee, he went to him at once and in four lucers, granulated lids and restored his sight. Write Dr. Coffee for his 80-page Book explaining his "New Absorption System" and how you can cure Cataracts, Ulcers and all Eye diseases at home by mild medicine Small expense. This book tells how he restored Davis' sight and hundreds of others at home. It contains photographs of how the eyes look when diseased and tells how to prevent blindness. Write quick. Specify Eye Book, it's free.

Dr. W. O. COFFEE, 843 Good Block, Des Moines, la.

Eye Book, it's free. Dr. W. O. COFFEE, 843 Good Block, Des Moines, la.





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Name	County
to the property of the same of	
	AT TOMOTHORN SHIP TO SAN

Town.

## Ned Todd.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.)

and saw that it was very ancient, and almost destroyed with rust.

destroyed with rust.

Taking it up he noticed that it was a gun that had never had a lock.

"It must have been a match lock," he said to himself. "Some of the early Spanish cavaliers who came here with the great De Soto lost their way, and perished in this cavern."

'Oh! that was long ago," cried Daisy. "Why, it is over two hundred years since De Soto with his steel clad warriors roamed over this part of the world."

"I suppose it is, yet here is the remains of

"I suppose it is, yet here is the remains of one of their guns." Arch pushed his way along, and throwing aside some loose stones, there was opened up aside some loose stones, there was opened up to view a larger cavity, extending farther into the earth. The way was now more difficult than it had been before. They found many curious things here to block their way. In some places were smooth blocks of stone, showing that they had been cut and chiseled by some hand long ages ago.

snowing that they had been cut and chisered by some hand long ages ago.

"We have certainly stumbled into a very mysterious country," Archie Holland remarked, as he paused and glanced ahead of him.

"Do you think that there has been any one here very lately?" asked the affrighted girl.

"I cannot say. Yet these dust covered stones seem to have been moved."

A little farther over loose blocks of stones.

A little farther, over loose blocks of stones, through narrow passages, and they came upon what seemed to be an underground precipice. They were standing on a bit of tableland, while below them was a vast yawning chasm. At their feet could be heard a roaring of falling water.

'Look there," said Daisy.
'Where? What do you see?" her companion asked. "A stairway leading down the steep. See, it

"A stairway leading down the steep. See, it goes down there."
He looked, and sure enough, there was a stone stairway leading down the steep, into the apparently unfathomable darkness below.
It looked like a perilous descent, but Archie Holland was a daring youth, and this was an opportunity for exploration not to be neglected. He went on asking Daisy to follow after him, and to have a care as to how she stepped.

They were on the very edge of a ledge, and a single false step might hurl them into that dark unfathomable abyss below. At last the head of the stone steps was reached. How like stories in the wonderful Arabian Nights it all seemed.
They found the stone steps perfectly substan-They found the stone steps perfectly substantial, and they descended them.
"See, a stone bridge across that torrent," whispered Daisy.

whispered Daisy.

How awe inspiring seemed that whisper.

Sounds in this vast subterranean chamber were
perfectly awful, and Archie Holland found a pe-

perfectly awful, and Archie Holland found a peculiar sensation taking possession of his being. Sure enough, there was what might be termed a natural bridge, made, no doubt by the constant wearing of the water beneath.

On this they crossed over, and found themselves in a vast chamber, whose natural vaulted dome was fully a hundred feet above them. Archie halted a moment and taking one of the torches held it above his head, and examined as best he could the vast apartment. It was a monster chamber, and he yet saw no end to it. "Come on," he said, "we will cross the bridge."

Oh, let us not go any farther."

"Why, Daisy, are you afraid?"
"Yes, it seems so terrible."
"Its terribleness will disappear as we advance and explore the darkness."

They had gone but a few paces farther when a most ghastly sight met their view. There lying on the ground almost on the edge of the precipice, above the thundering torrent below, was a skeleton.

Daisy was first to discover it and gave utterance to a half smothered shriek. The flaring torch soon revealed other gristly bones that had been bleaching in this subterranean apartment. "Come away, oh heaven, come away," she groaned, clinging to Archie's arm. "This surely must be the cavern of death."

"There's nothing here that can harm you," said Archie. "Those dry bones are not dangerous, as if they had flesh upon them, and were alive. Let us explore farther."

But she would not. Still clinging to his arm she begged:

"Oh, come, for the love of heaven take me back to the light of day. Better die the victim of the Oklahoma outlaws, than to pass another hour in this horrible place."

"Very well, it is not my design to make you miserable if I can help it, and as this seems too much for you, much as it interests me, I will forego all pleasure of the exploration."

They turned about and started on their return from the cavern of death.

Daisy clutched his arm, and trembled so violently that she could scarce hold the torch in her hand.

entity that sale her hand.

"Let me carry the torch," he said.

"No, no, "she returned, "hold your gun and your pistol ready to defend us. I know that something most terrible is going to happen before we get out of this place."

"No, no, no, Daisy. There is nothing here to have possibly lain

fear. These dead bodies have possibly lain here for a hundred years."

"No, no, they haven't. I know that this must be one of the secret rendezvous of the road agent, Captain Snell. I heard him say something about a great place like this. Oh, if we were out of here, and safe away from this forest, I would be happy."

"Have no fears, I promised your father when he was dying that I would save you, and I will."

"I know you will, if you can."

They had now reached the natural bridge, and were going over. The other side was reached, and they started up the narrow path along the ledge.

"Stop." It was Archie who spoke, and there was considerable alarm displayed in the tremor

"What is it?" she asked in a whisper.
"I hear a noise, don't you?"
"No. Which direction is it?"
"At the entrance."
"Yes, oh yes, I hear it now."
"When the propies of the some one is elements.

"Quiet, make no noise. Some one is entering

"Quiet, make no noise. Some one the cavern."

The heavy tramp of feet, and even the murmur of voices afar off, could be heard in that vast cavern. The youth knew that their torches must soon betray them, and he whispered:

"Extinguish your torch."

The hint had only to be given, until it was obeyed. In a moment the torches went out.

Then the light from other torches could be

Then the light from other torches could be before seen moving about in the distance. At first Maine.

they looked like stars afar off, but anon they drew nearer, and when they were not but fifty paces away, winding about through the narrow and torturous ways and passages of the cavern, he could distinctly make out the forms

of three men approaching them.
"We must hide, or they will see us. They are coming this way."
She knew it before he told her, but where

were they to go?

Just before extinguishing his torch Archie had noticed a narrow path leading down under the approach to the natural bridge, which they

He whispered to the frightened and trembling girl, and told her to make no noise, but keep a firm hold on his arm and follow him. Then swinging his rifle about his shoulders he began the descent. It was quite steep, and in this plutonian darkness, almost impassable, at last he had reached what seemed to be a sort of a bench of rock just under the approach of the bridge. He groped about and found a place where there was a level spot, on which he placed the affrighted girl behind him. In groping around, he placed his hand upon a loose stone which was on the verge of the precipice, and he came very nearly knocking it over. He trembled at the thought of how near he had come to exposing their presence to their enemies, for had the stone fallen over the precipice, the splash must have inevitably betrayed them. "Wall, less make short work o' him, cut his throat an' throw him over inter the water, an' yer kin bet thet we'll never hear tell on him agin," said one of the voices that was coming down toward the bridge.

"No, less do a better way'n thet."
"What?" He whispered to the frightened and trembling

"No, less do a better way'n thet."
"What?"

"Ye see we're swore to git rid o' this ere Ned Todd fur good. Now thet we've got him in our clutches, less make ther most out o' him thet we kin. Less not kill him afore we throw him over, but bind him hand and foot, and gin him

over, but bind him hand and toot, and gin him a plunge down thar inter that ar' water, an'yer kin bet it'll be ther last we'll ever hear on him after he gin a few screeches."

"By jecookibus, Dyke, yer hit ther nail on ther head, we'll do it. An' ter carry out ther joke we'll jess take ther gag out o' his mouth so't he kin screech."

A few moments later the trembling fugitives

so't he kin screech."

A few moments later the trembling fugitives beneath the broad slab of stone heard the well-known voice of Nedd Todd say:

"Cowards, do you think I would utter a single screech, or make one appeal for mercy to such wretches as you? I will yet live to bring the last of you to the halter."

"Ber gosh, purty defiant, hain't he?"

"Bet he is, Dyke. Guess he's goin' ter die game."

The two men could be heard binding the

The two men could be heard binding the prisoner, and after a moment's silence the determined Ned Todd said:
"Do your best, I can defy you. I will die like a man, and you shall not be gratified with a single groan from me."
"Ha, ha, Ned Todd, we can't make yer screech I reckin', but we'll know that yer can't do we'uns any harm."
"There will be others who will."
"Who'd ye think they ar', eh? That ar' youngster that was with yer an' got away from us? Wull ef yer a feedin' yerself on that ar' kinder chaff I tell yer it won't do. We'll git him, and send him down in this ere cave o' death, whar we send all our foes. I reckin ye'll find a purty heap o' bones over on tother side." find a purty heap o' bones over on tother side."
"You will reach the gallows yet," cried the brave detective.

Better beg us ter hev a leetle marcy on yer!"

"Not ef 'twould save ye life?"
"Not if I should die a thousand deaths. You

"Not if I should die a thousand deaths. You are a set of merciless dogs. And I defy you, do with me as you will."
"Wall that's jist what we're goin' ter do. But thar's one thing we'd like ter know."
"I will give you no information if I know it."
"But ef ye'd tell us jist whar that ar' old cattle king, what we cotched a long time ergo, hez his money buried, why we'll let ye go."
"I know nothing of it. Nor would I tell you if I knew," Ned Todd defiantly answered. He knew full well that if he knew the secret, and if I knew," Ned Todd defiantly answered. He knew full well that if he knew the secret, and

was to reveal it to them, that he would not be spared on account of it. It was certain death anyway.

"Is he all tied tight, Pike?"

"Yes."
"So't he couldn't git loose anyway?"

"Then over with him, and that ar' will be the end on 'im."

"Then over with him, and that ar' will be the end on 'im."

They seized the body of the bound detective, and lifting him in the air hurled him over into the dark abyss below. A moment after there was a heavy splash in the water.

"That's the end o' him," said one of his murderers, gazing down into the fathomless darkness. Subscribe to COMFORT at once and get the next installment of this fascinating story in the next issue. If your subscription is about to expire or you are anxious to become a reader of COMFORT, now is the best time as these interesting serial detective storics will be a distinct feature in addition to all the many interesting departments, and you will not want to miss a single copy. But all subscriptions must be paid in advance, so we call your attention to the opportunity of obtaining a renewal at the present 25c. rate by paying 10c. in advance for a six months' subscription. We shall add other features to COMFORT, continue a renewal at the present 25c. rate by paying 10c. in advance for a six months' subscription. We shall add other features to Comfort, continue serials after the ending of the "Ned Todd" story, and give you the biggest and best home monthly that is published. Fill out and send 10c. coupon now (see coupon on another page), so you will not miss a single chapter. All expiring subscriptions are now being promptly removed, so unless you renew or subscribe at once the July copy will not reach you.

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# Royal Yachts.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT.



HE PALATIAL yacht of Kaiser William, the Hohenrange to the largest nor the largest nor the largest nor the handsomest vessel devoted to the personal use of an HOHENZOLLERN OF WILLIAM II.

which fly the individual colors of their royal
commanders surpassing in size, complements

which fly the individual colors of their royal commanders, surpassing in size, complements and luxury the Savonia of Italy, the Milan of France, the Dannebrog of Denmark, and the Giralda of Spain, but being herself surpassed by the yachts of Czar Alexander of Russia and King Edward of England.

Of these three leaders, however, the Hohenzollern was the first built, and for four years stood at the head of the list of yachts owned by noble sailors. She was launched in 1892, the total cost being \$1,071,000. Her crew numbers two hundred and ninety and her speed is twenty-two knots.

The year after the Hohenzollern had been given to the water Czar Alexander III. began work on a yacht which should surpass his royal cousin's, and after the great yards at Copenhagen had labored for three years on her long, clean lines and

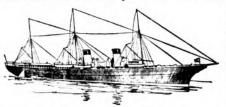
clean lines and gorgeous fittings and after the Imperial naval bu-reau had ex-pended close upon \$2,000,000, the Standart was launched to take her place first on her place first on the list of royal yachts. She still outranks all oth-

KING EDWARD'S VICTORIA AND ALBERT III.

ers in size and AND ALBERT III. complement, though she is a knot slower than the Hohenzollern and has cost a trifle less than the Victoria and Albert III. She carries a crew

the Victoria and Albert III. She carries a crew of three hundred and seventy and has a speed of twenty-one knots.

King Edward's yacht is most widely known for the series of unfortunate happenings which marked her early career two years ago. Launched at Pembroke in 1899, she was seemingly another triumph to the constructive genius of Sir William Temple, but this triumph was turned to something closely akin to disgrace when the yacht "turned turtle" in the dry docks while fitting. It was then found that she had been overloaded with ornaments and furnishings, and not only were her masts and stacks shortened, but much of her beauty had to be discarded before the Naval Board would pronounce her seaworthy. Even then she pronounce her seaworthy. Even then she



THE IMPERIAL RUSSIAN YACHT STANDART.

rolled so heavily on her maiden trip that it was found necessary to ballast her with three hundred tons of iron stowed away in the bilge, which resulted in greater comfort but cut her speed down fully a knot. Her cost was \$2,105,000, carries a crew of two hundred and twenty and has a speed of twenty and one-half knots.

It would be hard to differentiate between these twee rows was speed in the point of the

these three royal vessels in the point of the luxury and beauty of their fittings. In each of them rare woods, deep carvings, rich hangings and a lavish amount of brilliant metals have

HAT is supposed to be the largest watch in the United States is owned by a jeweler in Boston, Mass., its weight being nearly a pound and a half; it is made of coin silver in the hunting style. The same man owns the smallest watch in the country, also, which is made of gold and to be worn as a collar button. It measures a quarter of an inch across the dial and is said to be a good time keeper.

# Hidden Secrets of Disease Revealed



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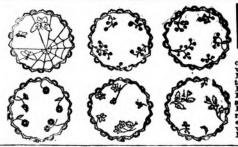
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Veracious Records of the Doin's in the Cobb's Corner Postoffice, "Writ out" by the Boy Behind the Counter.

[EDITOR'S NOTE. The quaint philosophers, the dry wags, the shrewd dickerers and the eminent yarn-spinners of the countryside make a forum of the country postofice when there is room at the rear around the big stove. The stories and incidents on which some of the most successful human interest novels of the day are constructed come from the quaint loungers around the stores in Yankee communities. These official records of "Jeth's Crowd" are to be taken down month by month for the readers of "Comfort," and we hope that as you become acquainted with the members of the "Congress" your interest in their discourse and stories will deepen.

In the July number of "Comfort" the "Cobb's Corner Congress" will continue sessions.]



S Company of the Comp

AN Young, the stage-driver from the Hard-scrabble route, sat down on the edge of the postoffice plat-form among the rest of the loafers who were enjoying the balmy air of early June.

"As I was sayin',"
Teed Strout continued, after a nod to
the new arrival, "that
old Seth Jephson was high water mark in meanness in our town. Most of his bus'ness was lendin' money. Used to rattle 'round town behind a furgy old white bose

fuzzy old white hoss that was blind in one eye. Folks used to say that he kept the old hoss 'cause he couldn't see more'n ha't the fodder in his crib and used to leave a lot till the next time. Uncle Seth was deefern a haddock. But if anyone on the sidewalk so much as whispered "ten per cent" that old hoss would stop up so short ye'd think he had balked. Uncle Seth had him trained to do it."

'Old Jephson's alive now, hain't he?" asked

Ran Young.
"Yas, he lives over in that yaller house jest

"Yas, he lives over in that yaller house jest across the pick of Hardscrabble hill."
"Heard suthin' about him only this mornin'" said Young, slicing a sliver from a hitching post. "You all know Phinney's fool, don't ye? That great big slab-sided boy of his that hain't been right sence he had the scarlet fever? Lives neighbor to old Jephson, Phinney does. Wal, as I was walkin' my hosses up the rise of the hill today Phinney's fool come along the ro'd to'ards me, bellerin' like a May ca'f that's been reduced to tew tits. 'Ah, bah, hah-h-h!' he was goin'. Like to shied my hosses into the ditch when I come up to him. Had a reg'lar foghorn toot.

foghorn toot.
"'Dum take ye,' says I, 'what ye makin' sech a touse about?'

'Ub-bub-bah,' he bawled, 'he go tooken my

a touse about?"

"'Ub-bub-bah,' he bawled, 'he go tooken my bait."

"Been fishin'?' says I.

"'Yah,' he says, lettin' out another howl.

"Fish take your bait?' I says.

"'Nah,' he howls.

"'What did?"

"He done it.' The fool jerked his thumb over his shoulder up the ro'd. Couldn't see nobody but old Jephson down on his knees seedin' in late turnips.

"I had the 'Nited States mails in under the seat but blame me I was interested in what the fool was howlin' about and I hung up and asked him some questions. Come to find out he had heard his father and some men talkin' about old Seth a few days before. One of the men had said, 'Ye can take a fish line and an old bunged cent for bait and catch Seth Jephson any day.'

"Wal, now do ye know that blamed fool of Phinney's got holt of an old-fashioned copper cent by robbin' his marm's pocket book or in some sech way and he hitched it onto a line and commenced promenadin' up and down the ro'd in front of Jephson's stun' wall. Jephson was over in the garden plantin'. Fool had the cent draggin' bout twenty feet behind. He reckoned he was enj'ying some good fishin.' He kept singin' 'Fishy, come bite, fishy come bite.'

"Wal, for a long time but the thing kept on so long that he fin'ly h'isted his specs up onto his for'rard and come to the wall to see what was doin'.

"After the fool had been past him once or twice he sort o' caught on and he boosted himself over the wall and started after the critter. Fool let

"After the fool had been past him once or twice he past him once or twice he sort o' caught on and he boosted himself over the wall and started after the critter. Fool let out a yell and run with the cent flippin' along through the dust. Uncle Seth has allus been quite a feller to chase the nimble copper, ye know. He put on speed and darned if he didn't slam up nigh enough to set his foot on the cent. The string broke and Uncle Seth picked up the cent, put it into his pants' pocket and went back to work contented as a pertater bug swingin' in the breeze on an Early Rose top. And when I left, the fool was goin' round bellerin' about how he'd got a bite but Jephson got away with the bait. That's—"

"Oh, that's fairly mean," remarked Ezra Pitts, "but from what I hear from the Walker deestrict I figger that Hen Pearson has sort or

got even old Jephson goin' some if Seth wants first money in the mean men class. "You know Hen's wife has been peaked for some years. She's been takin' Poodic's Purple Pillets for Pink People and

some years. She's been takin' Poodic's Purple Pillets for Pink People and Baduns Microbe Mystifier and all them things and still she has been growin' lower and lower. Old Sile Blake says that if she saw a thermometer she would register the limit below zero in our place.

"A while ago Doc. Pinkham wanted to doctor her."

"I thought he was a veterrinary?" said Jote Bailey.

"Wall, he's allus been vet'rinary but he's got anxious to tackle something in the human critter line. Thinks he's a natural doctor and says he's got tired of doctrin' cows. Says it's too mussy bus'ness. Cow never'll take medicine without whooshin' all over anybody.

"Doc thought if he could fetch a good, tough old chronic gess out of the Vallent at Set 232.

"Doc thought if he could fetch a good, tough old chronic case out of the Valley of the Shadder, he would git up a reputation in the place. There didn't seem to be anything choicer in the chronic line than Hen Pearson's wife. If he

There didn't seem to be anything choicer in the chronic line than Hen Pearson's wife. If he could cure her he figgered it would be better 'n a diplomy in the State Medical Association. "So he went 'round to see Hen. Said he'd like to take his wife's case.

"'Why,' says Hen, 'you hain't nothin' but a cow doctor'.

"'Wal, I've allus done a good job curin' cows, hain't I?' says Doc.

"'Yas, I'll admit I've allus heerd ye well spoken of in that line,' Hen said.

"'Wal, flesh and blood is the same the world over,' says the Doc. 'These city doctors are full of brummagem about no one bein' able to cure diseases except it's some one that's gone through a medical college. That's jest so they can corner the thing. But you know and I know that some of the best cures have been made by grammies who understand yarbs. Now there hain't nobody in this county that understands yarbs any better than I do.'

"Still ye hain't recognized as a doctor,' said Hen. 'They tell me that ye don't even know the difference between an allopath and a homeopath.'

even know the difference between an allopath and a homeopath.'
"'Don't, eh?' yelled the Doc. 'Bet ye a plug of to-bacco I can tell ye now right off the reel.' Hen didn't know himself but he said 'Go ahead!'
"'An allopath,' says Doc, 'is one that gets his medicines all over God's creation, in all paths. See?'

"'Yas,' says Hen.
"'Ye can't depend on them critters so much.
Ha't on 'em don't know what they're dosin'

Ha'f on 'em don't know out.'

"'I've heern tell so', says Hen.

"'Now a homepath is a feller that gits his yarbs 'round home. I'm a homepath and I pick every yarb I use.'

"'Wal, I swum, ye do know more about doct'rin' than I thought ye did,' Hen said. 'But I've never heern tell of your practicin' any on human critters.'

""'That's jest it,' says the Doc. 'I want to work into a leetle such practice. Now your wife is the most critical case around here.'
"'That's so,' says Hen, commencin' to feel a leetle

pride.

"'I'll take her case for a shillin' a visit, no cure, no pay—furnish my own medicines.'

"'Can't think of it; says

Hen.

"'Why, if I don't cure her there ain't no charge.
You are all right in the thing,' said Doc.

"That ain't it,' says Hen.

"That ain't it,' says Hen.
"Ye'll have to hunt the country over to find such another chronic case as Mis' Pearson. It's the best chance for a doctor to practice ye ever heerd tell of. Now what ye need is practice. If ye want to start in and practice on her I'll let ye do it for a shillin' a visit!"
"Wall, he and Doc. they argued and dickered for two days and what do you suppose the upshot was? They split the difference and Doc. is putting in his time against her'n."
"What does she say about it?" asked Cap'n Jote.

Jote.
"Nothin'. She's too sick."

"Nothin'. She's too sick."
"Hain't gettin' better any, ther?"
"No, but Doc. says she's staying sick jest to spite him. Says she's took a miff ag'in him and won't take his medicines. He leaves a tin milk pail full every day and his prescription says 'Take one dipper full ev'ry ha'f hour.'
"But Doc. hain't discouraged. He says he keeps running ag'in seeh segaint the

"But Doc. hain't discouraged. He says ne keeps running ag'in sech cases in the cow doct'rin' business. Says that he has very often had to cure cows of being breachy before he could do a thing with their garget. He's full of resources.'

could do a thing with their garget. He's full of resources."

"You bet he is," said Wack Spofford. "I remember the time when Uncle Howes fell off the roof and broke his leg. Wa'n't any other doctor to be had and they called in Doc. Pinkham. Fust thing he said after lookin' at Iral's tongue was, 'Reckin' he must have lost his cud. Seems like a bad attack of colic.' Ye see Uncle Iral was takin' on suthin' powerful. Some one broke in and told him that Iral's leg was broke and he didn't seem a mite bothered. Said the colic was wust just then. But he tackled the leg and fin'ly after a good deal of twistin' he got it set. 'Twas broke above the knee. Iral kept complainin' that it did't feel right. 'Taint no wonder it didn't.

"When they took the splints off they found that the joint doubled out behind like a cow's hind leg. Doc forgot himself and thought he was doin' a vet'rinary job."



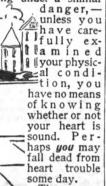
Heart Disease!

Many people drop dead from Heart Troubles, who do not even know they are in ill health— What the symptoms are.

# HOW TO EXAMINE YOUR HEART.

it. Hundreds of people whose heart is in a dangerous condition have no idea they are in ill health. Others treat themselves for diseases of the stomach, lungs, kidneys or nerves, when the trouble is wholly with

Perhaps you are living under a similar

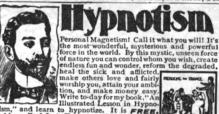


The symp-toms of heart " You may drop dead." disease are not

hard to discover when you look for them, but as they are small in themselves, they are apt to be passed by unnoticed.

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Every day you read of people suddenly falling dead from heart trouble without a moment's warning, perhaps as a result merely of a little exertion in catching a train or hurrying home from work.

Did it ever occur to you to wonder why so many people die daily of heart disease in the prime of their life, and in these days of medical skill?

Would you not think that knowing their condition, they would seek a cure in time, or at least avoid the over-exertion that might cause their death.

That is the trouble — they do not know it. Hundreds of people whose heart is in a dangerous condition have no idea they Around the Heart.

Even though you find but one, there is cause for immediate action — the chances are many that your heart is seriously affected.

In such a case, your wisest plan will be to write to Dr. Kinsman, for a box of his celebrated Heart Tablets. They will cost you nothing. The Doctor has such faith you nothing. The Doctor has such faith in his treatment that he will gladly send you a bex for trial, by mail, postpaid, absolutely free of charge, in order to gain your friendship, and to prove their great merits to you beyond all question.

If you have any doubt at all about your heart being sound after reading over the above symptoms, write at once and get this trial box which he offers free. They may save you from serious sickness—permay save you from serious sickness—per-

may save you from serious sickness—per-haps may prevent your sudden death from

Do not be like the hundreds of others who have neglected to heed the warning and died in their prime as a consequence, but write to the Doctor without delay, enclosing two-cent stamp for return postage on the tablets. Address your letter plainly to Dr. F. G. Kinsman, Box 962, Augusta, Maine.

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we run all the risk. Address Standard Co., Dept. A, Omaha Bldg., Chicago.

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Can you arrange these five different groups of letters into the names of five (5) former presidents of the United States? If so you can share in the distribution of the above. We will give away 21200.00 in cash and Pour Genuine Grand Upright Pianos among those who enter this contest, and will work or man and the CAREFULLY. REMEMBER we do not want one cent of your more when you new merces. The transfer five names the letters can only be used in their own groups and as many times as they appear in each individual group, and no letter can be used which does not appear in its own group. After you have arranged they groups and formed the five correct names, write them out plainly and fend to used you will receive our reply by return mail. TRY AND WIN. If you make the five correct names and send them to us at once, who know but you may get a big cash prize and possibly a piano. We hope you will, and anyhow it costs you nothing to try WOOD PUBLISHING CO., Dept. 24 394 Atlantic Ave., Box 3124, Boston, Mass.

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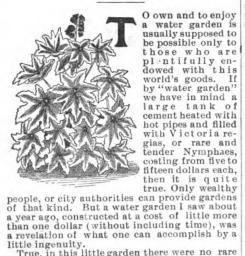
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## Water Lilies.

## How to Start a Water Garden

BY THOMAS L. PECK.



O own and to enjoy

than one dollar (without including time), was a revelation of what one can accomplish by a little ingenuity.

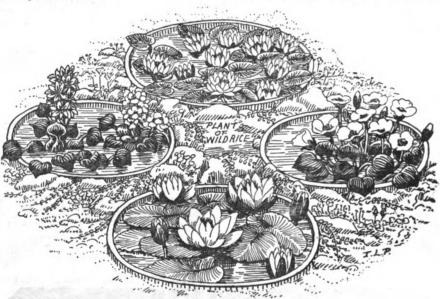
True, in this little garden there were no rare exotics from the Amazon or the Nile; no night-blooming Nymphaes or Lotus Flower. The maker of it had confined himself to the native water plants of our own country, mostly, which cost but a few cents each, but the effect was entrancing nevertheless. There is, indeed, in this form of gardening something so novel and interesting, that everybody after the first experiment becomes so enthusiastic that before long they construct a permanent tank for their favorites. Just such a success can be achieved by any one else, and just now is the right time of the year to begin.

The beauty spot I am about to describe—a sketch of which appears herewith—was formed of barrels sawed in half (molasses barrels are the best), one-half barrel placed opposite to the other. The two other halves were much shallower, being not more than nine inches deep, the first two being about ten inches deep, the first two being about ten inches deep. The deep tubs contained water lilies, and the shallow ones water hyacinths and water poppies. They were let in the ground up to their rims.

fall and grown in glass vessels with about three inches of soil in the bottom kept in place by a few stones and shells they make beautiful house plants. The same thing can be done with the water poppy which adorned the remaining shallow tub. This pretty aquatic plant has bright lemon-yellow petals and black stamens. Its flowers stand several inches out of the water and it also is very free blooming. They are sold at fifteen cents each. About four inches of soil and three inches of water is enough for both the water hyacinths and the water poppies. In the space in the center was growing a young plant of wild rice which cost ten cents each. They are graceful drooping weed-like plants and later in the year it bears graceful panicles of bloom. Other plants could of course be substituted for the wild rice, such as cannas, or even a few seeds of Ricinus Communis planted now would produce plants large enough this season. The space around the tub was filled in with rocks, and a few trailing plants were growing over them here and there, such as sweet alyssum trailing nasturtium, verbenas, flax plant etc., etc. And that was all there was to it. It was a piece of gardening accomplished at little outlay and with modest materials, but it was a refreshing combination, suggesting coolness and repose, and all manner of pleasant things. The contrast between the pure white of the pond lilies seen against their fresh green leaves, and the lilac, purple and lavender of the water hyacinths in turn enlivened by the yellow of the water poppies, and harmoniously blended by the drooping narrow leaves of the wild rice plant, formed a group not easily forgotten. As to the culture it is quite easy. The best soil is rich loam and decayed stable manure in equal quantities or rich pond mud if handy. Put in eight inches of soil and cover with one inch of sand to keep down the manure, lay in the roots and straighten out the small fibres, cover two inches deep with soil, and fill the tub with water gently poured in. In winter the tubs should be

cellar to prevent freezing, fill them with water when putting them away.

There is one particular kind of water lily mention of which should not be omitted, and that is the Egyptian Sacred Lotus, see illustration. A few years after they were introduced in America (about twenty years ago), the tubers cost three dollars each, but they can now be bought for seventy-five cents each. Anyone caring to go to the additional expense, would do well to grow one. It would add very much to the bed just described if planted in a tub in the center of the bed. It is a plant of wonderful and rare beauty and does not float on the water like a nymphae, but



WATER GARDEN AT LITTLE COST.

The situation was sunny for only part of the day, but if the sun had shone on the bed all day it would have been better still. In one of the deeper barrels grew a fine specimen of our native American pond lily, Nymphae Odorata. It was thriving just as well in a tub as it does in its favorite habitat a slow-moving stream; indeed, it seems that water lilies bloom more continuously and the flowers are larger, when grown in a confined space, although it costs but a trifle, it is just as beautiful and interesting as the most rare extics, and in addition has a very sweet fragrance to recommend it. The pure white flowers of this specimen were six inches across and its leaves of vivid green were thirteen inches long. They are sold at twenty cents each. In the opposite tub was another fragrant water lily Nymphae Odorata minor, having much smaller flowers but a great number of them. It is one of the best for growing in tubs, being a very continuous and profuse bloomer and completely filling the tub.

One of the shallower tubs contained two plants of the water Hyacinth one being rosy lilac in color, and the other lavender-blue. These are

One of the shallower tubs contained two plants of the water Hyacinth one being rosy illac in color, and the other lavender-blue. These are very remarkable and curious plants. From each crown appears neat rosettes of green leaves, the stems of which are inflated with air and bulge out in a peculiar manner enabling the plant to float. The flowers are produced on large upright spikes which stand up out of the water and look very much like a Dutch hyacinth. The blue variety is a rich

riety is a rich shade of lavender-blue in general effect, but the center of each flower is almost



stands up boldly sometimes to the height of five or six feet. It grows well in a tub and although a native of tropical regions it is quite hardy in this country. It will also flower the same season it is planted which must not be until warm weather. When the flowers first open they look like immense white tulips, afterwards the lower part of the petals become white, shading off into pink. It is a very vigorous and healthy grower and the flowers are deliciously fragrant. Lack of space forbids more than mere mention of many other extremely interesting water plants which can be obtained at a little cost. Besides the white nymphaes there are many colored ones—pink, purple, blue, red, yellow and rose, costing from one to fifteen dollars each. Other water plants are Umbrella Grass or Cyperas costing fifteen cents and Egyptian Paper plant twenty-five cents, also the Water Snowflake costing twenty cents, Parrot's Feather, having long, trailing green stems and Floating Lettuce, each costing fifteen cents.

To destroy snails and prevent scum it is well to place in the tub a few fish, silver fish, or gold fish, or the common sunfish and a few frogs.

If aphides or green fly attack the plants spraying with tobacco water or sprinkling with

If aphides or green fly attack the plants spraying with tobacco water or sprinkling with tobacco dust, will soon destroy them.

Orange Lily cures Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacement, Painful Periods. For a free trial address, Mrs. H. L. Fretter, Detroit, Mich.

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effect, but the center of each flower is almost indigo in color. Its petals are fringed. The other variety is of a rich rosy lilac color, and reminds one of an orchid. The petals of this variety are not fringed. They are both very quick growing plants, branching out rapidly and soon fill the tub, producing numerous spikes of bloom. The lilac variety costs fifteen cents each, and the blue twenty-five cents each. If these plants are taken up in the

## AN OLD BRAIDED RUG.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

'Twas a social event with a radiant hue,
When Anderson married Kate;
'Twas a marriage of love and of fortunes, too,
And the presents were gems and plate.
They were tiered and displayed in their splendid array,
A heap for a miser to hug,
Yet there in the glitter and gloss there lay
A queer old braided rug.
An old braided rug of a motley design, patiently
plaited and sewed,
Labor of many a weary day, yet a homely thing and rude;

Labor of many a weary day, yet a homely thing and rude;
The bride had declared it should never be shown—this gift from the humble aunt
Who was hidden away on a hillside farm, at war with the wolf of Wart.
But the bridegroom patted the faded rug. "My dearie," he gently said,
"In valuing hearts forget the gold and appraise good thoughts instead.
Here with the rest should lie her gift, and equal among our friends
Should rank the one who has wrought this rug with blistered finger ends. It stands for her hours of patient toil, an humble but loving task,
Where gold and gems and silver plate mere careless friendships mask.
For often I've found when the trial comes, his comfort the rich man hugs
And the friends who are steady and staunch are those who are plain as their braided rugs."

The curious smiled on the quaint old thing

The curious smiled on the quaint old thing
As the guests went thronging past,
And many a quip and jocular fling
At the braided rug were cast.
And wonder spread as to how and why
Such freak from the past was dug;
And it was feast all day for tongue and eye,
—That queer old braided rug.
An old braided rug with a hit-or-miss stripe,
homely enough, 'tis true,
But with memories twined in its even braids—and
heart-aches, if one but knew!
There were snips and strips from her wedding
gown, peeping from plaited strands,
And watered by tears for the old, old days, as she
wrought with her aching hands.
There were gay little remnants of cast-off frocks
the babies outgrew so fast;
Treasured a life-time in bureau drawers, and used
in the rug at last; The curious smiled on the quaint old thing

Treasured a life-time in bureau drawers, and used in the rug at last;
Some from the garb that was laid away for newer and trousered pride.
Some from a dress that was packed with tears when their little maid had died;
Wedding waist-coat of him she loved, brave and strong and true,
Strips from his humble garb of toil and faded Union blue;
Twisted and braided and stitched and sewed—wrought with the heart-strings' tug!
But only the mock of the careless guests—a queer old braided rug.

## A Postal Currency.

A unique feature in congressional legislation this session is presented in the promotion of a postal currency. The provisions of the "post check" currency bill, now pending in Congress, provides for printing the one, two and five dollar bills in the future with blank spaces on the face. These bills of course pass from hand to hand before the blanks are filled. When it is desired to send one in the mails the blanks are filled in with the name of the payee, his city and state, a 2-cent postage stamp is placed in another blank space and canceled with the initials of the sender in ink, the name of the sender is signed on the back, and presto! his money has suddenly ceased to exist as currency and has been transformed into a check on the United States government, having all the safety of any bank check, and ready for inclosure in his letter. When the payee receives this check he treats it just as he would any other check—indorses it, goes to the nearest bank or post office and deposits it or has it cashed.

The paid check finally reaches the Treasury Department, when it is replaced by a new one with the spaces unfilled. This keeps the circulation at par. No change whatever is made in the financial policy of the government, the only change being in the character of the printing on the bills of five dollars and under.

The bill also provides for the issue of \$75,000,000 of fractional currency, with blank spaces similar to the larger denominations, in place of an equal amount of money of larger denominations, presumably twenty and fifty-dollar bills. The provision under the new system for a continual re-issue insures clean money both in the fractional currency and in the larger bills. The government fee on the five, ten, fifteen, twenty-five and fifty-cent pieces is to be one cent each.

The system has the approval of many officials, and is indorsed by a long list of manufacturers and business houses throughout the country. Publishers and farmers are especially interested, in that the new currency promises an easy way

LADIES Something New, making sofa pillows a ed. No canvassing. Steady work. Send stamped ad dressed envelope. Household Mfg. Co., Eric Ex., Chicary

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# NEWSHIRT WAISTSET FREE



The Great Popularity of the stamped linen fancy embroidered collars and cuffs has induced us to get up this "Comfort Shirt Wais Set." These sets are to be worn everywher the coming season and the lades are now ordering their patterns so as to ready and get them worked in season or spring and summer wear. It would seem that one of these sets would make pretty nearly a whole waist as there are 324 square inches of linen in the assortment, we send you free. If you have as old waist you want to dress up and make a new one of it this is just what you want. This latest Shirt Wais Set including Sailor Collar, cansily embroidered in colored or white mercerized linen floss. Can be attached to any waist. They are washable and when laundered presents stylish and chie appearance. No lades' wardrobe complete without one.

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## MAYBE! I GUESS! PERHAPS!

BY CHARLES NOEL DOUGLAS.

They've got a social at our church, there's going to be a time,

An' Oh, such things they promise if you'll only bring a dime.

You can give the wheel of fortune some gentle little taps,

An' every boy's to get a prize,—maybe! I guess!

perhaps!

Pa's awful short of cash just now, he went to Mr. And had a business talk with him concerning sundry loans.
Pa told him if he'd wait until he'd gathered in the

craps.

He'd pay him every cent he owed,—maybe! I guess!

perhaps!

We've got two beaus acallin' on our Liza an' on Jane,
The way they spoon an' carry on would drive you most insane.
My old maid aunt says 'fore she'd set aroun' in fellers' laps,
She'drather die a thousand times,—maybe! I guess!
perhaps!

Pa got a circular in his mail, an advertisement, which Told how a man without no work might soon get all fired rich.

Pa's sent the man a dollar to explain this snap of snaps, says his fortune's good as made,—maybe! I guess! perhaps!

I've got a dandy bird-gun and a bull-dog too, I've An' Jones' cat we fixed last night and for her made things hot.
Between that dog, an' gun an' me, we tore that cat in scraps,
But she ain't dead, she's eight lives left,—maybe!
I guess! perhaps!

The chap that's courtin' sister Jane is thin an' dreadful old,
But Ma, she says he's awful rich, got houses, land an' gold.
It ain't his wealth Jane's after, an' this the climax She's going to marry him for love,—maybe! I guess!

Ma says, some day, a long way off, if boys don't steal an' cry,
That lots of lovely things there is, await them by-an'-bye.
They'll all be angels if they're good, no more cross words nor slaps
And I'm to have a harp an' wings,—maybe! I guess!

perhaps!



For the enlightenment and benefit of its subscribers, COMFORT has inaugurated this department under the title of
COMFORT'S AT-HOME LAWYEK, wherein will be carefully and correctly solved any legal problem which may be
submitted. All opinions given herein, will be prepared at
our expense by eminent counsel.

Law suits can frequently be avoided by timely and judicious advice concerning matters in dispute; this, however,
can only be done by one who is fully conversant with his or
her legal rights and privileges. This department will also
prove of great value and interest from an educational standpoint, as in it will be answered any proper legal question that
may be propounded.
Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of
the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce.

vorce.

Any yearly subscriber to COMFORT fully paid in advance is welcome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in

other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-fice (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for an annual subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magazine for one year.

Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any legal question, privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing the same to "THE EDITOR, COMFORT'S ATHOME LAWYER," Augusta, Maine, and in reply a carefully prepared opinion will be sent in an early mail.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not necessarily for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

W. H. B.—If your mother left a will, the farm in question would have to be disposed of under the terms of such will. If, however, no will was left, then under the facts as stated in your letter the farm would belong to you and your brother jointly. Your interest in it would be as great as his. If up to this time you have received nothing from him, you should consult a lawyer and bring an action against him to compel him to account to you for your share of the past profits of the farm as well as for your share of its present value. Inasmuch as your mother died twenty years ago, you should not delay any longer in case you intend to take legal action.

longer in case you intend to take legal action.

B. A.—The Public School System, not only in Maine, but all over the country as well, is uniform in its operation and is intended for the benefit of all alike. No one person is entitled to additional advantages over another. In case you have any cause for complaint, call on your County Superintendent of Schools. You ask whether scholars can study Algebra and bookkeeping in the common schools. These branches are usually taught in the high schools. The course of instruction in such schools is prescribed by the local school boards and in case the topics mentioned are covered by the curriculum of the high school in your County, they are undoubtedly taught there.

high school in your County, they are undoubtedly taught there.

Mrs. A. W. N.—As a rule, peaceable and continuous occupation of real estate and payment of taxes thereon, for upwards of twenty years, gives one in possession thereof a right to claim title thereto; at the same time this rule is subject to many exceptions and conditions. Under the facts as you state them, inasmuch as no valid title was ever given by your grandmother, the chances are that your property could either be recovered for you or at least a good settlement could be made in your behalf. If you will send the editor of this column further information telling him where the property is located and such further facts as you may care to give him, he will investigate your chances of recovery for you.

Ruby, Va.—You can certainly collect from your late employer all money that is due you under your contract of hiring, as well as full legal interest for all payments which have been withheld from you. In case you paid out money in hiring additional help and your employer knew of this fact and acquiesced therein, or at least took no exception thereto, and found no fault therewith, he must recimburse you for all payments which you made in that regard.

W. D. J.—If the property in question was deceded to

W. D. J.—If the property in question was deeded to your father and the deed filed for record and your father has never disposed of the property by deed or lost it through legal proceedings, the chances are that he can recover the property from the parties in possession of it. It may be that the parties in possession now hold a tax title and if so, prompt action should be taken on your or your father's part to recover the property.

E. A. H.—You ask whether a man who is drawing a pension can be placed under the care of a guardian if he spends all his money for drink and other foolishness. The fact that a man is getting a pension is not a license to squander his property. If the Court in the County where the party lives finds such party to be a spend-thrift and incompetent to manage his affairs, the court will certainly appoint a guardian or conservator over him.

Awards of Prizes in Comfort State

Puzzle.

The following subscribers' solutions to the State Puzzle printed in April "COMFORT" were successful and we are pleased to publish

will certainly appoint a guardian or conservator.

A husband has no right to order his wife and child to leave the house. He is their proper support and instead of compelling them to leave the house, he should both as a matter of right and as a matter of law furnish them a comfortable home and make such provision for their care as is consistent with their station in life. If a man is so brutal as to drive his wife and infant child from his home there is no court in civilization that will give him the custody of the child.

M. E. D.—You ask whether a school teacher whose

give him the custody of the child.

M. E. D. -You ask whether a school teacher whose school has been closed on account of sickness by the local authorities can recover pay for the time during which the school is closed. This depends entirely upon his contract with the school trustees. As a rule teachers are hired by the school year which would cover a period of from eight to ten months, the contract being that they are to be paid monthly. Under such a state of facts the teacher in question can recover his pay. On the other hand if he is hired from month to month only, and was told that his services were dispensed with when the school was closed, he would have no cause of action against the school board for salary during the time the school was closed. If you will write the editor of this column he will be pleased to advise you further.

E. E. G.—It has several times been decided that it is

B. E. G.—It has several times been decided that it is illegal to impose a tax on agents selling goods for a house elsewhere. The Constitution of the United States states that no law should be passed that shall in any way interfere with commerce between the different states, consequently, the Supreme Courts of many of the States have decided that a local tax imposed for selling goods is illegal.

o. G. S.—The Postal rules and regulations provide that if a letter have a special delivery stamp on it, but one effort need be made to deliver it. In case the address is not found at the first attempt, the mail becomes simply ordinary matter and is treated as such. There is no regulation for leaving a notice of a special delivery letter.

ordinary matter and is treated as such. There is no regulation for leaving a notice of a special delivery letter.

C. M. J.—You would not be entitled to a pension under the facts stated in your letter unless you can prove that you were entirely dependent upon your relative for your maintenance and support. Even then, it is questionable whether at this time, after the happening of the circumstances mentioned in your letter, the pension would be allowed. This is a very doubtful proposition with the chances much against you.

M. A. D.—Under the facts as stated in your letter, the father can bring an action against the son to recover the with legal interest thereon. Inasmuch as the contract between the father and son was never carried out by reason of the son's neglect and legal refusal to record the lease mentioned, the original agreement was never consummated and in consequence thereof the advance of the pension money stands simply as a loan made by the father to the son which he can at once recover back in an action brought for that purpose.

F. J. D.—Inasmuch as the fence has remained in its present place for upwards of 30 years with the consent of all parties interested, according to your letter, it could only be moved now by the express consent of the owners of the property on either side of it. 30 years is a good long time to wait to rectify a mistake; the law always favors diligence and looks with disfavor on neglect of this sort. A Court of justice would hardly compel the fence line to be changed without very strong reasons for so doing as well as a reasonable explanation for the delay.

A. B.—From the facts as stated in your letter, there

lay.

A. B.—From the facts as stated in your letter, there seems never to have been any promise or agreement of marriage between the young folks in question. You do not state in your letter what is the basis of the action brought against the young man, whether the suit is one for breach of promise for marriage or for some other cause, nor do you state by what process the young man's property is tied up. Under the laws of the State of Illinois, where you say this case is pending, the real estate can only be tied up by attachment proceedings. Under the meagre facts which you have stated, it would be simply guess work to answer you more in detail. If you will send the editor of this column such further facts as you care to give him he will cheerfully advise you more in detail.

M. L.—The founder of the Tammany Society was Wil-

in detail.

M. L.—The founder of the Tammany Society was William Mooney and the original date of its organization 1789. (2) The largest day's business transacted in the New York Stock Exchange was on May 9th, 1901, during the "bull campaign" of that year. (3) The University of South Dakota is located at Vermillon, S. Dakota. (4) The word "excise" signifies a tax placed on the consumer of certain specified articles such as tobacco, liquors, etc. and is also levied on licenses to pursue certain trades in certain communities. The system of imposing such taxes is very ancient, having been used in England several centuries ago.

saveral centuries ago.

H. J. F.—Under the facts as you state them, the farm which was sold at auction, was mortgaged before the date of the mortgager's marriage. Inasmuch as the interest of the mortgage attached to the property prior to any dower right on the part of the mortgagor's wife she—that is the wife—cannot assert a dower right as against any right of the mortgagor. In other words, the wife never had any interest in the property covered by the 1st. mortgage superior to the interest of the mortgage; her only interest in that property was in that equity. When the property was foreclosed, the equity was wiped out so that the wife is left without any rights whatever in that property. In signing the other three mortgages she divests herself of her dower interest in the property in case of a foreclosure thereof. Under proper foreclosure proceedings the purchaser would take the property free from any interest which the wife might have therein. By signing the mortgages, she deeds away to the mortgagee her dower interest.

Bilious attacks are quickly cured by Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. Sold by all druggists 25 cts. Write us for a free sample. Chamberlain Medicine Co., Des Moines, Iowa.

The following subscribers' solutions to the State Puzzle printed in April "COMFORT" were successful and we are pleased to publish the list:

Miss Ella Smith, 1114 Elk Street, Franklin, Pa., \$5.00; John R. Pitts, Anglum, Missouri, \$3.00; Mrs. M. H. Kenaston, 3310 Chestnut Ave., Kansas City, Mo., \$2.00; Mrs. Mary E. Henry, Box 54, Willard, Seneca Co., N. Y., \$2.00: J. Alf Rea, 426 West San Fernando St., San Jose, Calif., \$2.00; Robert Childers, Whittier, N. Carolina, \$2.00; Mrs. J. D. Smith, Morrison Lake, Ontario, Canada, \$2.00; Mrs. M. D. Johnson, El Dorado, Kansas; Miss Ethelyn Lawson, Crisfield, Maryland, \$1.00; Mrs. J. C. Moore, Totoket, Conn., \$1.00: Lillie Laycock, Russellville, Ohio, \$1.00; Miss Amy Wilson, Eagleville, California, \$1.00; Miss Emily Leitch, 513 S. Lee St., Bloomington, Ill., \$1.00.

# Special Prize Offer.

We had hoped to publish in this issue a complete list of the successful agents to whom we are awarding prizes under the Special Prize Department Offer published in the February "COMFORT," but a great amount of labor is required to arrange the classification of all the cities and towns represented, there are so many of like population. No doubt we will be able of like population. No doubt we will be able to make a complete announcement in the July number of "COMFORT."

Six Steel Pens Free. Millions of people use steel pens and we have bought an immense lot which we want to in-troduce into new families. Will send six of different kinds, fine, coarse and medium, to all who send two cents for mailing expenses. Lane & Co., Augusta, Maine.

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# FREE RUPTURE CURE

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# FREE CHESTOMACH AND BOWEL TROUBLES, C. H. ROWAN, NORTH MILWAURER, WIS.

\$3 A 1000 for distributing samples (either sex.) Smith Adv. Asso., Wash., D. C. \$300 Genuine Conf. money for \$1. \$100 for 50c.

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I have a truss that's cured hundreds of ruptures. It's safe, sure, and easy as an old stocking. No elastic or steel band around the body or between the legs. Holds any rupture. To introduce it every sufferer who answers this ad can have one free. It won't cost a cent. ALEX. SPEIRS, 707 Main St., Westbrook, Maine.

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\$1000 REWARD will be paid to any one that can prove that we do not give the sewing machine as we say for selling only 12 boxes of tablets. Address,

FRANK J. HART, Sec'y, Dept. 740, New Haven, Conn.



[So many inquiries are made by "Comfort" readers concerning real estate (country and city) farms and locations for homes that this column has become a necessity and here we shall be glad to answer all questions.)

Paid-up subscribers who desire to make a change in their present situation or are in any way uncomfortable in their abode and want information about any particular location in any State in the Union can address "The Comfort Home Finder," Augusta, Maine, and we will try and serve them.

Mrs. E. B. K., Pleasant Hill, Mo. For information concerning California lands, write to Secretary, California State Board of Trade, Union Ferry Building, San Francisco, asking for circulars for whatever particular section of the state you wish to know about.

Building, San Francisco, asking for circulars for whatever particular section of the state you wish to know about.

L. B. Donham, Lesueur, Minn.—Write to H. W. Weiss, Manager of Immigration, Emporia, Va., for information and circulars of Virginia lands and you will get a full supply from a reliable source.

C. H. Reese, Henley, Ark.—You will find pretty much the same conditions existing in California that you will smore an agricultural than most other states because of the class of farming there, much of it requiring capital to begin with, not to mention the expense of getting there. The opportunities for a small farmer are better in Texas, we should say. If you will write to S. F. B. Morse, Houston, Texas, he will probably put you on the track of finding a farm that will suit your means.

Mrs. Mary McIntyre, Logansport, Ind.—Nashville, N. C. is a thriving town with good schools, and all the advantages of towns of its size, population 14,600, with the addition of a large floating population of wealthy invalids, housed in fine hotels. In the summer the town loses its northern people who make it a summer resort. We would say it ought to be a good location for a florist who knew how to conduct an establishment of the fashionable kind. Land in the immediate vicinity is not cheap, nor is it good for farming in a general way, though it would be all right for a fruit or flower farm if you had the means sufficient to put the ground in order. Land in other parts of North Carolina is cheap and good, and is adapted to fruit raising. It is a healthful state, back from the lowlands of the coast, and in many respects is one of the most promising states in the Union. Write to Secretary State Board of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C., for copy of "Hand Book of North Carolina," and it will be a revelation to you.

A. N. B., Pulaski, Tenn.—There are abandoned farms in New Hampshire which may be had for as low as three dollars an acre, but should say that they would scarcely pay a large profit on the investment, as a farm. However, th

sa summer homes by persons who live in the cities. Places of from fifty to two hundred acres with good buildings on them may be had at from \$800 to \$1.50.

You can get a book of them of Agriculture. Concord, N. H.

Mrs. A. S. Powell, Portland, Oregon.—If you could get a good farm in western Texas there is no reason why it would not be a good place for a home, provided you do not care for remoteness from a city as large as Portland. You can get information from any of the towns and asking him to hand it to a reliable real estate dealer. Information in detail can only be had by applying direct to those who are on the spot.

M. L. K., Harrisburg, Pa.—You can reach the York river country in Virginia by steamer from Baltimore, daily at and in that section is plenty and cheap and good. Write to W. R. Broadus, West Point, Va. for circular.

Shipper, New York City.—Cannel coal lands in Kentucky are not as cheap as they were. Small railroads are penetrating the mountains and opening up country and the owners are realizing that their property is vally of particulars.

Alexandra K., Havry, for particulars.

Alexandra K., Havry, for particulars.

Alexandra K., Havry, for particulars, benchmarked to start a grocery store there you would have to conduct it on first class principles, as many, if not most of your customers, would compare you with what they know and see of New York stores. Still if you know the real is preferable, however, to seek a town at a greater distance from the city ideas and the city competition.

Hustler, Springfield, Ills.—If you are the "hustler" you represent yourself to be, and we suppose you are, we would advise your going south instead of west. All the hustlers seem to choose the west, and the country is full of them. They are much scarcer in the south, and then an unitained to the main chance and energy of body and mind to keep up with it. Make a trip down that way and look the ground over.

E and the country is full of them. They are much scarcer in the south, and the number of the main chance

your home.
Thomas K., Batavia, Ohio.—You will find Sedalia, Mo., a very good town of 15,000 people, but do not open a store there. There are too many stores there now, and with your two sons who have had

experience on a farm, you can do better putting them to raising broom-corn and running a broom factory yourself on their product. A machine for making brooms costs little and with one man to help you, who knows how to make brooms, you can build up a good local trade and become a producer which is much better than being a store-keeper. With the \$44,500 you can raise, you will find yourself very comfortable, as property is not expensive

# Rheumatism cured. Free!

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	ored titles — and is in every way first-class, ar	id wor	thy of your home. 3.000.000 con	pies sold !
	LIST OF THE PIECES O	FFE	RED AT THIS TIME.	
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243 99	Love's Dreamland Waltzes Maiden 's Prayer, The  Roeder Badarzewske	146 48 154	Listen to the Mocking Bird . Listen to the Mocking Bird . Little Boy Blue. Solo or Duet Little Voices at the Door Lost Chord, The Love Divine, all love excelling Mamie Margaretta	Hawthorne Estabrooke Danks Sullivan Stainer Daly
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243 99	Love's Dreamland Waltzes Maiden 's Prayer, The  Roeder Badarzewske	146 48 154 96 326 308 234 112 230	Listen to the Mocking Bird Little Boy Blue. Solo or Duet Little Voices at the Door Lost Chord, The Love Divine, all love excelling Mamie Margaretta Massa's Sleeping in de Churchyan Memories of ny Mother. Chorus Memories of hy Mother.	Hauthorne Estabrooke Danks Sullivan Daly Balfe d Keefer Allen
243 99	Love's Dreamland Waltzes Maiden 's Prayer, The  Roeder Badarzewske	146 48 154 96 326 308 234 112 230	Listen to the Mocking Bird Little Boy Blue. Solo or Duet Little Voices at the Door Lost Chord, The Love Divine, all love excelling Mamie Margaretta Massa's Sleeping in de Churchyan Memories of ny Mother. Chorus Memories of hy Mother.	Hauthorne Estabrooke Danks Sullivan Daly Balfe d Keefer Allen
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DON'T FORGET that you only have to secure one new yearly subscriber to COMFORT at 25c.; that for this you get ten pieces, not one: that it is sent to any address, postpaid; that all the little details are up to the standard, including colored tiles; that the vocal pieces have full piano accompaniments; that the instrumental pieces give the bass as well as melody; that this sheet music is equal to any published. Also don't torget to make your selections at once, to send us the order, and to tell your friends about this Sheet Music Offer. Satisfaction guaranteed, Order by Numbers, not Names.

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Address COMFORT MUSIC LIST, Augusta, Maine. Positively no music sold. It is given free for securing subscriptions, and cannot be obtained unless new club subscribers' are furnished as specified above.



For the benefit of our readers who live in the smaller towns and remote communities, Comfort proposes the organization of Comfort Clubs whose object shall be to add to the comfort of living by bringing people together for their mutual instruction, improvement and amusement.

Knowing that social pleasures are lacking in the smaller places more because people do not know how to organize and what to do that is interesting and pleasing, than because they do not care for such things, Comfort will undertake to suggest ways and means by which the young people, at least, may pass many pleasant evenings which would otherwise hang heavily.

First: The clubs, to be known as Comfort Clubs, are to have their membership from among subscribers to Comfort, and ten persons or less may constitute a Club. In communities where there are more than ten eligibles, Clubs A, B, C etc., may be organized, the objects of these divisions being to make it possible for sets of persons to make up their own crowds, for such meetings as they may wish to have. But each month there must be a regular meeting of the whole Club at which all members may attend and take part in the exercises.

Second: The monthly meeting should be held in some large room (church or town hall) and members are

regular meeting of the whole Club at which all members may attend and take part in the exercises.

Second: The monthly meeting should be held in some large room (church or town hall) and members are to read, recite, sing, play on some instrument, or act a short piece, the whole to conclude with some interesting game which Comport will present. Comport will also provide the program each month for the monthly meeting, so that members need only carry out the program which will be furnished them. Division meetings may be held at private houses of members of the divisions, and once a week if so desired.

Third: The officers of Comfort Clubs shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, four nall, and to be elected by the Club, once a year. There are to be no fees of any kind, but if at any time the Club wishes to raise money for any charity, small admittance may be charged at the usual monthly meeting. This can only be done by vote of the Club. Every membershall be entitled to invite two persons, not members, to attend any meeting, general or division.

Fourth: Each member shall wear a badge or button indicating membership, Comport agreeing to furnish appropriate badges without cost to members.

These general rules, which will be modified and improved each proper and control of the control of the propers of the propersion of the propersion

These general rules, which will be modified and improved as the needs of Clubs develop, are now given as a basis upon which to organize the ploneer Clubs, and COMPORT will be pleased to hear from our lady readers all over the land concerning their willingness to undertake the good work. COMPORT will also be glad to render all the assistance in its power to aid the cause of making life cheerier and brighter and increasing good will and good fellowship among mankind. A special prize will be awarded to the first club organizing and reporting to this office, which organization may take place immediately upon receipt of this notice. Various annual prize, to be determined later, will be awarded to Clubs for excellence in attendance, numbers, &c.

Address all communications to Comfort Club Editor, Comport, Augusta, Maine.

Method of Organization of Clubs.

Let the person undertaking the organization notify sit or more subscribers to ComPoRT at the same postoffice to meet at a designated house, or room, and when they have come together, simply state the object of the organization of the club, as announced in CompoRT and gettle sense of the meeting as to organization. If a majority flavor it, proceed at once to organization by naming two or more persons, male or fermale as candidates for President, first. Then pass slips of blank paper around for each person to write thereon the name of his or her choice for the office, and the one receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared president. Proceed in the same way for Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Then the person who has called the meeting retires and the new officers will take charge, the President in the chair, conducting the meeting, and the Secretary acting as clerk making the minutes. The President will announce the program and call off the order of business naming those who are set down as taking individual parts.

The main idea is to have this part of the club's work as the secret of the main idea is to have this part of the club's work as Method of Organization of Clubs.

parts.

The main idea is to have this part of the club's work as simple as it can possibly be, so that members will find the duties a pleasure rather than a burden, the object of the club being the greatest comfort to the greatest number.

Comfort Club Program.

Comfort Club Program.

I—Meeting called to order by President.

2—Reading minutes of previous meeting; by Secretary.

3—Admission of members.

4—Other business, if any,

5—Intermission of five minutes—conversation.

5—Intermission of five minutes—conversation.
6—Recitation.
7—Vocal selection—solo or concerted number.
8—Instrumental selection—any instrument.
9—Intermission of five minutes—conversation.
10—Comfort Club Game, for all present. (See below.)
11—"Auld Lang Syne," sung by the entire meeting.
12—Announcements for following month by the Vice
President.
13—"The Star Spangled Banner," sung by all present, standing.

anding. 14-Good Night.

Comfort Club Game for June Meeting.

Comfort Club Game for June Meeting.

An interesting and instructive game, in which all can take part and which is particularly happy in affording a subject for general conversation, is what is called "The Portrait Game." In this the president of the club, with such assistance as he or she may select, cuts from newspapers and magazines some thirty or forty, more or less, portraits of well-known people which he numbers and fastens to the walls of the room with pins, so as not to injure the paper or plaster. He has a list of the names of the persons pictured, numbered to correspond with the numbers on the pictures. Slips of paper, numbered in blank, are distributed to all present and they go about the room, which is now a portrait gallery, guessing who are represented on the walls, and setting down the names of their guesses opposite the number on their slips. The person guessing all wins the prize, and the one next gets the second prize. The one guessing the lowest number gets the "booby prize". Any small article, book, piece of china, etc., makes a nice prize, besides the glory of yinning. Lots are to be drawn for the prize when more than one is correct. This game may be also played with pictures of the well-known advertisements seen in the periodicals and newspapers.

Two or three charades may be presented if this

well-known advertisements seen in the periodical and newspapers.

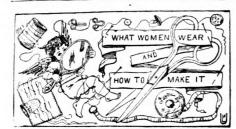
Two or three charades may be presented if this game is finished before the usual closing hour-Here are several words from which to choose: Sham-rock, Top-knot, Work-shop, Pot-ash, Pitch-fork, Friend-ship, Clerk-ship, Rain-bow.

to buy or rent, and you should rent the first year or two.

Alexander, Cairo, Ills.—Real estate is not at all high in Mobile, Ala. and a fine home overlooking the bay within a few miles of the city may be purchased at a price that would seem quite small to you. The winter climate is particularly pleasant, and bay-shore places are delightful in summer. For details write to Dr. D. J. Spottswood.

Notice: Many of those applying for information to this column ask us to advertise their property for them by calling the attention of home seekers to their possessions. We can not do this except at the usual advertising rates. We can only refer seekers to persons in authority who will furnish information in detail for the benefit of their respective states and neighborhoods.

EVERYBODY WEARS COLLAR BUTTONS Send us only 5c. and we send you Six Gold Plated lever collar buttons, either for Gentlemen or Ladies. This can only be done to introduce our great catalogue of Novelties. 5 cents for 6. Write to-day to COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Summer Fashions.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



NDOUBTEDLY black taffeta is the material which carries the day which carries the day this season. In its wide widths it is suited to all sorts of gar-ments; applied to silk tucks and stitched, its plaits enjoy a new vogue. The more simvogue. The more simple pale tots are further trimmed with rather wide straps of black cloth laid across the tucks. These shapes are stitched all over and bordered with nar-row velvet ribbon or silk cord. An arrange-

silk cord. An arrangement extended to the lower portion of the basque, the collar and cuffs. A somewhat more elegant trimming is provided by bands of silk covered with black lace insertion bordered with velvet comete.

For the very smartest black silk paletots, habit coats and boleros, open work embroidery will be generally worn. The transparent portions are backed with net. In many cases the entire garment will be cut out in scrolls worked round. In this case, fancy nets are chosen for grounding, such as spotted Greek net, lined with surah.

Velvet ribbon, from one to a service of the collar arms.

with surah.

Velvet ribbon, from one to one and one-half inches wide, is much used for trimming. The painted belts, into which the bloused boleros are set, are sometimes in plain velvet, but the habit basque at the back is trimmed like the bodice. Colored taffeta is also used, preference being given to what is termed "cloth colors."

When the embroidery is not extended to the coat itself, the black scrolls are sometimes mounted on a foundation of white etamine.

There is also a wide choice of white and ecru embroideries and new guipures with netted grounds, all of which find a place in the decoration of cuffs and collars, both of garments and costumes. Elaboration of trimming and simplicity of outline are the distinguishing features of the new season, and it is difficult to realize that any

features of the new realize that any but the most expert work people could achieve success under such conditions. The turnings and twistings, the gatherings and noistings, the folds. plaitings, the folds and the puffings of silk chiffon and even of cloth it-self, are innumerself, are innumerable. And besides such decorations we have at our disposal printed velvet galon, the most popular being white and black with a black spot; braids of many sorts; rosettes of ribbon and tassels; while other pretty effects are achieved by conventional designs of glace on net foundation, these be-

and tassels; while
other pretty effects are achieved by conventional designs of glace on net foundation, these being used to border glace costumes, or to trim dresses which are made of net. Most effective are ribbon roses worked on lace foundations, and lace of all kinds, notably real lace, continues to occupy the pedestal of popularity.

The most favored of the new fabrics, unquestionably, are voile and flowered mousseline and these are seen in most delightful colorings. We are to employ flowered mousseline to make entire costumes, to make skirts to glace coats, and also to trim our hats, while of course it suggests itself as being pre-eminently suitable for the manufacture of fichus.

Last year the authorities tried to bring into favor painted lace, but they met with little success. This year it is once again being pushed forward and as a novelty may be commended, though it certainly lacks any other charms.

Gold and silver are to have a royal display on our evening dresses and in combination with lace and chiffon either has attractions.

Besides painting mousseline we paint crepe de chine in the most beautiful and delicate of colors and floral pattern, while very excellent effects are achieved with gold thread woven

colors and floral pattern, while very excellent effects are achieved with gold thread woven through foundations of Louis XVI. brocades.

Pompadour and Dresden silks are used for bands on skirts, and these are bordered with stitched strappings of the cloth or material;

or if this is too heavy for straps, glace or taffeta of the same color is used instead.

Dainty little gauze ribbons, with tinsel introduced, form delightful bands between narrow glace strappings, and these have been used on trouseen gowns for

trousseau gowns for the spring and summer. and necessarily of delicate color-

A noticeable feature in many of the new garments is the belt or sash worn about the waist. It is applied to coats is applied to coats
of a great variety of
shapes and different
lengths. Many of
them are quite loose
and the belt draws
them in at the waist
in careless folds, but in careless folds, but

not to droop slightly. Applied to coats of pongee and ornamented with an applique velvet design, a belt of the same material lastened at the waist by a buckle and then

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is the only way. If as good pianos and organs could be bought anywhere else for as little money, we could not afford to make an offer like this, but we'll go further. In these miniatures enable anyone to select an instruction proof of this statement which may to some appear extravagant, we give to every purchaser a guarantee that is practically a bond secured on the whole of our plant is practically a bond secured on the whole of our plant and property, worth over ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

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pliques, has a novel and fetching appearance. For summer, a sort of tunic reaching to the knees will be worn, arranged in loose plaits and confined at the waist by a belt, or sash. Belts and sashes are also worn over tight fitting coats and over a new coat not quite so tight as these being unusually long skirted. These coats have the shaped basques joined at the waist the seam concealed by a belt, and the bedice portion more or less bloused. the bodice portion more or less bloused.



The fichu lends itself so charmingly to the summer toilette, filmy, clinging and demure, with such an air of coquetry, that the fashion will never be entirely out of date, and has appeared in many instances on recent creations from Paris.

Dresses are plaited from neck to hem in a few Dresses are plaited from neck to hem in a few models recently imported, but they must be of soft materials, such as crepe de chine, and the wearer must be tall and slight and the dress cut by an experienced hand. Very dainty blouses are made entirely in white spotted pique, with incrustations of china blue cambric, with fine feather-stitching and embroidery.

# Bits of Information.

London has sixty-two theaters Yale college was founded in 1700. Envelopes were first used in 1839. Whales are said to live 1000 years. The average human life is 31 years. An ostrich egg weighs three pounds. Whole tribes of birds are musicians, The slave trade was abolished in 1808. There are 2754 languages and dialects. Tin is one of the oldest known metals. A steel rail lasts about eighteen years. Sun stroke is claimed to be infectious. Slavery was abolished in Brazil in 1888 Ten ordinary sized-eggs weigh a pound. Two cent postage was established in 1883. Sagasta was once under sentence of death. In China, old women serve as bridesmaids. The first daily newspaper appeared in 1702. Balboa discovered the Pacific Ocean in 1513. Johann Strauss has written over 400 waltzes. The war with Spain cost nearly \$1,000,000,000. Parasols were used by the ancient Egyptians. The piano was invented by Schroeder in 1717. Charcoal powder is an excellent disinfection. June 21 is the longest day of the year with us. The day was first divided into hours, B. C. 293. Sound travels at the rate of 13 miles a minute. Lake Superior is the largest lake in the world. Our present silver dollar was first coined in 1792. The Panama Canal was commenced Jan. 23, 1881. Captain Kidd, the pirate, was convicted in Boston. The sense of smell is particularly acute in sharks. Iron was made near Irontown, Mo., as early as

More Pagans are being Mohammedanized in Africa than are being Christianized.

N order to prevent their oversleeping, it is said that the letter-carriers of Morocco resort to a unique, though rather dangerous scheme. They tie a string to one foot, regulating the length of the string to the time they have to sleep. Then they set fire to one end of the string, and when the blaze reaches their foot they are painfully reminded that it is time to rise. minded that it is time to rise.

HE funeral services of the late Robert G. Ingersoll consisted in the reading of selections from his own works and of an oration which he had himself delivered over the dead body of a brother, some time ago. To Chris-tians this seems barbaric, but it would doubtless have better suited Ingersoll himself, were he able to see and know of these exercises, banging in long ends covered with velvet ap- than any other form of service.

## Adrift in New York.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

"Yes, sir; but he throwed a piece of paper out'n de window, sayin' he was kep' a prisoner here. A young man picked it up, and came to de house to ax about it."

Curt is looked alarmed.

"What did you say?" he inquired apprehensively.

"Told him de boy was crazy as a loon—dat he tried to kill his mother las' week, and had a carvin'-knife hid in his room."

"Good, Julius! I didn't give you credit for such a fertile imagination."

"What's dat, massa?" asked Julius, looking nuzzled.

"What's dat, massa?" asked Julius, looking puzzled.

"I didn't know you were such a skillful liar."
"Yah! yah!" laughed Julius, quite comprehending this compliment. "I reckon I can twis' de trufe pretty well, Massa Curtis!"
"You have done well, Julius," said Curtis, approvingly. "Here's a dollar!"
The negro was quite effusive in his gratitude. "What did the young man say?"
"He looked scared, I tol' him he could go up and see de boy if he wasn't afeared of the carvin'-knife, but he said he guessed he wouldn't—he didn't like crazy folks."
Curtis laughed heartily.
"So it all ended as it should. Did the boy make any more trouble?"
"Yes; he pounded and kicked till I had to go up and see what was de matter. I didn't give him no satisfaction, and I guess he went to bed."
"He ought to be in a deep sleep by this time.

"He ought to be in a deep sleep by this time. I will go up and see. Go up with me, Julius, for I may have to ask you to help me bring him down."

Though Julius was naturally a coward, he felt quite brave when he had company, and he at once went upstairs with Curtis Waring.

Curtis drew the bolt, and entering the chamber, his glance fell upon Dodger fast asleep on

the bed.

"I am glad the boy did not undress," he said.

"It will save me a great deal of trouble. Now,
Julius, you can take his feet and I will lift his
head, and we will take him down-stairs."

"S'pos'n he wakes up, Massa Curtis?"

"He won't wake up. I took care the sleeping
potion should be strong enough to produce
profound slumber for eighteen hours."

"Seems as if he was dead," said Julius nervously.

ously.
"Tush, you fool! He's no more dead than you or I."

The hackman looked curious when the two men appeared with their sleeping burden, and Curtis felt that some explanation was required. "The boy has a very painful disease," he said, "and the doctor gave him a sleeping-draught. He is going abroad for his health, and, under the circumstances I think it best not to wake him up. Drive slowly and carefully to Pier No.—, as I don't want the boy aroused if it can be helped."

"All right, sir."

"Julius, you may lock the door and come with me. I shall need your help to get him on board the ship."

"All right, Massa Curtis."

"And mind you don't go to sleep in the carriage, you black rascal!" added Curtis, as he saw that the negro found it hard to keep his eyes open.

blanks below.

eyes open.
"All right, massa, I'll keep awake. How am

I to get home?



Man Wanted to sell Teas and Coffees. Commission or Salary. W. I. Co., Box 2996, New York." 3 FREE SAMPLES for a stamp. Write to Press Co., Meriden, Conn.

"I will instruct the hackman to take you "Yah, yah; I'll be ridin' like a gemleman!"

The journey was successfully accomplished, but it took an hour, for, according to directions, the hackmen did not force his pace, but drove slowly, till hereached the North River pier indicated.

At the pier was a large, staunch vessel—the Columbia—bound for San Francisco, round Cane Horn.

Cape Horn.
All was dark, but the second officer was pac-

Columbia—bound for San Francisco, round Cape Horn.

All was dark, but the second officer was pacing the deck.

Curtis Waring hailed him.

"What time do you get off?"

"Early tomorrow morning."

"So the captain told me. I have brought you a passenger."

"The captain told me about him."

"Is the stateroom ready?"

"Yes, sir. You are rather late."

"True; and the boy is asleep, as you will see. He is going to make the voyage for his health, and, as he has been suffering some pain, I thought I would not wake him up. Who will direct me to his stateroom?"

The mate summoned the steward and Dodger, still unconscious, was brought on board and quietly transferred to the bunk that had been prepared for him.

It was a critical moment to poor Dodger, but he was quite unconscious of it.

"What is the boy's name?" asked the mate.

"Arthur Grant. The captain has it on his list. Is he on board?"

"Yes; but he is asleep."

"I do not need to see him. I have transacted all necessary business with him—and paid the passage money. Julius, bring the valise."

Julius did so.

"This contains the boy's clothing. Take it to the stateroom, Julius."

"All right, Massa Curtis."

"What is your usual time between New York and San Francisco?" asked Curtis, addressing the mate.

"From four to six months. Four months is

"What is your usual time between New fork and San Francisco?" asked Curtis, addressing the mate.

"From four to six months. Four months is very short, six months is very long. We ought to get there in five months, or perhaps a little sooner, with average weather."

"Very well. I believe there is no more to be said. Good-night!"

"Good-night!"

"Good-night!"

"So he is well out of the way for five months!" soliloquized Curtis. "In five months much may happen. Before that time I hope to be in possession of my uncle's property. Then I can snap my fingers at fate."

This story is complete in two parts. Anyone securing and sending to us two new six months' subscriptions, with 20c. to pay for same, will receive this complete story in two volumes. The balance of this story is far more interesting and full of exciting events and situations than the first installments even indicate, and this easy manner of securing the complete story will not be again presented. Be sure to read and take advantage of the following offer:

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The summer time has come again, my dears, and let us gather all the sweet June roses we may, and if we have no use for them ourselves, let us give them to those who are not so fortunate as we, and who get only the thorns.

fortunate as we, and who get only the thorns.

Now to our more serious talk, and the first letter I open is from a fourteen year old cousin in Groesbeck, Texas, who wants to be an actress and learn the trapeze. Dear me, child, you can't learn the trapeze, and you mustn't t'y to be an actress. It is all dreadfully hard work and full of sorrow, sometimes shame. Put it out of your thoughts utterly. Keep at your school work for a long time yet.

Buth, Lamar, Mo.—Tell the young man that the real engagement ring is a solitaire diamond. (2) There are quite as many blondes as brunettes, I fancy.

Blue Bell, Pierpont, N. H.—Don't marry a man younger than you are, unless it is your only chance. Dahlia, Tidioute, Pa.—It is quite proper to propose a walk to the young man. (2) Yes, any one may wear a cross for a necklace charm.

Pet, Manistee, Mich.—The only way to treat the man you describe, or any of his kind, is to have nothing to do with him.

Daisy, Cooper Heights, Ga.—The buggy ride is allowable in the country, but it is no longer fashionable in the city. (2) An afternoon caller should not remain until evening, unless he is specially asked to do so, and then he should go home early. (3) Yes.

(3) Yes.

Twins, Deer Lodge, Mon.—If the young man is able to support you and his mother has no right to object to your marrying him, then marry him if he is a good man. (2) A man engaged to a girl should not write to other girls, and he won't if he is really in love. (3) Yes, but not the best way to do.

B. and B., Gretna, N. Y.—Unless you are engaged to the young man he has no right to ask you not to accept the attention of other men. (2) The young man can go in the same party you are with. You could not go alone with him.

could not go alone with him.

Californian, Los Angeles, Cal.—Seventeen is too young to receive gentlemen's attention. (2) Don't think about yourself if you do not want to feel bashful. (3) There is no ordinary occasion for a young man to take a girl's arm with both hands.

Lottie, Pana, Ills.—Don't accept the young man's attention if he will not come into your house, but waits outside for you. He is a bumpkin that ought to go with the chickens.

to go with the chickens.

Zig Zag, Connamore, Ont.—Love begins when the right one comes along. (2) There is no set time when young men and women begin their lovemaking. (3) A lovers' spat does not count. Make up the quarrel and begin over again. (4) Better not marry a man younger than yourself.

Pussy Willow, Boston, Mass.—Really, Pussy, dear, I cannot tell you how to earn ten dollars in two months. Study the advertisements in the Boston papers; they ought to tell you. (2) It is all right to talk to the dentist. It will keep your mind off your teeth, that must hurt.

Gray Eyes, Houston, Texas.—Your teacher is not

Gray Eyes, Houston, Texas.—Your teacher is not a fit person to hold the position he does, and you should quit going to him, and should also tell your mother about him, and he should be dismissed from the school.

Daisy, Tatum, Va.—You should have written the young man a letter if you wished to hear from him.

Pussy, Farnham, Quebec.—A letter of apology should be answered accepting the apology.

Mabel, Lisabeula, Wash.—I have no recipe for polishing shells, but if you will use sandpaper first, then emery cloth, pumice stone and rottenstone, with plenty of "elbow grease" you can improve them very much. It would be better if you would write to some of the novelty dealers in Seattle for information. Some of them advertise in Seattle papers.

Mamma's Baby, Pay Down, Mo.—Don't write to

in Seattle papers.

Mamma's Baby, Pay Down, Mo.—Don't write to any man you do not know, and to very few you do know. (2) The girl may ask the man to call, or he may ask her. (3) Better let the young man do the asking to go anywhere, unless there is a good reason for you to ask him. (4) It is always safe to suspect the man who asks the girl if she loves him. He should tell her he loved her, and ask her after he has committed himself.

Kitty, Enon, Va.—The place for girls of fourteen is not in society, but in school.

Two Girls, Sebastopol, Cal.—Do not ask the rich lady to help you unless you have some claim on her. If the education is worth having it is worth getting some other way than through charity.

Elise, Palatka, Fla.—You can ask a man for his photograph, but if he did not offer it, I would not ask him, unless near friends. (2) Yes, the man should write the first letter, or ask you to write, if you go away and he does not have your address. (3) It is wrong to bet, but if you bet and lose, pay.

Sweetheart, Valencia, Pa.—An unmarried woman is never an "old maid," she is a spinster. (2) Better take your parents' advice about the young man you think you love. (3) Photographs may be exchanged, if you know the man very well. (4) Buggy rides after church should not last longer than 10 o'clock.

There, my dears, all your questions are answered, except some that you will find in the column devoted to Etiquette. May life be pleasant to you and may we meet again and talk over our troubles and joys together. By by.

Cousin Marion.

# Etiquette and Beauty.

Elise, Palatka, Fla.—To improve your complex-on and remove blotches try oil of sweet almonds ion and remove blotches try oil of sweet almonds 200 grams, glycerine 10 grams, tincture of benzoin 5 grams, to be had at any drug store. Bathe your face in this three times a day. (2) In introductions always introduce the man to the woman unless the man is very venerable or very distinguished. In introducing women introduce the younger or less important to the elder or more important. Ordinarily when you are with a friend and another of the same sex joins you you introduce the newcomer to the other, but you may do as you please.

Girls in Blue, Laurel Dell, Cal.—If your hair is too oily it may be remedied by washing it in a weak solution of ammonia. Only a few drops to a basin of water, and do not use frequently, as it is injurious unless used very carefully. Borax is bet-

ter to use, probably, after the first washing in ammonia. Put a teaspoonful, powdered, in a basin of warm water. Use about once a week. (2) The only way "to get out of the way of talking about other people" is to say only good things of them. Try this for a short time and note the result.

Country Girl, Du Quoin, Ills.—Why should the lady take the gentleman's hat when they go to church? Is he not able to take care of it himself? Of course, he is, and therefore you are not impolite to let him look after it himself.

to let him look after it himself.

Bessie, Farnham, Quebec.—Exercise great care in using hair removers. This one is recommended as good, but we do not insure it: Alcohol 12 grams, iodine 75 centigrams, Collodion 35 grams, essence of Turpentine 3 centigrams, Castor Oil, 2 grams. Apply once aday and do not leave on long enough to burn the skin. A good hair tonic is made of half pound of beef marrow, soaked in several waters, melted and strained; one ounce tincture of cantharides and twelve drops of oil of bergamot. Apply once or twice a day, or less if the scalp becomes sore. (2) For an oily skin use warm applications of borate of soda to be had of your druggist. Judging of what you say of the condition of your skin your blood is out of order and you should get a tonic from your physician. Ask him about it.

nim about it.

Fernleaf, Nashville, Tenn.—Inscribe nothing on the card accompanying the bouquet to the graduate except your name. Or you might put "To Mr.—from Miss—," so that if the bouquet became mixed with others its destination would be known. (2) There is no advantage in receiving an invitation to a public affair beyond the special recognition from some friend who wants to see you there. Do not acknowledge the receipt of the invitation.

recognition from some friend who wants to see you there. Do not acknowledge the receipt of the invitation.

Blue Eyes, Mankato, Kans.—Say "yes" or "no" as you feel disposed. (2) It is proper to ask a young man to call even though you are meeting him the first time. (3) In receiving an invitation of any kind that you cannot answer at once, simply say you will be glad to accept if you can, but you must find out first whether you can go or not. It is not necessary to explain further than that.

Fern, Farmer City, Ills.—A wedding ring should be plain, and, I suppose, may be worn at funerals. (2) The lady speaks first. (3) Either the host or hostess may answer the call at the door. Preferably the host, unless there is a reason for the hostess going. (4) See answer to "Bessie." (5) Massage.

Eleanor, Kernersville, N. C.—It is not necessary to thank the gentleman who asks you to dance with him though you may incidentally do so in accepting. You would not thank him in the same way you would if he offered you a glass of water. If he thanks you after the dance, you may say anything you please to make him feel that you appreciate his courtesy. There is no rule for such things. (2) It is wrong for any church member to dance when that church member has subscribed to the rules of the church which say that there must be no dancing. Nearly everybody nowadays does it, but that does not make it right. (4) If you do not think it is right to stand on the porch with the young man who has brought you home, tell him that you must go in, and say goodnight. Then leave him. He will not stay there very long after you are gone. (4) In the country and smaller cities it is not unusual to go to the front door with the departing guest. It is even done in the larger cities among less formal people. (5) Fattening foods are sugar, bread, rare beef, potatoes, water, butter and raw oils.

K. H. Consor, I. T.—The red color in your face cannot be bleached by external application. You

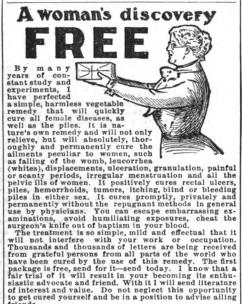
potatoes, water, butter and raw oils.

K. H. Consor, I. T.—The red color in your face cannot be bleached by external application. You must go deeper for a cure and get your blood in better condition. Consult a physician. See answer to "Elise" for a complexion formula.

Blue Eyes, Iuka, Miss.—Men leave the theater between acts, even though they are with ladies, but it shows lack of consideration, and is therefore impolite and wrong. (2) Girls should not receive attentions from men until they are eighteen, at least. (3) Nineteen year old girls do not usually give masquerade balls, though their mothers may do it for them. (4) Girls of sixteen should have chaperons. At this age their teachers should be their chaperons.

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Is in the height of fashion and no lady proposes to be without one. Our good luck in oh taining a large quantity of such a desirable premium accounts for the enormous activity among our agents and we are daily sending these premiums out in large numbers. COMFORT with its many new features is alone in its field and fills the mission it seeks, to the pleasure of each reader. Let us furnish you with our elaborate and complete canvass. COMEORT, Augusta, Maine. ing outfit.



A chamois skin Chatelaine Bag with Silver or Steel Bead work is the delight of every woman either young or old.

# FROM PARIS AND NEW YORK

come our latest styles. The newest correct thing for ladies' wear is the side Chatelaine Bag. Made of steel-like BEADS and CHAMOIS leather. Our illustration gives you some idea of the appearance of the bag, but of course the real effect is the appearance when worn suspended from the belt where contrast can be observed.

The bags are now worn by every well-dressed woman everywhere in every walk and station of life. Of the many articles of use and ornament now necessary for "My Lady" nothing has been imported of late years more stylish, useful and absolutely essential than these Bags.

nothing has been imported of late years more stylish, useful and absolutely essential these Bags.

Ladies' dresses without pockets make these bags very useful for handkerchiefs, to carry the small change purse, car fare, pencil, memorandum pad, smelling bottle and every other small article one is likely to want to carry with them all the time.

Ladies with wealth and the finest jewels and clothing wear these side Chatelaine Bags made of SOLID SILVER, but for general use and attractiveness our premium bag is just as desirable and will outwear a more expensive and less strongly made bag.

We were fortunate in securing such a handsome bag to offer our readers, the bead work on these bags is most thoroughly done, handwork, each row is securely attached to the bag itself and they seem to make the bag outwear the ordinary leather chatelaine. Our illustration photographed direct from the Bag gives you a good idea of its appearance. The inside of the Bag is four and a half inches deep by four inches wide, the handsome belt hook is heavily embossed, oxydized silver plate and with the two chains from which the bag hangs the whole is complete and sure to please any lady.

Club Offer. a club of only 5 yearly subscribers to Comfort at 25c-each, or for a club of 13 six months' subscribers at our special price of 10c. each. We cally have a limited number so you better get up a club quickly.



CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.



CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.

HE New Moon for the month occurs at about 9 minutes before 8 o'clock in the morning of the 5th day of July, Washington Time. At that moment the 21st degree of Leo will be rising and the 14th degree of Turus will be on the south meridian. The Sun is ruler of the 18th house with the Moon. Neptune, Mercury and Mars are also in the same house. Venus is ruler of the 18th house and is located therein: Jupiter is setting in the west near the descending horizon: Saturn is on the cusp of the 6th house: and Herschel stands on the 5th cusp.

The Sun, ruler of the scheme, is with the Moon, indicating more than usual harmony between the people and the governing authorities, and Venus also being in the 10th house indicates increase in glory and renown of the nation: sympathy of the Executive authority for the people and jealous advocacy of the people's interests and wellfare by authorities charged with the administration of the law: Jupiter on the 7th signifies increase of the marriage rate and probably union of notables high in station also some matrimonial engagement of persons of wealth.

Mars opposing Herschel, in the 11th and 5th houses, indicates more than ugual harm from explosions and cautions all engaged in holiday celebrations to have unusual care in handling fire and explosives, just before the national holiday as well as during the celebration. It is apprehended that the city of Boston will suffer from bad fires or bad accident at public sports in the first days of July.

The month will increase digestive troubles and accident at public sports in the first days of July.

The month will increase digestive troubles and accident at public sports in the first days of July serious drowning disaster or bad accident at the sease digestive troubles and accident at public sports in the first days of July serious drowning disaster or bad accident at the seasible days of the month, when some peculiarly serious drowning disaster or bad accident at the seasible days of the month, when some peculiarly se

# CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR JULY, 1902.

JULY 1—Tuesday. Use the early morning for asking promotion in thy business and otherwise busy thyself in matters pertaining to thine employer or superior in authority: the afternoon is adverse formoney dealings or making any purchases for use or trade: sign no money obligations especially in the nature of accommodations.

2—Wsduesday. An excellent day: particularly fortunate for dealings with those employed in matters pertaining to amusements, wearing apparel and house furnishing or decoration: transact business concerning lands and houses: ask favor of thy landlord and buy fancy goods and fine wares for trade. If this be the anniversary of thy birthday the tender sentiments are likely to be pleasantly enlisted and agreeable advances in courtship are likely to be made in these passing weeks; the landscape painter should improve these moments and musical efforts will be successful.

3—Thursday. The middle hours of the day are the

and musical efforts will be successful.

3—Thursday. The middle hours of the day are the best, in which purchases for trade may be conservatively made, and dealings with banks or persons of wealth should be conducted. New business now coming, offering great promises of gain, should be very carefully scrutized and is best postponed a little. Don't take the day for dealing with persons in political life or those in government positions; let the greatest care be exercised in handling ires, machinery, and all kinds of explosives, as there is extreme danger of violent accidents, fires, etc., as the latter hours of the day are passing and generally during the early days in July; keep out of dispute and put a bridle upon the passions.

4—Friday. Independence Day. An excellent day for

4—Friday. Independence Day. An excellent day for commercial dealings and bargaining, notwithstanding it is a legal holiday; intellectual enjoyments are in order and journeying and pleasure seeking will be successful and satisfactory.

5-Saturday. Urge business to the utmost, especially that pertaining to public matters; seek favor from thine employer and ask for promotion in business.

6-Sunday. An unfavorable day, conducive to do-estic inquietudes and not promising of very agreeable eligious discourse.

7-Monday. Deal in fancy and ornamental goods, engage in the elegant and nice avocations and attend to musical and artistic matters; look out for the pennies during the middle hours of the day, when thy purchases should be only for actual needs; have no money transactions or dealings with wealthy persons.

5—Tuesday. Urge business vigorously during this day: make contracts, travel, pursue literary and scientific undertakings: deal with booksellers, lawyers, printers and mathematicians: sign writings of consequence and urge all correspondence.

9—Wednesday. Musical and artistic pursuits and the elegant occupations generally suffer peculiar annoyances and embarrassments during the forenoon, when no contracts should be made for the purchase of wearing apparel or any artistic wares; use the afternoon for dealing with thine employer and with persons in offices of trust or honor.

trust or honor.

10—Thursday. Form no hasty conclusions in business during this day: litigation and contention are likely to interfere seriously with the happy outcome of affairs of magnitude or importance now begun, especially if they pertain to any of the mechanical, chemical or manufacturing interests: the literary pursuits are not favored and contracts for literary work are best not entered into; avoid all excitement in speech and do not expect satisfactory correspondence or favor from persons in the intellectual callings.

intellectual callings.

II—Friday. One of the best days of the month. It is especially recommended for the purchase of goods for trade and for transactions with persons of means and prominence: deal in fancy and ornamental goods: engage in the elegant and fine avocations; sue the fair and seek money accommodations, particularly during the afternoon and evening. If this be the anniversary of thy birthday thou hast before thee better business advantages and more agreeable social experiences.

12—Saturday. Use the day after 10 o'clock in the forencon for dealing in metal, machinery, chemicals, and cutlery, also for pursuit of the mechanical trades and inventions: deal with military men, machinists, surgeons, tanners and electricians: the late afternoon is unfortunate for bargaining for houses or lands or having any dealings in agricultural or mining products.

13—Sunday. An excellent day for the improvement of the mind and for proper appreciation of the merits of literary and scientific productions: pulpit effort will abound in eloquence and prove effective through religious

11-Monday. Make no contracts of consequence diring this day and be very careful in the use of the pen, postponing important correspondence until the morrow, where possible: those who speculate with their money on this day need not be surprised if disappointment cames and general conditions bid thee pause before enging in any matter of great importance. Dramatists, musicians, artists, jewelers, upholsterers, and furniture dealers are adversely affected just now for a season—ex-

perience losces or embarrassments and will need to exercise unusual caution in all their acts: it will be well for theatrical managers and artists if they defer for a short time entering into important professional engagements: let the fair sex shun any matrimonial engagement for a season, if their desire be for domestic peace or harmony in the marriage relation, particularly if they claim this as the anniversary of their birth or if born about the 11th of January, 17th of April, 30th of May, 17th of July, 18th of October, or 1st of December, of pastyears.

15—Tuesday, Press thy business vigorously during this day, particularly such as concerns houses and lands: deal in such commodities as coal, iron, petroleum, wood, lumber, lead, wool, and grain, and, with discretion, in mining stocks, provided thy nativity is favorable also in this time: make contracts for building and repairing: deal with persons engaged in fiduciary capacities and enter into shipping contracts.

enter into shipping contracts.

16—Wednesday. Shun the matters recommended for the previous day, during the forenoon, but as the afternoon advances give all energy to the prosecution of general business, attending to collections and seeking money accommodations: purchase goods for trade in a conservative way and deal with judges, lawyers, and persons connected with religious organizations.

17—Thursday. Make no engagement towards wedlock nor expect much success in the elegant pursuits or from dealings in dry goods or fancy or ornamental wares. REGULUS especially advises the fair not to let wealth tempt them to wed in these passing days, especially where there is much disparity of years or if born about the middle days of January, April, July, or October, of past years.

18—Friday. Have caution in all the business.

past years.

18—Friday. Have caution in all thy business engagements on this day: sign no papers of consequence, travel not, nor engage any help: annoyances of considerable magnitude are likely just now to come to editors, authors, booksellers, publishers, printers, mathematicians, civil engineers, surveyors, lawyers and judges, especially if born about the 15th of January, 28th of May, 18th of July, or 29th of November of past years. To such persons correspondence goes wrong, gives little ultimate satisfaction, and if very important, is best postponed until a more fitting season.

19—Saturday. A day of no special promise: caution is invited for the day generally that no quarrel or unpleasantness come through excitement of mind or heat of debate.

debate.

20—Sunday. An evil Sabbath day, in which crosses and unpleasantness are likely in clerical affairs. Males born during the middle days of January, April, July, or October, of past years, should see to it in these passing weeks that business ruptures and changes do not come from acts of theirs and should not at this time begin important undertakings, but be satisfied with their present to trather than seek now to improve it by new ventures. Ladies, so born, are likely to be now in the midst of unpleasant experiences; misfortune or sorrows through their husbands, fathers, brothers, or lovers, and will need to be unusually circumspect in all their acts.

21—Monday. Give preference to the latter part of

21-Monday. Give preference to the latter part of this day for thy major transactions of consequence, especially for all manner of purchases in trade and money dealings.

money dealings.

22—Tuesday. Use this day for engagements with officers of corporations or government officials or employees: sign no writings in the afternoon but expect pleasure in the evening from thy social, musical, or dramatical entertainment.

dramatical entertainment.

23—Wednesday. Begin the exertions of this morning with the break of day and urge all business to the utmost; press engagements with persons in the mechanical trade and deal in cattle, metals, cutiery, chemicals, glassware also electrical machinery and apparatus.

24—Thursday. The very early hours are the best, particularly for all commercial contracts, correspondence, and literary work; during the middle hours of the day shun all dealings with government officials, railway managers, and persons in charge of great corporations; the evening is more favorable and encourages dealings concerning landed property.

25—Friday. Avoid rashness of word or act and be

25-Friday. Avoid rashness of word or act and be not easily moved to wrath: the day is peculiarly dangerous for surgical operations, especially if performed upon the head, stomach, or kidneys and is earnestly advised against for such work; the elegant pursuits are adversely affected and caution is urged against the beginning of manufacture of wearing apparel or articles of adornment.

adornment.

26—Saturday. Begin this day with the Sun and waste no moments of the forenoon; deal with banks, judges, and persons of wealth and prominence; but as the day advances beware of signing thy name to important writings; do not travel nor make any contract or engagement with printers, or publishers.

27—Sunday. There is but little of promise for this day, especially of assistance to the clergy, those connected with religion or for matters of any ecclesiastical nature; the evening gives some improvement.

nature; the evening gives some improvement.

28—Monday. The first half of this day is recommended for the beginning of long journeys, milling operations, metal working, and the extensive manufacture or purchase or sale of machinery, and particular preference should be given to all business connected with the mechanical and ingenious pursuits, also dealings with druggists, chemists, tanners, and mechanics generally; do not make purchases in the afternoon and look out for money losses or extravagance in expenditure.

29—Tuesday. Choose the forenoon for important transactions as to houses and lands, and for dealings with farmers and those trading in farm products; sign leases, mortgages, deeds, and contracts for building and repairing: deal with printers, publishers, stone masons, plasterers, well diggers, shipwrights and real estate owners or trustees.

owners or trustees.

30- Wednesday. Avoid the transactions recommended for yesterday, during this forenoon when unusual care should be had in the use of the pen and avoidance of mistakes in correspondence and matters of account; fully improve the afternoon for any honorable transactions but particularly those relating to commercial affairs; solicit money accommodations, urge collections, and purchase goods for trade, such as does not pertain to the elegant pursuits.

31-Thursday. An indifferent day discovering a

31-Thursday. An indifferent day, discouraging application for favor from public officials or persons having authority over thee in business relations; look sharp after leakages from the purse in the afternoon and even-

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# CARPET



# Carried by Storm.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY E. BURKE COLLINS.

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HE stood among the roses, dainty, slim and pansy-eyed, with sun-kissed hair, but upon her small, perfect face the most insufferable pride and hauteur. The only child of a purse proud millionaire. the desire and sole ambition of her heart was for gold and jewels and rich attire.

Her robe of rich crimson silk trailed after her over the marble floor, and the exquisite lace which festooned it was caught with jewels,

blazing diamonds and rubies, a shining, costly heap.

From the further end of the veranda a man was watching her, a handsome young man, with a dark, picturesque face. In his hand were some sheets of manuscript, but his eyes were fixed upon her as though he could not bear to look at any other but that one perfect and peerless picture.

"Are you ready, Lenore?" called her father.

"Quite ready, father," she answered, and the young man hastened to assist her into the carriage, at her father's side.

"Edgar," said the millionaire, when the girl had been carefully seated at his side, and the silken wrap placed around her shoulders; "you will answer letters tonight, and then there are some telegrams to await. My agent at my office will report to you by telephone."

"Yes, sir."
"There are important matters to look after, and possibly a final decision in the case of which I was speaking yesterday."
"Yes, sir."

"I refer to the case of that claim against me

"Yes, str."
"I refer to the case of that claim against me; that claim of the East Side property. Edgar, you must watch that decision, and bring me word as soon as possible. I must confess I am troubled in regard to it; for upon the decision depends much."
"You do not really think those people have any claim, papa?" asked his daughter. Judge Pardee elevated his eyebrows.
"Not a shadow, dear—unless—well, it will consume too much time now to explain; so never mind. No doubt it would interest you to hear about it, but of course, I spare you any annoyance. We shall not be late, Edgar," he resumed, "and if any serious news should arrive, come to me immediately."
"Very well, sir."
And then they drove away and Edgar Delmaine was alone. He stood watching the carrive proved field they stooned and side of the stood watching the carriers over of sight they stooned and side of the stood watching the carriers over of sight they stooned and side of the stood watching the carriers over of sight they stooned and side of the stood watching the carriers over of sight they stooned and sight sight and sight sight sight sight and sight si

And then they drove away and Edgar Delmaine was alone. He stood watching the carriage out of sight, then stooped and picked up a magnificent American Beauty rose which Lenore had dropped, and pressed it to his lips. "How beautiful she was tonight!" he murmured. "Oh, well, I must not think of her!" He slipped the rose into his breast and went to work with a will, with such a result that by dark the work was done.

Judge Pardee and his daughter had gone to a lawn party at the home of one of their aristocratic friends, and Edgar knew that the old gentleman awaited some more than usual intelligence that night from some business deals which comprehend half his fortune.

Only the day before had been Lenore's eigh-

ligence that night from some business deals which comprehend half his fortune.
Only the day before had been Lenore's eighteenth birthday, and upon that day Alden Reeves, the multi-millionaire, had placed his betrothal ring upon her white finger. She was his promised wife, and even if there were not the gulf of poverty between her and Edgar Delmaine, her father's secretary, she belonged to another. And at best no one would have expected her to look at him. So it was madness to waste time upon Lenore Pardee; she was as unattainable and far away as a star.

Alden Reeves was a gold-worshipper of the most sensuous type. He lived, moved and had his being all for the sake of gold. No other object touched his existence, and even though he loved with all his strength, that love would be base and sordid. No innocent motive or noble impulse ever dominated Alden Reeves' nature; he desired only shining gold. Even the beautiful girl who had promised to be his wife was a secondary consideration.

The secretary was thinking now of the man who had wooed and won lovely Lenore, and his heart was very bitter. Surely, he had more than his just rights. Wealth immeasurable, high position; but that comes in the wake of gold; and more than all else, he had Lenore. But her love! Edgar felt his lip curl with fine scorn, for well he knew that in the problem of life, love mattered nothing—nothing in the es-

But her love! Edgar felt his hip curi with fine scorn, for well he knew that in the problem of life, love mattered nothing—nothing in the estimation of this rich parvenue.

A curious light flashed into Edgar Delmaine's

dark eyes. It was as though he had just remembered. Ah! he had a secret of his own. Only a week ago great news had come to the secretary; news which had made a change in his affairs, but he was wiser not to make that

secret public, yet.

He seated himself in a big armchair in the library, and awaited the first summons to the telephone. It came. Bad news for Judge Par-dee. The law-suit had been decided against him. There had been an appeal to a higher court; the decision was final. Edgar looked

Another ring at the telephone; Edgar hastened to investigate. A ship belonging to Judge Pardee, on its homeward way, had been wrecked at sea and all on board lost.

Mecked at sea and all on board lost.

Again, a ring at the telephone. A certain mine was flooded and several miners killed and great loss sustained. And while Edgar sat there, once more came the fatal register and death and loss were multiplied. Somehow, the episode reminded Edgar of the many calamities that befell Job.

And trouble and calamity came in such approximate and the force of the blow was as

numbers, and the force of the blow was so great, that the young man learned that which he had never expected to learn on earth,—how a man's life can be crushed out into utter dark—the lawn party was in progress, and there



Medical and scientific authorities agree that the spread of an infectious disease is more requently caused by the carrying of the disease germs from one person to another by insects than in any other way. The examinations by the medical board appointed by the U. S. Surgeon General to investigate infectious diseases, etc., points conclusively to the mosquito as being responsible for the spread of yellow fever, malaria and other dangerous diseases. Disease is spread by an insect biting a person who is in an undangerous diseases. Disease is spread by an insect biting a person who is in an inhealthy condition and then carrying the poison to another person who may be in the best of health, but is quickly in the throes of disease brought on by the inoculation of poisonous matter into the blood by the bite of the insect. Keep a bottle of "5-DROPS" with you, ready for use at all times. "5-DROPS" applied to the bite will destroy disease germs and kill the poison. A leading authority in the medical profession writes:—"The sting or bite of a mosquito can be compared to a Hypodermic Syringe, loaded with the most virulent poison." Another authority says:—"Statistics prove that a mosquito-ridden neighbor-backling for residence and that in localities infested with these poison.' Another authority says:—"Statistics prove that a inosquito-range and all bood is a most dangerous locality for residence and that in localities infested with these disease-carrying insects the death rate is exceedingly high."

An application of "5-DROPS" to the bite of insects will at once kill the poison that has been injected and quickly relieve the irritation and soreness.

The tests last year in the south, in Cuba and in other parts of the world prove beyond question that the mosquito is the most dangerous of all insects, carrying and spreading disease wherever it goes

J. R. Kean, Surgeon U. S. V., writes: "The role of the mosquito in the transmission of certain diseases is now well established. The evidence is now perfect and conclusive that malaria, as well as filarial infections are carried by this insect."

As an illustration of the terrible effects of mosquito bites we refer to the city of Winchester, Va. where these deadly insects caused so much trouble that in the Spring of 1901 the City Council of Winchester, Va. passed an ordinance compelling every occupier of a house in that city to use the most strenuous efforts to rid the locality of these insects.

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# "5-DROPS" Purifies the Blood.

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Get a bottle of "5-DROPS" at once and begin using it. It will make you feel like a "new person." It will give you strength, vigor and vitality. It cures nervousness, sleeplessness and restores the whole system to a natural, healthy condition.

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was wrought, and in that one night he became a poor man.
Somehow, Edgar gained courage to help him through the ordeal, for to him the ordeal was almost as bitter as though it were his own individual sorrow, blow for blow. And how would she bear it? She, who lived for the world alone? He shuddered, and then his eyes lit up with a smile. But, no! he would keep his secret yet.

secretary held his own with good grace.
"I have heard some rumors regarding Judge Pardee's affairs," went on the rich man; "is there any truth in the unfortunate stories?" Edgar's face grew white.
"Unfortunate, indeed; but I prefer to say as little as possible. I am going now to see the Judge."

"You corroborate the report?" persisted Reeves; "I am—was—to be his son-in-law, and I have a right to know." "There is nothing to hope for," returned dgar impatiently. "I have to go to Judge

Edgar impatiently. Pardee, Mr. Reeves." "Then, the girl may break her heart in single blessedness, for all of me!" exclaimed the mil-

"Miss Pardee will never marry a cad!" the words fell from Edgar's lips in the white heat

of anger. Reeves straightened up threatening-ly, but thought better of it. "There may be a chance for you," he sneered. But his insolence was cut short, for Edgar Del-maine's right arm shot out from the shoulder, and Mr. Alden Reeves measured his length on

the rich carpet. "I will meet you whenever and wherever you like," said Edgar, coolly.

But the other staggered to his feet without a word, and white and crestfallen hastened from

ness suddenly, by worldly calamities. In one night, at one fell blow, Judge Pardee's ruin was wrought, and in that one night he became a poor man.

Somehow, Edgar gained courage to help him through the ordeal, for to him the ordeal was almost as bitter as though it were his own individual sorrow, blow for blow. And how world the world when the ordeal was offered to be a summer of the world world she bear it? She, who lived for the world has terrible tidings to the old man. Judge Pardee uttered no cry nor moan; his cheek grew deathly white, but he said no word. He summoned his daughter, and with as much calmness as though nothing serious had happened, placed her in the carriage, got in at her side, and together with Edgar they drove homeward. Alas! they had no home in the world now!

alone? He shuddered, and then his eyes lit up with a smile. But, no! he would keep his secret yet.

There was a ring at the doorbell, and a servant ushered in Alden Reeves! The secretary arose, and his face was very pale and stern, as he acknowledged Reeves' cool, insolent greeting.

"You are Judge Pardee's private secretary?" he queried. Edgar bowed quite as haughtily as Mr. Reeves himself, and truth to tell, the secretary held his own with good grace.

"I have heard some rumors regarding Judge Pardee's private secretary Judge Pardee's private secretary held his own with good grace.

"Their eves wet and they had no home in the world now!

In the grand entrance hall at the old Pardee mansion, Edgar paused and glanced swiftly into Lenore's beautiful, proud face. She was pale broken the news to her. The young man's eyes met the full, startled gaze of the girl, and with a swift movement his hand closed softly, firm ly around her white fingers. She withdrew her hand as though his touch had profaned it, and with a haughty gesture, stepped aside.

"Lenore!"

Their eves wet and they had no home in the world now!

In the grand entrance hall at the old Pardee mansion, Edgar paused and glanced swiftly into Lenore's beautiful, proud face. She was pale with premonition, but her father had not yet broken the news to her. The young man's eyes met the full, startled gaze of the girl, and with a swift movement his hand closed softly, firm ly around her white fingers. She with a with part had now!

There was a ring at the doorbell, and a servent tell and the old Pardee mansion, Edgar paused and glanced swiftly into Lenore's beautiful, proud face. She was pale mansion, Edgar paused and glanced swiftly into Lenore's beautiful, proud face. She was pale mansion, Edgar paused and glanced swiftly into Lenore's beautiful, proud face.

"Lenore!"
Their eyes met, and a swift thrill of something which she did not understand, flashed through her veins. Her father had stepped into the library; somehow Edgar's dark eyes seemed to thrill the girl through and through. With a low cry he caught her in his arms. Yes; the haughty, exclusive millionaire's daughter was in the arms of the poor secretary. in the arms of the poor secretary!

in the arms of the poor secretary!

"My darling! my darling!" he cried. "I have loved you always."

The library door, opening just then, aroused him from his trance of rapture; rapture, for she had not repulsed him. And he saw before him, Judge Pardee, white to the lips, and shaking feebly, like one half estranged. But still, his proud old face was convulsed with a storm of ungovernable rage and wounded pride.

At that moment Alden Reeves strode in at the library door, pale and passion-tossed. He

the library door, pale and passion-tossed. He had gone, to verify without the possibility of a doubt, the secretary's story of loss and beggary, and now had returned to the old man, to cut the Gordian knot that bound him where there

was no longer gold.

In a few broken words he stammered out the story of his regret over the betrothal; and Judge Pardee knew that his peerless daughter was thrown aside like a faded flower or a worn-out glove; and there in the presence of the secretary (oh! bitter shame and humiliation), secretary (oh! bitter shame and humiliation), Judge Pardee listened to the shameful words that told him that, his daughter's gold gone, the man who had asked her to be his wife

was giving her up forever.

He listened and lived through it all, through all the shame of the bitter blow. And did no voice whisper to his heart of the mockery of a marriage built only upon a foundation of gold and false sentiment? Edgar Delmaine came forward, and his white face confronted the old man, as Alden Reeves slunk away.

But, trembling and panting, he motioned the secretary out of his path. His wrinkled face wore a look of unyielding and undying pride.

"How dare you?" he choked huskily. "You have dared to take unpardonable liberties,—you, the poverty-stricken secretary—such unparalleled boldness because—"

"Because I love your daughter, Judge Pardee!"

Rheumatism,

Sciatica, Malaria,

Neuralgia,

Lumbago,

Kidney Trouble,

Liver Complaint,

Catarrh, Asthma,

Coughs, Colds,

La Grippe,

Bronchitis,

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Dyspepsia,

Nervousness, **Creeping** Numbness,

Paralysis, and all

**Blood Diseases.** 

DROPS

dee!

Silence. It was the awful hush when a human soul suddenly goes forth into the great unknown "I-I-do not know your meaning," gasped

"I—I—do not know your meaning," gaspeu and faltered the old man. Then, turning, he pointed to the door. "Go!" he faltered. But Edgar stood gazing into Lenore's eyes, glorious eyes! "You do love me, Lenore!" he questioned softly. Her face was turned to his; she bowed her haughty head—proud—but she had found her master! had found her master!

"Go!" commanded the old man cruelly once more. "She is mad—you shall not insult herbecause—because she is poor."

"She shall not be poor, nor you," returned the young man quietly. "I may as well keep my secret no longer. Your wealth is gone, it is true. But my grandfather, who died a few weeks ago, has left me heir to millions. It is all my own. We love each other—Lenore and I—and I have found it out; I have carried her heart by storm. Indee Pardee—will you give heart by storm, Judge Pardee,—will you give her to be my wife? Surely you will not refuse?" And he did not.

HE seven wonders of the world are the colossal statue, or brazen image of the Sun at Rhodes; the Egyptian Pyramids; Diana's Temple at Ephesus; the Mausoleum of Mansolus, King of Caria; the walls and hanging gardens of Bahylon; the statue of Jupiter Olympus, by Phidias, at Elis in Peloponnesus; and the Pharos, or watch tower of Ptolemy Philadelphus, on the small island of Pharos, in the Bay of Alexandria.



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NEW YORK





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scriptions.

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Entered at the Post Office at Augusta, Maine, as second-class mail matter.

Published Monthly at Augusta, Maine. Roston Office, Hancock Building.

New York Office, Temple Court, Chicago Office, Marquette Building.

The anarchists who were leading mobs in Hoboken, N. J., recently were put to flight by two fire companies that turned their hose on them. If there is anything that the anarchist does not like it is nice, clean water applied ex-

The Chief of the U.S. Weather Bureau has invented a machine that will cool a room to a temperature of sixty degrees, but so far he has not been able to invent a Weather Bureau that the people can get any kind of weather out of that they may need at the time, and that is what this country wants.

Postmaster General Payne is urging Congress to pass a bill providing a postal currency whereby small amounts of money may be sent by mail, and it is hoped that such a law will be passed. All over this great country of ours people have occasion to send money through the postoffice in amounts too small for checks, even if the persons had bank accounts, which most of them do not, and thousands of dollars are lost every month, either by being missent or failing to be delivered, or the money is stolen. This is a hardship to many who can ill afford to lose money, and so far there has been no remedy for it. Money orders and postal notes are expensive or cannot be had at all offices, and the people have been compelled to send money in bills or coins, which can be detected in the envelopes and thus afford the dishonest ones an opportunity to use it themselves. A safe and convenient postal currency is needed by millions of people and the Postmaster General's recommendation and request for it should be responded to promptly.

The prospect just at present for a great national highway between New York and Chicago, a distance of nearly one thousand miles, is very good indeed, and President John B. Uhle of the N. Y. C. and C. Road Association says that he believes the road will be completed within three or four years. This great road should be the start for one to extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific with branches in all directions so that all parts of our country may be accessible. Nothing is more indicative of the thrift of a people than good roads, and nothing is of greater convenience at all seasons. The wretched dirt roads that prevail in so many states are a disgrace to the enterprise of the country and a constant source of annoyance and loss to those who use them. It should be that every community had that kind of spirit which would first of all make good roads to get they are not housed so well as many cattle are. around on, and then have the other things that | Their houses are owned by landlords who care good roads lead to. The church, the school nothing for the health or comfort of their tenhous; the neighbor's home, the store and postoffice should all be easily accessible in bad weather as well as good, and every man, woman In these nasty, ill-smelling, poorly ventilated, and child ought to do all they can to secure roads that can be traveled comfortably at all seasons. No section can develop and be worth anything if its roads are bad.

The country generally and the individual particularly have been seriously disturbed by strikes within the past two months, and strikes are bad for all concerned. Nobody questions the right of labor to demand its own, for the Bible says the laborer is worthy of his hire, but demanding it is one thing and getting it is another, and to get it is the main thing. It has been pretty conclusively shown that the ordinary strike is not the way to get it. What the laboring man should learn is some better method, or rather he should learn to pleasant homes would come that love for books use the means conferred upon him by the right and better things which Mr. Carnegie seems to of franchise. He can get what he wants if he think will come from libraries, no matter what keeps right on working, and organizes to vote kind of homes people have to live in, and there for laws that will protect him in all his rights. is where Mr. Carnegie is making the greatest The ballot box is his power, and the vote of a mistake of his life.

### OLD "TEN PER CENT."

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

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His mouth is pouched and solemn and he'll never

squeeze a smile.

He's yeller 'ern saffron bitters 'cause he's colored so by bile;

No organ in his system seems to run the way it should.

He never has a hearty shake or says a word of good. He'll soften, though, a crumb or so if money's to

And some poor, strugglin' devil comes to time with ten per cent. He is flingin' and is dingin' first at this and then at

with ten per cent.

He is flingin' and is dingin' first at this and then at that,
And to ev'ry reputation gives a cuff or kick or slat.
Pretty lately he was spewin' sland'rous gossip he had heard,
And our minister was passin'. Wal, the elder he was stirred
And he says, "Ah Brother Bowler, if you'd lived in Jesus' time
When they brought to him the woman whom they'd taken in her crime,
That story in the Scriptures would have took a diff'rent tone,
For I s'picion if you'd been there you'd 'a'up and thrown the stone.
Yes, I reckon that the woman would have sartin been a goner,
For you'd thrown the rock—and that hain't all!
You'd 'a' thrown one with a corner!"
Wal, ye'd think a dig of that sort would have shamed him ha'f to death,
But, Land o'Goshen, neighbor,—hain't no mortifyin' Seth.
He's holler where the soul should be—hain't got no human peth.

He's holler where the soul should be—hain't got no human peth.

He's deef to ev'ry cry of want and don't know what is meant.

But—bet he'll hear for ha'f a mile the whisper, "Ten per cent!"

It took a lot of practicin' to work his hearin' down To where he's never bothered by the troubles in our town.

He never hears the sorrows of some woman who is left

With orphans and a morgidge 'bout a thousand times her heft.

He hain't he one that worries when she says she cannot pay,

cannot pay.
The morgidge holds her anchored—the farm can't git away.
Upon the shattered door-steps of his racked old tenements He crowds the wolf of hunger when he goes to git But he never hears the wailin' of the troubled folks within He simply wants his money and tenant, trot or

He never hears entreaties of his neighbors in the

He never hears entreaties of his neighbors in the lurch
Unless there's good endorsers. He never hears the church,
He never hears the knockin' of a fist upon his door
Unless he knows the thuddin' means his ten per cent—or more.
His auditory organs sense no waves from wails of sorrow
But they hear the faintest zephyr from the man who wants to borrow.
Now, with ears in that condition, when they're extry dulled by death,
On the Resurrection morn' I'll have fears for Uncle Seth.

Seth, When Gab'rel toots his trump And risen spirits jump
And up before the Throne of Light forthwith proceed to hump.
I reckin Seth will slumber on, not knowin' what is meant,
'Cause Gab'rel won't take 'special pains to holler
"Ten per cent!"

man earning a dollar a day counts just as much as the vote of a Vanderbilt or a Rockfeller with his hundreds of millions. As there are hundreds of laboring men to every rich man in the country, the result of a Labor Voting Union can be seen at once. Nowhere in the world have the laboring men the advantages that they have in this country, and they can have still more if they stand together for the maintenance of the laws and vote for the men and the principles that they feel are the best for them. It is to vote and not to strike,

wherein their best interest lies.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie, the Library Lover, has given fifty thousand dollars more to the establishment of another library, and he has yet other millions to add to those he has already given to the cause of the mind, when the cause of the body is suffering for the very help he could give it. There is no urgent demand for Carnegie libraries in this country where books and magazines and newspapers are to be had everywhere at prices to suit all purses, and in thousands of places to be had free, but there is a demand for better houses for working people to live in. Every city in this country has its so-called "tenement quarter," where human beings are housed like so many cattle. Indeed, per cent. out of their investment as they can. dark, dismal homes men, women and children are huddled together, with nothing to attract, and the result is that as soon as the work of the day is done the men go to the saloons, the women go to bed to rest, and the boys and girls go out on the streets to meet any and all kinds of associates and to be taught any and all kinds of crime. The fact that a great many of them do not become criminals is sufficient evidence that they have the right principles in them, and it is for the development of this kernel of good that the money of Mr. Carnegie and other rich men should be expended in building homes for working people, where the rent will be low and where the highest sanitary regulations would be applied. With bright, clean,



WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



F the season happens to be a dry one, it will be necessary to water the flowers if we expect them to do well. This should be done at night,—or anyway, after sundown—that

the plants may get all possible benefit from the applica-tion. If water is ap-plied while the sun is shining, evapo-ration will take

is shining, evaporation will take place so rapidly because of the heat, that most of the moisture is given off from the soil before the roots of the plants are reached by it. But if it is applied after the sun has gone down, the soil has an opportunity to take it all in, and as there will be precipitation of moisture then, rather than evaporation, the plants will receive the benefit aimed at. In watering plants, do not sprinkle the soil all about them, but take the nozzle off the watering pot and apply the water directly from the spout to the base of each plant.

If a screen, or a division-fence between one part of the garden and another is desired, a very effective one can be easily made by stretching woven-wire netting on posts, the height of which corresponds with the width of netting used. Train over this netting—which should have a rather coarse mesh,—any kind of vine that suits you, and in a short time you will have a mass of foliage and flowers that will answer all the purposes of a fence of a purely ornamental character. A permanent fence of this kind can be covered with our native Ampelopsis, which can be found growing along streams, and in swampy places, in nearly all parts of the country. This vine is easily transplanted. It grows rapidly, and is always beautiful, but especially so in fall, when its foliage changes from green to crimson and maroon.



If you are growing Chrysanthemums for fall flowering,—and few women, nowadays, are without at least half a dozen varieties of this very popular flower,—they should be given careful attention at this season of the year. Do very popular flower,—they should be given careful attention at this season of the year. Do not allow them to grow to suit themselves. If you do, the chances are that when fall comes you will have a lot of scraggly plants. Keep watch of them as they are developing and train them into proper shape by pinching off the ends of the branches that are inclined to lengthen at the expense of others. If this is done, side branches will be formed, and thus you get a plant that is bushy and compact and symmetrical in shape.

If the black aphis attacks your Chrysanthemums, procure some tobacco—the stronger the better,—and steep it in hot water until its strength is fully extracted. Then apply this to the infested plants in the form of a spray, taking particular pains to see that it reaches every part of the plant. This is important, as, if a few aphides escape, they will multiply so rapidly that before you are aware of it your plants will be covered with their progeny.

Keep the ground in which your plants are growing well stirred by the frequent use of the hoe. Don't think, if the season is a dry one, that a hoe ought not to be used. Loose, open soils absorb all the moisture that comes along, while dry, hard, crusted soils are unfavorable to absorption. An ordinary dew, or a light

while dry, hard, crusted soils are unfavorable shower, cannot penetrate the crust, hence your plants receive no benefit from them. An open paants receive no beneat from them. An open soil acts like a sponge, and takes in whatever moisture it comes in contact with. To grow Dahlias well, you must keep their roots always moist. Save all the water of wash-



water from the pump. The washwater is better, however, because it contains a certain amount of nutriment which the Dablis can

better, however, because it contains a certain amount of nutriment which the Dahiia can make excellent use of.

After the Petunias have perceted their first crop of flowers, go over the bed and cut the old branches back at least two thirds their length. In a short time new branches will start, and these will, after a little, produce flowers. By going over the beds in this way several times during the season and feeding the plants well, you may have as good flowers all through the summer and fall as those which the plants gave at their first crop. But if this is not done, the plants take on an exhausted look, and their flowers are few and inferior, after July. One of the secrets of successful floriculture is the renewing of a plant after it has passed it prime. If you can do this, you can keep your plants healthy throughout the season, and if you prevent them from forming seed they will blossom as freely in September as they did in July. That is—most plants grown in the ordinary garden. Some plants cannot be coared to do this. They will produce one crop of flowers, and only one.

The Gladiolus ought to be in every garden. It is to the garden what the Geranium is to the window. Anybody can grow it. Give it a soil of moderate richness, made light and mellow, plant it four inches below the surface, and keep the weeds down about it, during the season, and—it will do the rest! There will be from two to four flower-stalks from each strong root, and these will bear from ten to twenty flowers each, of the richest and most brilling colors imaginable. The colors range from white and palest yellow to red, crimson, often with combinations of several distinct colors in the same flower. The new Groff hybrids are simply magnificent in form, size, and beauty of color. They are wonderful improvements over the old Gladiolus. No garden is complete without a few of them.

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"What will kill the green lice which infest my house plants?" Mrs. S. D. G.—Shave a quarter of a pound of the Ivory soap you use in the kitchea into fine pieces, and cover it with a little water, and let it stand on the stove until melted. They add to it a pailful of water. Dip the infested plans in it, shaking them about well when under water. This is a safe insecticide. It will not harm the most delicate plant, but it will kill every aphin with which it comes in contact.

with which it comes in contact.

"I have some Geraniums growing in the garden. Can I make use of them in the house in winter Some tell me they will not bloom well." Miss A.A. H.—If you allow them to bloom freely in the gaten, in summer, you cannot expect much from them during winter. No plant can keep on flowering the year round. It must have a resting-spell your Geraniums will take theirs at a time when you want them to furnish flowers, if you use the old plants for this purpose. The only way to make set of plants expressly for winter use. These should not be allowed to bloom during the summer.

should not be allowed to bloom during the summer.

"What will keep moles away from the gardens"
S.S.J.—Scatter seeds of the Castor Plant about the place troubled with these animals. Next year grow some Castor Plants. They are extremely elyfective as ornaments of the garden because of their dark, rich foliage, of immense size, and the fact that they are obnoxious to the mole makes them doubly desirable.

dark, rich foliage, of immense size, and the fact that they are obnoxious to the mole makes that doubly desirable.

"I never have any luck with basket-plants. The always turn yellow and die. Why?" Mrs.L.—Probably because you do not use water enoughs them. You will readily see, if you give the matter a little thought, that plants in baskets require a good deal more water than plants in pots because they are suspended in a warmer stratum of atmosphere where evaporation is more rapid than on the window-sill below. They are also exposed to the air on all sides, and, as a general thing, they are air oversels which are not well calculated to retain moisture. There is no trouble in growing plants well in baskets if you are careful to give them all the water they need. It is a good plan to have them suspended by a cord long enough to allow you to drop them into a pail of water, where they should be left until they have become completely saturated. In hot summer weather it may be necessary to do this once a day. Another good planis to take a tin can and make a small hole in the bottom of it. Fill this with water, and set it in the basket. Watch results. If the water escapes as rapidly as it ought to, the soil will be kept most if the soil dries out about the edge of the basket, you may be sure that the hole in the can. If the soil dries out about the edge of the basket, you may be sure that the hole in the can is not large it a little and take more observations. It is an easy matter to adjust the size of the hole to the amount of water required. If this plan is foilowed there is no more attention demanded by a plant in a basket than one growing in a pot. Simply fill your can and put it in place, and lears it until it needs refilling. The foliage of the view can be arranged about it in such a manner as to almost if not quite hide it, therefore it need not wunsightly.

Bessie Webster.—The plant you describe is Scills maritima, or Sea Onion, a member of the Bessie Webster.—The plant you describe is Scille

Bessie Webster.—The plant you describe is 83-38 maritima, or Sea Onion, a member of the family from which the nædical extract of squills is prepared. \* Lilies do best in a sandy loan. They should be given a well-drained location and planted from eight to ten inches deep. In fall cover them with a foot of coarse litter to prevent the frost from heaving the bulbs and breaking the roots sent out from their base.

Miss L. D.—The editor of this department has be plants for sale. Consult the advertising page in this paper and of the leading magazines, and write to the florists whose advertisements you find in them, for free catalogues.

to the florists whose advertisements you find in them, for free catalogues.

Mrs. J. C. Hale.—Roses are propagated by cuttings, by divisions of the roots, and by lavering. Cuttings should be of half-ripened wood. Let them be about three or four incheslong. Insert them in coarse sand, in shallow boxes or trenches, and make the sand quite firm about their base. Keep moist at all times. Layering,—which is a surer method for the amateur—consists in bending down a branch, preferably one near the base of the plant, and inserting a portion of it in the soil, learing the end in an upright position. At the place where the branch comes in contact with the soil, make a cut from below, about half way through the branch in a slanting manner. This somewhat obstructs the flow of sap and a calous forms, from which roots will, in due time, be sent out. After the branch begins to grow well—but not beforesever that portion of it connected with the parent plant. Roses which send up sprouts freely can be divided in such a manner that each sprout can be taken away with a few roots attached. This is the safest of all methods for increasing stock of choice varieties. But nowadays Roses are so cheap that it does not pay one to depend on cuttings or layer ing.

H—In August or September I will endeavor to

H.—In August or September I will endeavor to give a plan for making an effective bulb bed.

metring with Running vine.

ing-day to use about them. Apply it in pailful quantities, and apply it daily. If there isn't enough washwater to last the week out, use

give a plan for making an effective bulb bed.

Mrs. H.—If fresh lime is used, worms can be driven from the soil of pot-plants by its persistent use. Air-slaked lime is worthless. Take a piece as large as a coffee-cup and dissolve it in a pailful of water. When the sediment settles and the water clears, apply enough to each plant to thoroughly saturate all the soil in the pot. A smaller quantity saturate all the soil in the pot. As maller quantit

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1. One of the most prominent men in the Roman Catholic Church in America was Archbishop Corrigan of New York City, who died recently at the comparatively early age of sixty-

two. He was greatly beloved by the people of his own faith and highly respected by all Protestants. Had he lived he would no doubt have become an American cardinal. His funeral in New York City from the cathedral was

mi in New York City from the cathedral was one of the most impressive ever held in that city.

• • • 2. Probably the most eminent scientist and

2. Probably the most eminent scientist and inventor of modern times is Lord Kelvin of England, who was before his elevation to the peerage Dr. Wm. Thompson. He and his wife were recently in the United States, Lord Kelvin coming over to see the wonderful advances

this country has made in electricity, and he was royally received everywhere. He went back to England saying he was amazed by what he had seen, and he was coming back before long to learn more.

3. When Horace Greeley, the old time Republican, ran on the Democratic ticket against General Grant for the Presidency,

made of him in Harper's Weekly by Thomas Nast, the artist. Mr. Nast became famous by them. In later years Mr. Nast retired to his home in New Jersey, doing no more cartoon work, but recently he has been appointed Control General to Evanged by President Roces.

work, but recently he has been appointed consul General to Ecquador by President Roosevelt, whose personal friend he is, and will for a time at least come before the public again, but not with his pencil. Mr. Nast is sixty

4. One of the greatest and best known busi-

ress organizations in this country is the Sugar Trust, and recently its President, H. O. Havemeyer of New York, has been before the Senate Committee explaining that the Trust had nothing to do with the sugar business in Cuba. The Sugar Trust has a capital of \$90-000,000, and produces 1,200,000 tons of refined sugar ennually.

5. Not long ago a fine new building was presented to the Naval Branch of the Y. M. C. A. of Brooklyn, N. Y., the finest of its kind in the world, most of which was paid for by Miss Helen Gould, of New York. President Roosevelt sent a telegram of congratulation

and the Secretary of the Navy and Admiral Dewey made speeches. Miss Gould also made a short presentation speech, and said the building represented the work of many wo-

the time, and Americans are taking away the honors from the French, who have been before the leaders, as their machines still are. Recently, W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., of New York, on a French machine in France beat all records, making five-eighths of a mile in about thirty-three seconds. His machine cost \$10,-

7. Americans have not been so stirred up over anything connected with Italy since the killing of the Mafia gang in New Orleans some years ago, as they have intely by the arrest in Venice and jailing of three officers from the U.S. Warship, Chicago. Capt. Wynne of the Marine Corps and his brother officers were charged with being drunk, disorderly and resisting the police. They were treated like common criminals but, by intervention of our representatives at Rome, King Humbert released them. The matter is not yet settled.

8. The Countess Helena Davendorf von Schoenenberg, wife of a Holland Count, unable to find suitable employment in this coun-

able to find suitable employment in this country, and deserted by her husband, has been tramping about in New York and Pennsylvania looking for her husband. She was in New York at last accounts having walked nearly all the way there from Philadelphia, and she announced that she would walk clear to Dakota to get a divorce if necessary. She is an American girl.

9. Lord Pauncefote, British Ambassador to the United States, died at his home in Wash-ington, May 26. For some time past his con-dition was such that he was not able to attend to his duties and a successor was to be

10. The Presbyterians of the United States, one of the wealthiest and most influental religious organizations in this country, have been

ligious organizations in this country, have been greatly agitated over proposed revisions of the Westminster Confession and the adoption of more liberal ideas, and at every Assembly, annually, heated discussions have taken place. At the last Assembly in New York, Rev. Henry Van Dyke, who gave up his pulpit because of his liberal views, was chosen Moderator, which is a distinct triumph for the progressive party. The Confession was also revised, but the disputing is still unsettled.

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11, 12. One of the notable recent events was the unveiling of a statue in Washington to Marshal de Rochambeau, who was a friend of the United States during the Revolution. Among the distinguished French visitors who came over to attend the ceremonies, were the Count and

11. 12. One of the notable recent events was

ness would result fatally for some time.

The automobile is gaining in speed all

years of age.

**PEOPLE PORTRAITS** AND PARAGRAPHS OF THE PUBLIC PRINTS.

Countess de Rochambeau, the Count being a great-great-grandson of the Marshal. The French warship, Gaulois, came up Chesapeake bay to Annapolis, where she was received by

the U. S. Naval Academy officers and calets.

• • •

13, 14. With great ceremony and pomp the Spanish people in May crowned their Boy King, Alfonso XIII. He is sixteen years old, and the youngest crowned head in Europe. He is popular with the people, and most of his popularity is due to his mother, who has been a very sensible women ever since she came to

so were sensible woman ever since she came to Spain from her Bavarian home. Alfonso is not physically strong and he is very young to assume the affairs of state, even though he is surrounded by advisers who will bear the greater part of the burden.

• • •

15. When General Antonio Maceo, one of the best known of the Cuban patriots was killed at Puerto Principe Hill, he left a son, Daniel, then ten years of age. The boy became an interpreter on the Oregon, and was in the battle of Santiago and later served on other ships. Then he came to this country and attended school at Newport News. He tried to get into the Military Academy, at West Point, but claimed he could not as he was a champion of Admiral Schley. He is now fourteen, and recently was in New York looking for any kind of work, as he was penniless.

16. Miss Kuehne Beveridge is an American girl who is making a name for herself in England as a sculptress. Her latest and greatest work is a statue representing Ireland mourning for her sons lost in South Africa. It was ordered by Lord Kimorey. Miss Beveridge lives in London with her mother, the Baroness von Wrede.

17, 18, 19. The greatest catastrophe of modern times was the destruction of St. Pierre, Martinique, West Indies, in May, when thirty thousand people lost their lives by the sudden explosion of the volcano Mt. Pelee. Millions in property were destroyed and a whole city literally wiped out of existence, and is now covered by ashes and lava. The first man to reach the United States from the scene of the disaster was Captain Cantell of the ship Etonia, and he told a tale of horror. Very few Americans were lost, but among them was Consul Prentice and his wife and daughters.

20. One of the rich men of the later day millionaires is John W. Gates, who made his money in steel, iron and tin consolidations, and he has been having a great good time with his surplus. He has not only upset Wall Street in New York a time or two but he has done a whole lot of other things which rich men done to ordinarily do. Mr. Gates wone leave

men do not ordinarily do. Mr. Gates won a law-suit not long ago which added about eleven millions of dollars to his other millions. He is a "good fellow," and his money has not spoiled him

21, 22. Strikes have been disturbing both sides of the ocean within the past few weeks, and the great strike in Belgium was scarcely quieted when the coal miners of Pennsylvania determined to go out, taking 150,000 men from work. We give pictures of Leopold, King of Belgium, and John Mitchell, President of the United Mine Workers.

• • • 23. For months the country was divided on

the question whether the honor of the naval victory of the United States over Spain off Santiago belonged to Admiral Sampson, in charge of the fleet, or Admiral Schley, temporarily in command as senior officer, and feeling is still high. But Admiral Sampson has gone to his rest and whetever may be said for or against

rest, and whatever may be said for or against him, there is no doubt that he was an admirable officer.

24. Not long ago, Severo, a Brazilian seronaut, was killed in Paris, by his balloon taking fire and dropping him 1,500 feet to the earth. But Santos-Dumont, another Brazilian, and the most famous of modern aeronauts, is still willing to risk his life in the air, and has been in this country arranging for exhibitions at the St. Louis Exposition in 1904, and at other places. It is not beyond guessing that he will not be alive by 1904.

25. The wife of President Roosevelt, owing to his and her dislike of women becoming too much in the public eye, does not often have her picture in the papers, but we present herewith her latest photograph, which is also a very good likeness of her. It will be seen that she is a handsome woman.

26. One of the best known business men of the United States was Potter Palmer of Chicago, who died there in May, aged 80 years. Mr. Palmer went to Chicago from New York state fifty years ago, poor. When he died he left an estate valued at twenty-five millions, ten millions of which was in the famous Palmer House of that city. He was interested in many lines of business.

27. One of the best known American novelists, and one of the best through more than a quarter of a century, was Bret Harte, who recently died in England at the age of sixty-

spoiled him.



two. As a poet Mr. Harte become known the world over for his poem, "The Heathen Chinee." He did his first work in California, and went to England as a Consul in 1878, and did not return to this country. His wife lived in Plainfield N. I.

28. The United States and all the world re-

28. The United States and all the world rejoiced a month ago when it was known that Wilhelmina, the "Little Queen" of Holland, was to survive an attack of typho-pneumonia after a long and hard struggle. An heir to the throne was expected in August, but that hope has been destroyed, and Holland was glad to save its Queen, for she is as popular as her husband is not.

29. President Loubet of the Republic of France has been visiting the Tsar of Russia, and receiving the highest honors from the most despotic country in Europe. The French and Russians have been great friends for some time, and as long as they have interests in common against other powers the friendship will continue.

30, 31. On the 30th of May the American flag was hauled down in Cuba and the new Republic was formerly transferred to the newly-elected President, Estrada Palma, who had made a triumphal march from one end of the Republic to the other. Mrs. Palma left New York to join her husband a few days before the inauguration. Mrs. Palma is greatly interested in the welfare of the women of Cuba and will be very active in doing all she can for them. Whether the Cubans are capable of self-government remains to be seen.

32, 33. One of the most shocking tragedies

32, 33. One of the most shocking tragedies which has occurred in this country in years was the killing in New York City of Paul Leicester Ford, the author, whose best known book is "Janice Meredith," by his brother, Malcolm W., who immediately shot himself, and the brothers were buried side by side. The author was a deformed cripple, while his brother was one of the finest athletes in the world. When the father died he gave nothing of a large fortune to Malcolm, and his brothers and sisters would not share with him. He brooded over it until it unsettled his mind, and he shot his brother and himself.

34. The game of ping pong has become so popular all over the country that people have been silly over it and croquet, tennis, golf, base ball and all the rest of them are secondary just now. Ping pong is nothing more than tennis played on a table in the house.

Ping pong clubs are growing up everywhere and New York City has teams playing against each other for large sums of money. One of the champion pingpongers of that city, is Samuel J. Sloan, who acquired fame only by ping pong, though of a family whose name is famous.

35, 36. No such fight by all classes has been made anywhere as that against the Beef Trust in the United States, led by the New

York Herald, which exposed the Trust's methods in putting up the price of one of the prime necessities of life, especially to working men and their families. Among the leaders of the Trust are Michael and E. A. Cudahy of Chicago, whose pictures are herewith given.

37. A bright little chap is this, the youngest son of the late Admiral Sampson. Ralph looks the sailor boy, and he will no doubt

38, 39. Until recently the Kingdom of Siam.

38, 39. Until recently the Kingdom of Siam, did not have a recognized representative to this country, the diplomatic business necessary to be attended to being looked after by a special envoy sent over for the purpose. Now, however, there is a Siamese legation at Washington and the Minister is Phya Akharaj Yaradhara, who has been representing Siam in London and coming here when needed. The King of Siam is a young man and his name is Chululonkorn. The United States has a large trade with Siam.

40. One of the best known women in the country is Mrs. Belva Lockwood, who is a lawyer, in Washington, D. C. Mrs. Lockwood has been prominent in all woman suffrage movements, and was a candidate for President

of the United States on a woman's-party ticket. She has been quiet for a long time, but has re-cently come into public notice through a speech

against the present Philippine policy of this

41. The best known minister of the gospel in the United States, if not in the world, was Rev. T. Dewitt Talmage, who died at his home in Washington several weeks ago. He was born in New Jersey in 1832, and had been preaching since early manhood. For the past thirty years his sermons had been printed once a week without a single miss, and at one time they appeared in 3,600 papers and were read by thirty millions of people. Dr. Talmage left a widow and four children, all grown. While he was the finest pulpit talker in America, he was

was the finest pulpit talker in America, he was not recognized by any denomination and he was at all times a money maker. He left a fortune made out of his preaching, lecturing, books, and editorial work of over three hundred the preach of the second delice.

take to the water.

Plainfield, N. J.









































dred thousand dollars.



























Phys Akharaj Yaradhara.





41. Rev T Dewits
Talmage.







# THE HOME WORKERS OF COMFORT.



Louis Kellogg, the singer, who, when a young lady was very much annoyed by the thin appearance of her arms when she was obliged to wear evening gowns at the reconcerts. She tried the use of the broom, and soon had round, plump arms as the reward of her exercise. This experiment of the muscles of the arms and the accomplishment of the weekly sweeping, which would probably be appreciated by our correspondent's mother. Breathing exercises are, of course, a sure help for a caved-in chest. At night rub the chest with a mixture of cocoa butter, one part, with two parts of lanolin. Every morning dip a sponge into cold water and dash it over the neck and chest, afterward rubbing thoroughly dry with a heavy towel.

Anna and Lula Green of Keokuk write asking for suggestions for entertainments suitable to be given by the young people's society of their church. We have heard of one which seems to us unique and from which a good deal of fun can be gotten, and we trust it will strike our young friends in the same way.

Get all your pretty and talented girls to dress in their prettiest gowns, and over the gown to wear some comical, old-maid get-up, any old forlorn rig they can contrive. Let them wear expressions to fit their outer garments, and all appear on the stage, as though gathered for an entertainment which is to be given by one of your men gotten up as a Proffessor of the black arts. At one end of the stage have a large wardrobe, or corner partitioned off with curtains, large enough for a person to go in and make a slight change in her attire. Then have the Professor ask the ladies if they care to change their estate and appearance, and if so, will they please step into the closet; before going in he will give each a drink of something which he will call the elixir of life and which will renew their youth. One by one the poor old things come forward, go into the box and then come out, all in their pretty, fresh, up-to-date gowns and with youthful and smilling faces. Of course the outer garments are arranged in such a

with an open-ing for the neck. This opening is cut about twice as long as the size it is to be when finished, and then gathered for a distance of a quarter of a yard, front and back, to make of right size to of right size to slip easily over the head. Then decorate the neck in any way desired, making its quare as shown in the illustration, or making a round neck, in which case a full ruffle case a full ruffle of hamburg is the prettiest finish. Finish the edge around the neck with a fine, straight edge of narrowest hamburg. If elbow sleeves

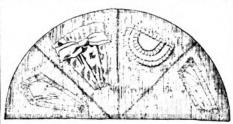


N inquiry from Jane L. C. of Peoria is answered in the sensible experiment of Clara Louise Kellogg, the singer, who, when a young lady was very much sensored.

The needlebook which we show belongs to the writer and her here a convenient for cere-

The needlebook which we snow belongs to the writer, and has been so convenient for car-rying in a bag when going on short trips, and is so easy to make that we give its description, thinking it may be used in arranging for holi-day office.

thinking it may be used in arranging for holiday gifts.
Get a red moroccoskin, or one that is bronzed, and then several of these books can be made at slight cost. The book is in the shape of a half circle, eight inches on the straight edge. A lining one-fourth inch larger all around, is cut out of satin of any color desired. Upon this lining is stitched a strip of the leather which has previously been bound with narrow ribbon and which is for holding two papers of needles. A pocket for scissors is also made of the leather and bound and stitched onto the lining. A and bound and stitched onto the lining. A gathered pocket is made of satin and stitched on to hold spools of thread, and some leaves for



NEEDLEBOOK OPEN.

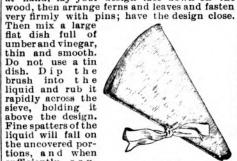
needles are made of flannel, feather-stitched or needles are made of flannel, feather-stitched or button-holed around the edge, and tacked onto the lining. These things are put on in such a position that the book can be folded between them. Then this lining is hemmed onto the wrong side of the leather and the inside is complete. Fold the two ends toward the center and then fold together, as shown in the sketch marked "Closed," and fasten narrow ribbon, to match the lining, at the two folds, to tie and hold all together.

marked "Closed," and fasten narrow ribbon, to match the lining, at the two folds, to tie and hold all together.

Probably most of our older readers did "spatter work" when they were children. This decorative feature has been revived, like the tatting and crochet patterns just now in great vogue, and for the benefit of the younger readers we give directions for doing this work artistically, also suggest some articles of furniture to be used for this decoration.

Spatter work is a trick rather than an art. First buy a common stiff nail brush and two or three stiff tooth brushes. Get a fine piece of sieve and a few fine and coarse pens. Buy five cents worth of burnt umber in the powder and a quart of malt vinegar. Take some pieces of new board for practice pieces. Then gather some lovely ferns, a large quantity of them, and put them carefully into heavy books to press. From old magazines cut out designs of birds and flowers; also gather small flowers and press very carefully. Have all your materials at hand, lay your design face down on the wood, then arrange ferns and leaves and fasten very firmly with pins; have the design close. Then mix a large

the uncovered por-tions, and when sufficiently cov-ered, remove the



CLOSED.

design carefully, one spray at a time, and the result will be a perfect outline of all the ferns

design carefully, one spray at a time, and the result will be a perfect outline of all the ferns and leaves which will, of course, be white, or whatever color the board was, while all around the edges will be fine spatters of black. When perfectly dry, varnish with white varnish, using a brush such as painters use for putting on varnish. The pens are used for putting eyes into the animals and birds, etc., and making heavy stems to flowers and ferns where desired. Now if you have an old table, that is, one which is good shape and strong but which is scarred and needs painting,—paint in white and when perfectly dry put on a fine design in spatter work. Use old furniture for this purpose, also a painted wall, which will be found to take the spatter work beautifully, and many quaint designs can be worked in this way. For a nursery, for instance, put a series of Red Riding Hood pictures, which you have cut out of an old picture book. New ideas will come to you which will be original and pretty and this work is fascinating and inexpensive and therefore very desirable.

# CROCHET TERMS.

Ch, chain; sc, single crochet; dc, double crochet; tc, treble crochet; stc, short treble crochet; dtc, double treble crochet; p, picot.

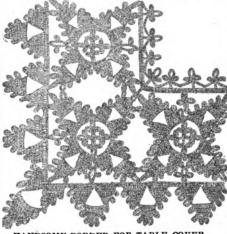
TERMS USED IN TATTING.

are desired, take
a full width of the cloth and gather into the s p, short picot; l p, long picot.

One double; p, picot; ch, chain; bet, between; s p, short picot; l p, long picot.

HANDSOME BORDER FOR TABLE COVER.

Use ecru crochet cotton and steel needle. Commence in center of diamond, \* ch 9, 1 d Commence in center of diamond, \* ch 9, 1 d into 3rd stitch, ch 6, 1 d into 1st ch 5, 1 d into 1st ch 6, 1 d into 1st ch 6, 1 d cin 1st of ch 9, repeat from \* 3 times more, break cotton and fasten securely. 1st Round—\*1 sc, in center of 3 p. ch 12, repeat from \*3 times more, draw through 1st sc.



HANDSOME BORDER FOR TABLE COVER.

\* For a point work 1 d in each of 6 stitches, turn, skip one stitch, 1 d in each stitch, turn, skip 1 stitch, 1 d in each stitch, turn, ch 5, 1 sc in 1st stitch, 1 d in each stitch, turn, skip one stitch, 1 d in each stitch, turn, ch 5, 1 sc into the 1st, 1 d in each stitch, turn ch 5, 1 sc into the 1st, 1 d in next, work down the side of point with 1 sc in each stitch. Work another point like this omitting picots at the side when the point is reached, work ch 6, 1 sc in point of 1st point, work this 3d point like the 1st as far as the picot at the point, then, \*13 c in each of 2 stitches, ch 5, 1 sc into each of next 2 stitches, repeat from 1st \* 3 times more, break cotton and fasten. All the diamonds are worked alike.

and fasten. All the diamonds are worked alike.

For the edge work a straight line of chains joining the picots with 1 d in each p. The points are made the same as those forming the diamonds excepting at each corner, then use ten stitches instead of 6 and put 3 p at each

ten stitches instead of 6 and put 3 p at each side and 3 at the top.

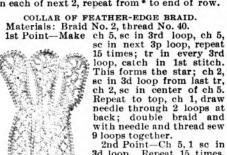
For the inner pattern at top of border:

1st Row—1 tr in stitch forming 3 p at corner, ch 3, 1 sc in next p, \*ch p, 1 d in 14th, ch 4, 1 d between 2 points, ch 10, 1 d in the 5th, ch 3, 1 sc in 11th of ch 9, ch 10, 1 d in 2nd p of next point, ch 4, 1 d in next p, repeat from \* to end of row, all corners are made alike.

2nd Row—1 d in each stitch.

3rd Row—1 tr in tr of last row, ch 8, 1 sc in 1st ch 10, 1 sc in 1st, ch 8, 1 sc into 1st of ch 8, and into 1st single together, ch 3, skip 4, 1 d in each of next 2 stitches, \*ch 13, 1 sc into 5th, skip 3, 1 tr in next, ch 10, 1 sc in 1st, ch 8, 1 sc in 1st and top of tr together, ch 4, skip 2, 1 sc in each of next 2, repeat from \* to end of row.

COLLAR OF FEATHER-EDGE BRAID.



with needle and thread sew 9 loops together.
2nd Point—Ch 5, 1 sc in 3d loop. Repeat 15 times, joining the 9th and 10th holes to those in the 1st point; also the 1st tr to last 1 in 1st star. Repeat from beginning till long enough to go around the neck.

neck.
For top part, make 5 loops, joining only 2 stars together, sew on to wide piece already made.
For cuffs, make narrow edge the same, and the wide with twelve loops and star crocheted together.

star crocheted together, making them just large enough to slip over the hand easily.

SHAWL IN CROCHET.

SHAWL IN CROCHET.

The materials are 4 oz. white, 1 oz. pink Shetland wool. Wind the wool double. The shawl is begun in the middle. Make a chain of 5 stitches with the white wool double; join 1st Round-Ch 3, 1 d in ring, repeat 3 times

FEATHER-EDGE

BRAID COLLAR.

more.
2nd Round—Ch 3, 1 d in center ch 3 of last round, ch 3, 1 d under the same; repeat 4 times more.
3rd Round—Ch 3, 1 d under the ch 3 of last round, ch 3, 1 d under the next ch 3, ch 3, 1 d under

next ch 3, ch 3, 1 d under the same. Continue work-ing in the same manner CENTER OF SHAWL. until the inner square is as large as you require it to be. Always increase at each of the four corners. Work twelve rows in the same man-

rewith pink wool.

Finish the shawl with ball-fringe made in white wool. Take about thirty strands of wool, cut into lengths of about four inches. With a needle and double wool fasten the



skeins about one inch distances, carrying the wool from one division to another. Cut through these divisions with a pair of sharp

scissors, leaving the wool that secured them whole. Shake over boiling water until the balls become round; tie each length under the three chains of last round of shawl.

CROCHET EDGING.

The center of this pattern is worked cross-wise, the heading and edge lengthwise. Make chain of 11. 1st Row—2 tr separated by ch 3 into a stitch, ch 3, skip 5, 2 tr separated by ch 3 into the next, ch 3, skip 3, 2 tr separated by ch 1 into next;

2nd Row-Ch 4, 1 tr under ch 1, ch 2,1 d in center of ch 3, ch 3,5 tr under ch 3, ch 2,1 d in center of ch 3, ch 2,4 tr under ch 3, 1 half tr under ch 3, ch 5,

under ch 3, ch 5,
turn.

3rd Row—2 tr
separated by ch 3
under 2nd of 4 tr,
ch 3, 2 tr separate
ed by ch 3 into
center of 5 tr, ch
3, 2 tr separated
by ch 1 under ch
at turn of row; repeat from the 2nd row for
length required.
For the edge.

For the edge.

9 d under ch 5 at turn of row, 5 d under next ch 5, ch 5, work back with 1 sc in center of 9 d, turn; work 9 d under ch 5, then 4 d under the ch the 5 were worked under. Repeat from be-

ginning.
For the heading.
1 tr into stitch at the other side of center, ch 2, skip 2, and repeat from the beginning

TATTING TRIMMING.

Commence in center of diamond 7 d 1 p, 4 d 1 p, 7 d draw. Make 3 more, close and cut thread.

cut thread.

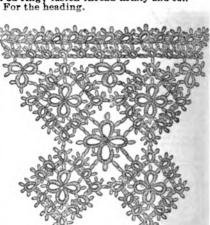
For row surrounding these make 2 d 7 p with 3 d bet. each, 2 d draw, leaveone-fourth inchof cotton, work ring like the last, but before closing join to side p and next ring, repeat 3 times more, joining each ring as directed.

For the small diamonds composed of 4 ring, work as follows, 5 d 1 p 4 d join tr p of diamond (see design) 4 d 1p, 4 d join tr p of next diamond, 4 d, 1 p, 5 d, draw, repeat from beginning 3 times more.

For the group of three connecting diamonds at the top work same as above, joining p at

at the top work same as above, joining p at edge of diamond when making the 3d p of 1st ring, the 1st and 3d p of 2d ring, and the 1st p of 3d ring; fasten thread firmly and cut.

For the heading.



TATTING TRIMMING.

1st Row.—4 d 6 p separated by 2 d, 2 d join to p at point of diamond, close. Draw cotton through the last p leave one-fourthinch. Make another ring like the last, but do not join to p, all are alike and are joined to picots, (see design.)

2d Row.—2 d, turn work and begin to join this row from end instead of the beginning of the previous row (this is to make rings lie in opposite direction) join to 3d p of ring of preceding row, 8 p each separated by 2 d, 2d close, leaving nearly one-half in. of cotton, 2d join 3 p of previous ring of 1st row and last p of last closed ring of 2d row together 6 p each separated by 2 d draw, repeat from \* to end of row.

PRETTY MATS.

# PRETTY MATS.

A sheet of white wadding and a skein of Saxony will make three mats ten inches in diame-

cut out a circle of wadding, any size you wish, and strips two inches wide, long enough to go round the circle three times. Take the Saxony—pink or light green makes beautiful ones—and crochet round the mats, and both sides of the strip, with chain of twelve stitches, caught about an inch apart. Then plait in double box plaits and sew through the center, having the edges of the plaiting and mat even. Tack the edges of each box plait together, making it stand up full. They are pretty, casily made, and serviceable, as the dust slides off the shiny surface. Some one try them.

# Comfort's Prizes for Home Workers.

# 85.00 For First Prize, 83.00 For Second Prize Also Consolation Prizes.

Can you crochet, knit or do tatting? If so send us a sample of your choicest pattern and we will gladly pay you for your time and trouble, as we are very anxious to secure new and original designs of lace, also new ideas for sofa pillows, patchwork and any suggestions of a bit of practical experience as to how inexpensive materials can be utilized in making the home more attractive.

home more attractive.

Can you not aid us and in so doing assist yoursels? Devote a little of your spare time to

yoursell? Devote a fittle of your space competing for one of our prizes.

The person sending in the handsomest piece of lace, either crocheted, knitted or tatted, with full directions for making the same (write the person of t plainly on one side of the paper only), will be awarded the FIRST PRIZE, the next in choice the SECOND PRIZE.

CONSOLATION PRIZES consisting of special premiums, or cash, will be given to all those who send in anything in the fancy work line that will be suitable to use in this department, but which does not draw a wise.

which does not draw a prize.

All competitors for prizes must have their answers in this office by August 15.

Address all letters to "Comfort" Home Department, Augusta, Maine.



CHAPTER VI.

OSE left Major Cleveland in great excitement of manner, but with all her wits strung to their utmost tension. Her mind was usually clear, sharp and decisive. Some bold and desperate step was necessary as matters now stood, and with compressed lips she resolved to take it, whatever it might be. Plan after plan, suggestion upon suggestion, floated through her mind—presented themselves, were examined, dismissed, and she still remained undecided as

to her course.

To marry Walter Armstrong that night was her determination; and she was only at loss, therefore, at the means to accomplish such an

As she entered the house she saw Mr. Met-

As she entered the house she saw Mr. Metcalf, and hastily drawing him aside, commanded him to watch Major Cleveland—his
every step and movement.
Scarcely were these words uttered, ere Captain Arbald came smiling and begging her
hand in the dance then forming. Rose accepted immediately and they entered the drawing room together.
The dance commenced, and in the midst of
it she looked up and saw Major Cleveland

it she looked up and saw Major Cleveland standing with folded arms, smilingly watching her. When she looked again, she thought she saw a motion or a signal to her companion, which she felt assured was answered over her shoulder, as the major with an acquiescing nod turned and walked away.

shoulder, as the major with an acquiescing nod turned and walked away.

As he did so, Rose saw him stop suddenly and stare upon the person of her maid—a young but superior Irish girl, who stood half way up the hall, but quite visible to Rose from the position in which she chanced to be. The major, after looking at the young girl for a moment or two, turned and walked towards the hall door. As he did so, the light that poured from the drawing-room door into the hall, fell upon his features, and in the instant in which Rose could observe his face, she saw that it was lighted up with some new thought over which he appeared to be chuckling with delight.

"He is laying his train," thought Rose; "what can it be?"
She looked from him to the maid, instinctively feeling that she had something to do

she looked from him to the maid, instinctively feeling that she had something to do with the major's visibly expressed pleasure, when suddenly a suspicion of the truth flashed upon her mind.

The instant the dance was over, Arbald made an excuse for leaving her, and she saw him hasten away in the direction the major had gone.

gone.

Her own course was resolved upon without further hesitation. Hastening up to Metcalf, she whispered—
"Arbald and he are together. Watch!" And

"Arbaid and he are together. Watch!" And then commanding Bridget, her maid, to follow, she ran up quickly to her own apartment. "Change dresses with me," was her brief and emphatic command. The girl looked astounded and began to exclaim, but Rose imperatively commanded her to silence, and reseated the order.

peratively commanded her to silence, and repeated the order.

The change was soon effected and Rose directed her maid to proceed to the drawing-room, to throw open the door which communicated with the hall and to stand by the window, as if looking out upon the moonlight. In this position her back only would be seen, and the guests seeing her there apparently in a reverie, would generally respect her privacy. But if any did approach, Rose's directions continued, she was to step off upon the piazza, as if unwilling to be observed, and if followed then there were abundant ways of escaping determined.

tinued, she was to step off upon the piazza, as if unwilling to be observed, and if followed then there were abundant ways of escaping detection once in the garden walks. Bridget was a shrewd, smart girl, and Rose felt every confidence in her ability to carry out the deceit.

Meanwhile, Metcalf followed Arbald and the major, who, walking down the garden, both halted by a bush, behind which Metcalf crawled up and listened.

Major Cleveland explained to Arbald, in a few words, how matters stood.

"Now," said he, "I have an idea which, if carried out, puts Armstrong in our hands and opens your way to the hand of Miss Elsworth. I am sure that Rose will attempt by some means to consummate a marriage with that rebel before tomorrow morning. She is shrewd, cunning beyond belief, and unless we play a desperate game, it will assuredly be done. Now she has a maid in attendance upon her who is near her size and figure. My plan is to bribe this girl to represent her mistress, disguised as her to be introduced into the presence of Armstrong. and there married to him—he to be introduced into the presence of

Armstrong, and there married to him—he thinking it Rose, and knowing her character, ready to suspect some plan in it to effect his escape. Do you see?"

"The girl will never consent."

"We'll tell her it's a jest—a sham marriage for the amusement of the thing—or else, which would be true, show her that she will be a widow before tomorrow night, with a good fifty pounds in her pocket, and free to marry again if she pleases. Send her to me and I'll manage it never fear. Luckily we have the manage it, never fear. Luckily we have the chaplain with us. Go hunt up the girl, but don't be seen talking with her."

Arbald went to obey his superior's command, and Metcalf crawled off and made for Rose's presence as rapidly as possible.

Ascending to her room, he knocked at her door. She admitted him, and listened to his communication without surprise. It was all just as she had divined.

Rose descended by a back way to the lower floor, and slipped out of the house unobserved. It was not difficult to manage it so that Arbald should see her, and she allowed herself to be

should see her, and she allowed herself to be conducted, with averted face, to the presence of the major.

As it was, the shadow of a tree in which they stood, effectually concealed her features, and her voice she knew how to manage too well to

fear disclosure in that way.
"You look like a lively, quick-witted lass,"

said the major.
"Oh, so all 'our' admirers say." "Do you know how to keep a silent tongue?"

"Bless us! Haven't we always been in practice? Ain't 'we' mum as to what all the gentlemen say to 'us?' about the bouquets, the presents, the love-notes—"
"Yes, yes. But how would you like to earn fifty pounds?"
"Good gracious! fifty pounds? How can you ask?"

"Fifty pounds if you will marry-in jest, mind-a man whom I will name to you."
"Well, did I ever! Marriage! real mar-

riage?"
"No, only in jest—to decide a wager. You must disguise yourself as your mistress, when you will be admitted into the presence of Cap-

you will be admitted into the presence of Captain Armstrong—"
"Dear me! Captain Armstrong! Well?"
"A pretended chaplain will be by, and a sham form of marriage will be gone through with. Do you understand?"
"Yes, yes."
"You must not speak above the lowest whisper, nor let the captain see your features. The moment it is done, fifty pounds are yours."
"But, I don't understand—"
"Oh, you understand quite enough for your part of the performance."
"Now, major, it's only to be a play mar-

"Now, major, it's only to be a play marriage, sure?"
"Nothing but a joke, I assure you. You will

make the fifty pounds—quite a little fortune for one like you, you know."
"But, s'pose, sir, it should turn out to be a

tant end. I'll make your reward a hundred pounds instead of fifty—and, if necessary find you a real husband into the bargain."

"Oh, lor,' you startle me so."

"A hundred pounds, remember."

"I—I, really sir——"

"You've gone too far, girl, to retreat. You must marry him, knowing my plans as you do, or be sent down to New York a prisoner yourself. If the captain does not die, you can obtain a divorce—I will assist you to it."

"I'll do it, sir. It's hard, but I know if I should be sent down to them prison ships I should die—I should. But, don't tell anybody—please don't."

should die—I should. But, don't tell anybody—please don't."

"The secret will be safe. Here is a ring for the ceremony. Remember now—caution. Keep your veil over your face. It will be over with in a moment."

They had arrived at the barn. The guard stood back and saluted them. Cleveland gave his companion a warning pressure of the hand, and Rose was ushered into the presence of her lover.

The place was dimly lighted by a single lantern. Walter and an officer in dark uniform stood by a bench on which the lantern rested. As Walter saw Rose enter, he gave a look of surprise and started toward her. Rose seized his arm, and whispered quickly is arm, and whispered quickly—
"Be governed by me—a scheme—a marriage

to save you.'

Looking back, Rose saw a figure watching her, which she knew to be that of Major Cleveland. The guard stood also looking in. This she was glad of, as a witness was necessary. Taking Walter's arm, she led him up before the chaplain—who, simply informed that he was to marry the prisoner to a woman who would present herself, and to mention the circumstances to no one, began the ceremony at once. Walter was confused and astonished, but a pressure upon his arm from the hand of Rose, controlled the expression of his astonishment, and he quietly, but with a vague wonder, performed his part in the ceremony.

It was over, the chaplain closed his book. Rose drew her veil closely around her face and passed hurriedly out, trembling now that the thing was over, and amazed at the temerity of



real, no-mistake marriage—"
"But it isn't. Come, do you consent? 'Tis only a jest. You will see that for yourself."
"Will Captain Armstrong think it a jest?"
"Oh, I'll manage that. He thinks there is a plan on foot to introduce your mistress to him for a similar nurrose, and so I've planned for a similar nurrose.

plan on foot to introduce your mistress to him for a similar purpose, and so I've planned this trick. What say you?"
"Fifty pounds, sir—all in gold, mind you—is more than 'we' can resist. I'll slip on one of my mistress' dresses at once."
"Do so. Meet me here the moment you are ready—in half an hour, say?"
In less time than that mentioned by the major, Rose was upon the spot designated. She wore a heavy veil that shrouded her head and face, and her dress now was, of course, one of her own. In a few moments the major came up.

came up. "Good," said he. "You look your mistress

to the life."
"I'll act her to the life, sir, you may be sure of that."

"I am sure of it. You're a smart girl. Are you ready?

"I am, sir. Please to tell me, major, now, what really is to become of the young captain!" said Rose, as they walked off together.
"Do you like the captain?" inquired Cleveland, in response to her query.
"A mere boy, your honor, but not rich prough for Miss Rose Eleworth is my way of

"A mere boy, your honor, but not rich enough for Miss Rose Elsworth, is my way of thinking. Why, sir, she ought to be able to marry a man as high as yourself—a major or a

gineral."
"She could if she would not throw herself
away upon this clown!"
"That's what I think, and say, mister major."
"Would you like to prevent it?"
"Prevint it, how, I'd like to know."
"By this marriage."
"What does your honor mean?"

"What does your honor mean?"
"By making this marriage a real one."

the step she had taken. She had not passed ten steps from the door before Major Cleveland stepped up to her side from out the shadow of a shrub into which he had withdrawn. "You've done it, hey?" said he. "Yes, your honor. It's a great shame and a wickedness. It's remorse that's in me, mister major."

wickedness. It's remorse that's in me, mister major."
"Tut, tut," replied the major; "here's the sum I promised you. You're richer, my girl, than ever you were before, I'll be sworn, and have done more good than harm at that."
He slipped into her hand a roll of notes, and then turning upon his heel would have walked away, had not Rose seized him by the arm with well acted fear.
"Don't leave me, don't leave me, ver honor.

"Don't leave me, don't leave me, yer honor.
's guilty I feel with this gown on, and if any

It's guilty I feel with this gown on, and if any of the young officers should speak to me, the murder would out."

"That's true. I will walk with you to the entrance. Keep your veil close."

"Never fear, mister major. It's ashamed I'll be to look at my own face from this hour forth. I tremble all over with the guilt. Do, yer honor, let me support myself a bit on yer arm."

Rose took her companion's arm. The major yielded it awkwardly, and with an inward imprecation upon the impudence of the sup-posed Bridget. Rose continued talking, with-

posed Bridget. Rose continued talking, without noticing the manner of the major.

"Ah, sir, I shall never dare look in Miss Rose's eyes again. What will she say to me, to be sure? It will be a dumb and shame-faced moment for me when she looks right through into my heart with those eyes of hers, and says, 'Bridget, what was it that ye did?' Pouring out a flood of lamentation, sorrow, and regret in the above style, she succeeded in guiding Cleveland around and up to the rear entrance of the building without his perceiving their course.

"Confound it, girl, where have you brought

"Good gracious! You take my breath away!"
"Hush! Don't make such a chatter?"
"You know, sir, 'we' must faint upon such occasions."
"It would be mere form. The captain dies tomorrow— Captain Armstrong," resumed he, "will be sent down to New York tomorrow to be tried as a spy. He will hardly escape.
This marriage is necessary to secure an impor-

right, never doubt."
Without observing the awkward restraint with which the major yielded his arm, lose led him into the house, and quickly passing into the dining-room, they entered together. The room was lighted, for the guests had freely been passing in and out. The major rather roughly shook himself from his companion, and turned to leave the room, Rose glided before him, closing the door as she did so, and stood facing him with her back to the door. the door.

"What do you mean?" exclaimed he impatiently. "I mustn't be seen here with you. What do you mean, I say?"
Rose threw off her veil.
"It means, Major Cleveland," exclaimed she

that I had the trump card, and have taken the

The major started back with the most be-The major started back with the most bewildering and unconcealed amazement, as the
clear ringing laugh of Rose Elsworth burst
upon his astounded senses. Rose, with her
lightning eye, her cheek glowing with a
splendid carnation, stood looking at him, the
impersonation of exultant triumph.

The major could not speak. He was a picture of rage, mortification and foaming fury.
"I'll thank you, sir," said she pointing to
the wedding-ring upon her finger, "for an order for Captain Armstrong's release."

"Miss Elsworth!" at last exclaimed he, between his teeth.

"Miss Elsworth!" at last exclaimed he, between his teeth.

"Your pardon, sir. Mrs. Armstrong—by your kind assistance."

"By——!" The major choked down the oath, but he shook his fist in the air.

"Caught! tricked!"

"It was too bad, I know, Major Cleveland, to make you pay so dearly for your own discomfiture, but really, the trouble you gave me entitles me to the hundred pounds. Pil keep them, sir, as a memento of the occasion."

"The maid betrayed me, then.——I'll——

"Not at all, sir. You never spoke a word to Bridget. I was the only person you saw."

"He is innocent as a lamb. The guilt, sir, lies wholly on me. Shall I send for Arbaid that you may commission him to release Captain Armstrong?"

lies wholly on me. Shall I send for Arbald that you may commission him to release Captain Armstrong?"

"Madam, this is a farce!"

"Sir, I know it. But it has been played out, and you, unwittingly, have acted the clown."

"The end is not yet. I refuse to release Captain Armstrong. I refuse to be governed by a forced construction to a promise which I meant to apply differently. He is still my prisoner, madam, and your proceeding shall only hasten his condemnation and punishment. By heavens, I have a mind to go at once, and shoot him like a dog!"

"If your promise," said Rose, calmly, "is not observed to the letter, I'll proclaim you through the army. I'll degrade you in the eyes of every English officer and gentleman in the land. You disgrace your sword, sir, by this very hesitation. Your bitter, unsoldierly and dishonorable hatred and persecution of an honorable prisoner, drove me to an extremity which nothing but a question of life or death could have permitted me to undertake. My womanly modesty I was forced to outrage. You compelled me to stoop to things which I abhorred. But I have a brother who is an English officer; a husband who is an American one. Be careful, sir, in what way you use my name in connection with this night's work, for, be assured, they will not fail to punish a slanderer, or a libertine tongue. Release Captain Armstrong, and your treachery remains a secret. None need know it, for the marriage I shall require to be solemnized before consenting to bear his name. But refuse, and with one word I'll make a public confession."

Major Cleveland walked the floor during these remarks, gnawing his lips, and muttering flerce imprecations.

"Madam, I'll not abandon the field so easily."

"Madam, I'll not abandon the field so easily."

"You acknowledged the binding nature of your promise, when you attempted, with such heartless cruelty, to entrap the captain into a marriage with an Irish servant. How would that story sound, think you? And what would be said of the sagacity and discernment of an officer who could allow such a deceit to be practiced upon him as I practiced upon you? There is only one retreat—let the captain go."

The major ground his teeth together. He tried to think of a loop-hole through which he might escape. Nothing suggested itself. He was hemmed in on all sides. At last he stopped before her.

"Miss Elsworth!"

"Excuse me, sir, if I assist your memory.

"Miss Elsworth!"

"Excuse me, sir, if I assist your memory.

Mrs. Armstrong!"

"Mrs. Armstrong, then—"

He was interrupted by the quick, clear crack of a rifle. The major started, and turned his head to listen. It was followed immediately by a dozen rapid discharges and a faint, distant shout. He drew his sword, and throwing open the door, hurried into the hall. Rose darted from the room by another way, which ushered her into the drawing-room. Here all was terror and confusion. The officers, at the first alarm, had left their partners, and hastened without to learn the danger. Some of the ladies were screaming, all were pale, but the largest number remained calm and collected. They were used to such scenes.

Meanwhile, confusion and uncertainty prevailed without the largest member remained calm and collected. They were used to such scenes.

collected. They were used to such scenes.
Meanwhile, confusion and uncertainty prevailed without. The discharges still continued.
Major Cleveland took his stand upon the piazza, and rapidly gave his orders. Officers rushed hither and thither, and the troops, many of them aroused from slumber, began rapidly to assemble, and form upon the lawn. A sentine was brought up, badly wounded, who explained that he had been fired on from an ambuscade. A young officer, a moment afterwards, came up, and hurriedly informed the commandant that they were beset on all sides by a party whose number it was impossible to ascertain. The moon by this time was near its setting, and for the moment, obscured by a cloud. This of course confused and embarassed the moments of the levelists but they rassed the movements of the loyalists, but they were soon mounted, and, headed by Major Cleveland, dashed towards the scene of attack.

The ladies, huddled together, listened to the clamor with the courage which so distinguished the women of that period. Several of the troop had been detailed and left to protect them—for Major Cleveland would rather lose a battle than his reputation for gallantry.

Rose was pale and calm. If she secretly ex-perienced more fear and anxiety than the rest,

it was because she had so much more at stake. She could not conceal from herself the likelihood that Major Cleveland might attempt to sever the gordian knot of his perplexity by the death of Walter—so easily accomplished in the midst of a melee like this, without a chance of (CONTINUED ON PAGE 6.)



# Hot Weather Cookery.



HERE is very little pleasure in doing kitchen work in hot kitchen work in hot weather. At other times of the year the housekeeper does not object to the duties that keep her near the stove, but when the thermometer begins running up as though it were going to pop over the top of the tube she longs to get to a cooler corner.

One of the things besides the heat that

One of the things besides the heat that makes the kitchen work harder in summer is the feeling that people want something to tempt their appetites. In cool weather almost anything goes in the way of food so long as it is whole-some and well cooked. In the heated term it is different. The appetites of the men who do the out-door work may be good but the appetites of the women and children begin to fail. Very often the men, too, turn away from the abundant provisions and wish that they had something else for a change.

dant provisions and wish that they had something else for a change.

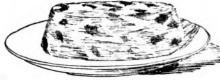
The great struggle is to find something that will taste good and be nourishing and give the variety that is craved without putting a great burden of extra work upon the housekeeper. She generally has a big load to carry in summer, when, if she lives on a farm, there is the care of the butter and milk and very often extra mouths to cook for. She is willing to do all she can, but sometimes it seems a little more than she can bear to be expected to do all the hard labor and provide fresh bills of fare at the same time.

There is no doubt that it is hard and the only way to lighten the care is by trying to find out

There is no doubt that it is hard and the only way to lighten the care is by trying to find out something that will save extra work and yet provide good results in the way of food. There are very few housekeepers who do not wish to make their table attractive. They feel a pride in it and unless they are very tired like to learn of new ways of doing things—especially when these new things can be done without too much extra care.

extra care.

One of the ways in which they can simplify their labor is by accustoming their families to a certain number of cold dishes. I do not mean by this that hot food is to be ruled out. By no means. In the first place all cold food is good



JELLIED CHICKEN.

for no one as a steady diet, and in the second place there are many persons who object to it and do not feel satisfied unless they have a certain amount of hot food placed before them three times or at least twice a day. One cannot expect to break them of the habit all at once, but with a little effort it is possible to offer them such attractive cold dishes that they will in time come to prefer them to an unchanging diet of hot food.

Take meat, for instance. Plain cold meat.

will in time come to prefer them to an unchanging diet of hot food.

Take meat, for instance. Plain cold meat, while some persons like it very much, is not relished by many men and women. But with very little more trouble it is possible to make the cold meat into a savoury or attractive dish that nearly every one will find acceptable.

Look at beef. Cold boiled beef is not very good to the palate. Cold roast beef is better, but in these days of high prices for beef it is not always within the powers of housekeepers who have little money to spare to buy a good big piece of roasting beef in order to have a lot left over to eat when cold. With the little extra work that is involved in making beef a la mode,—a name that sounds more formidable than the thing is itself,—one may get a cheaper cut of beef and have a round that will be good hot and good cold and will tempt the appetite as long as there is a piece of it left. It may be cooked when other work is going on at the kitchen stove and if a large piece is prepared it will save cooking of fresh meat for a couple of days afterwards.

Look, too, at corned beef. The reason more days afterwards.

days afterwards.

Look, too, at corned beef. The reason more persons do not like this is because it is so carelessly prepared for the table. It often comes on in a ragged, untrimmed piece and makes its appearance when cold in the same shape. If a little more care were taken in the cooking and in pressing it properly when it is cold it would in pressing it properly when it is cold it would look better and taste better. For the food that is attractive to the eye is better to the taste than that to the looks of which no pains have

Then there is the question of poultry. For some reason, I have never been able to understand, this is generally scarcer on the farm than anything else,—and this, too, when the poultry is not sent to market. If the younger chickens have to be sold the older fowls can at least he served to the home people and if propleast be served to the home people and if properly cooked and well seasoned may be good cold as well as hot.

cious dressings that may be made without it. As for the materials of which the salads are to be made, they are to be had on a farm or in the country for the picking. There is hardly a fresh vegetable that is not good in a salad, there is hardly any kind of cold meat that may not be used in one.

All the house tener may do is to give this

hardly any kind of cold meat that may not be used in one.

All the housekeeper may do is to give this matter her attention in order to make her work simpler and her table better. When I say to make her work simpler, I do not mean that in certain ways she may not have to take pains she has not taken before. But it will be worth while. If she goes in for salads and good cold meats she can do up her preparations at once and then have more time free from the bondage of the kitchen stove. When she has no hot meat to get ready for her noonday dinner the work of cooking the vegetables will not be so trying. When she has made a salad that with the beans for the Sunday dinner will make enough of a feast to satisfy the family without a good deal of additional hot cookery, she has so much to the good.

Moreover, she can have the thought that she is doing her family good. It is much better for them to have less meat and more green food in the warm days. Nothing is more wholesome than a well prepared salad, not made of rich things, but of simple ingredients that tempt the appetite and do not upset the stomach. I have tried in this paper to give a few hints that may be helpful to the women all over the country who have to work hard and carry burdens at which many people never guess. I wish I knew you all. I do know enough of you



to make me feel when I write these things to you that I am writing to those who are my friends or whom I hope to make my friends. I only wish you would write to me and let me know if there are any suggestions I could answer that would be of any help to you.

only wish you would write to me and let me know if there are any suggestions I could answer that would be of any help to you.

BEEF A LA MODE.

For this get a piece of beef from the round. It should not weigh less than seven pounds and may be anywhere from that to twelve pounds in weight, according to the size of the family. Bind around it a strip of stout muslin that will keep it in shape and prevent its spreading when it is cooked. If your butcher will do it, get him to lard it with strips of salt pork and if he will not, do it yourself. Take a narrow bladed sharp knife and thrust it through the meat, making slits through it and put the strips of pork in these, leaving them sticking out a little below and above. Make other slits and stuff into these a mixture of chopped pork and fine bread crumbs, well seasoned with pepper, sweet herbs, such as summer savoury, thyme and sweet marjoram, and a little dry mustard. Moisten all with vinegar and cram this forcemeat into the slits and rub it into the surface of the meat. This dish will be more highly flavored if to a cupful of vinegar you will add half a teaspoonful each of allspice, cloves, pepper, salt and mustard and a teaspoonful each of such sweet herbs as have been mentioned above and let the meat lie in this several hours or over night, turning it several times. Even without this it is good. Put it into a broad pot, pour over it enough hot water to nearly cover it and let it cook slowly at the rate of half an hour to the pound. Turn it once. A cupful of the broth from it may be thickened for gravy and the rest will do for soup. When the meat goes from the table put it under a heavy weight and leave it until it is cold. Slice it across the grain. It is good to look at and good to eat.

PRESSED CORNED BEEF.

Select a piece of the brisket, or of the plate, if you like a streak of fat and a streak of lean. Take a piece of cotten leath that has been

PRESSED CORNED BEEF.
Select a piece of the brisket, or of the plate, if you like a streak of fat and a streak of lean.
Take a piece of cotton cloth that has been shrunk and tie the meat in this in the shape you wish it to be when it is cooked and put with it in the pot a carrot, an onion and a turnip, sliced, a stalk of celery and a few cabbage leaves. Cover it with cold water and let it cook



POT CHEESE SALAD.

very slowly. Four or five hours is none too much. Let it get nearly cold in the liquor before you take it out, and then put it under a heavy weight, leaving the cloth on. Trim off all ragged edges before sending it to table. They may be used for hash.

JELLIED CHICKEN.

Stew an old fowl until tender, putting it on in cold water with an onion, a few stalks of celery and a small bunch of parsley. Let it come to the boil very slowly and cook until the meat slips from the bones. Cut it off in neat pieces, strain two cupfuls of the soup and add to this two tablespoonfuls of gelatine that has been soaked half an hour in a little cold water. Season it well with salt and pepper and sprinkle One of the greatest aids a country house-keeper can have is found in salads and yet these are something she is very likely to neglect or to despise. Perhaps this is because she has en exaggerated idea of the cost and trouble en in a pattern in the bottom of a brick tin, they involve. This is a mistake. Good olive in pour in the gravy with part of the jelly, and oil for salads is never cheap and although it pays to have it for some salads there are deli-

perfectly firm and then turn it out. Place letperfectly firm and then turn it out. Place let-tuce leaves or parsley around it and a couple of hard boiled eggs, cut in slices.

This is a very nice supper dish and is espe-cially suitable when you have invited company for supper

BOILED SALAD DRESSING, I.
Beat two tablespoonfuls of butter light with fork and stir into it a half teaspoonful each of salt, pepper and mustard, a teaspoonful of white sugar, and three-quarters of a cupful of hot milk. Pour this upon the beaten yolks of two eggs and stir until thick in a double boiler over the fire. Add slowly three tablespoonfuls of hot vinegar. Strain and put away to become very cold.

very cold.

BOILED SALAD DRESSING, II.

Cream together a teaspoonful of flour and a heaping teaspoonful of butter, stir in one egg beaten light, a teaspoonful of white sugar, half a teaspoonful each of pepper and mustard and four tablespoonfuls of vinegar. Put all in a saucepan and cook slowly, stirring all the time until the sauce is very thick. Take from the fire, and salt to taste and put into a cold place. This dressing is delicious if enough whipped cream is stirred into it just before it is to be used to thin it to about the consistency of double cream. If the cream is not at hand a little milk may take its place.

A "LEFT-OVER" SALAD.

a little milk may take its place.

A "LEFT-OVER" SALAD.

This may be made from the remains of several kinds of cold vegetables,—the odds and ends that sometimes bother the housekeeper who does not want to have everything go to waste. On lettuce leaves arrange nicely a half cupful of cold string beans, cut into inch lengths, a cold beet, cut into dice, the few peas that were not eaten at dinner, and a cold potato or two cut in neat cubes. Place each vegetable separately. Over all pour your dressing. All should be very cold and it will be found a delicious dish.

EGG SALAD.

EGG SALAD.

Boil eggs hard. Cut them into quarters or eighths and lay them on lettuce leaves. Sprinkle them well with a little salt and pepper and pour over them one of the dressings for which a recipe has been given, or pass it separately. separately.

POT CHEESE SALAD.

Mix with the home made pot cheese enough milk and butter to make it as soft as it can be

milk and butter to make it as soft as it can be handled, and season it to taste with salt and pepper. Form it with the hands into balls the size of large marbles, lay these on lettuce leaves and serve salad dressing with them.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR—In conducting this department Mrs. Herrick would be pleased to answer any questions that our readers may ask. It is her desire to please all "COMFORT" readers and in order to find out your likes and dislikes can't you write and ask a few questions. By so doing you may give us some hint or suggestion as to how this Household Department should be conducted to suit the greatest number of our readers. Mrs. Herrick's mother, MARION HARLAND, has made herself famous by her rare judgment in household matters, and her daughter is equally gifted in this connection. Address all letters Christine Terhune Herrick, care COMFORT, Augusta Maine.



Spirits of naphtha will destroy bedbugs. Drying laces by clapping them between the nands injures them.

When you pack your trunk put all the heavy things at the bottom.

Salts of ammonia mixed with lime will remove wine stains from silk.

The skin of green cucumbers, if placed about where roaches frequent, will kill them.

A pound of sulphate of zinc dissolved in two pailfuls of water will deodorize an offensive cess-pool.

Scrubbing porcelain or enamel bathtubs with any soap containing sand thins and cracks the

Boil castor oil with an equal quantity of milk, sweeten with a little sugar to remove its disagreeable taste.

Ink and iron mould may be taken out of goods by wetting the spots with milk and covering them with common salt.

Rub a cheese with a woolen cloth dipped in sweet oil to destroy the mites in it. One or two applications will suffice.

Hang an old eiderdown quilt in the sun for a ew hours to restore it to all the elasticity and life it had when new.

To clean floor boards scrub them with a mixture of unslacked lime dissolved in boiling water. Use two tablespoonfals to a quart of water. Isinglass boiled in spirits of wine will produce a transparent cement which will unite broken glass so as to render the fracture almost imperceptible.

To keep out moths use alum. Wash over the crevices of store boxes with alum water and sprinkle powdered alum wherever it is suspected there

To keep silver bright wash it in clean, soapy water and dry while still hot with a clean cloth. Give a final rub with a leather and put away for

next using. To preserve potatoes dip them by the baskettul into boiling water and let them remain for a minute or two. The hot water kills the germs that are in the skin.

If the wick of a lamp does not move easily in the holder, draw out one or two threads from the side. The wick should be fully as large as the holder will receive.

An easy way to clean lamp chimneys is to hold them for a moment in the steam from a boiling kettle, and rub dry with a clean cloth and polish with a soft newspaper.

The brown-spotted condition of pillow ticks is really grease and dirt that work through the slips. Ticks made of unbleached muslin put over the ticks proper save pillows a great deal. They should be removed and washed once in two or three months thus insuring clean, sweet pillows.

To keep matting fresh in little used rooms sweep it very clean and wipe it with a cloth wrung out of sweet milk. Do this once a year. If the milk wash is used on a living room or a piazza matting follow it by wiping with very hot clear water to prevent drawing flies.

Flannels and other woolens should be washed in a lather of boiled soap and water, just as hot as the hand can bear comfortably, rinsed in one or two waters of the same temperature and hung in the shade to dry. If dried in the house never put them near the fire to cause steam to rise in the

# A Girl's Wit.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5.)

the deed being traced home to its actor.

As Rose listened, she thought the firing became narrowed and more concentrated to one point. This point appeared to shift, and to grow more remote. Suddenly, even while this continued, her quick ear detected a struggle, an occasional shot, and the bustle of some movement nearer the house. Was an attack pending against them? She walked to the window with the intention, if possible, of learning the cause of this singular movement. Kate rushed before her, and threw her arms around her neck.

neck.

"Don't, sister, don't expose yourself."

Suddenly a rapid discharge of pistols, musketry, etc., took place apparently very near the house. Rose, alive to the situation of her lover, detected that it was in the direction and certainly near the outhouse, in which Walter was confined. She shuddered, and covered her face with her hands. The discharge was followed by the tramp of horses' feet, the clash of steel, a shriek, then a loud cheer and a furious rush of horsemen galloping through the grounds. Rose darted to the window, and threw open the shutters. A party of horsemen were crushing through the shrubbery, but making for the spur of the forest. Was she mistaken? Did she not for a single instant catch a glimpse of one form towering high and nobly, which could belong to no other than Walter Armstrong? Had he escaped? A thrill of joy ran through her veins. Hope was more than fear, and she staggered to a chair. As she did so, she saw the face of Mr. Metcalf looking at her through the doorway, beaming and delighted. He was safe then. A thanksgiving went up to Heaven from the depths of Rose's heart.

The firing was becoming distant, scattered, and faint. It soon ceased altogether. In a few moments Major Cleveland and his troop came galloping up. The major leaped from his horse and entered the drawing-room.

"The danger is over, ladies. The enemy is put to flight. I hope you will resume your dancing without fear. I shall guard more carrilly against a repetition of such an alarm."

Captain Arbald burst into the room, and whispered a word to his commander.

"Escaped! We've been tricked."

"It was all a ruse, sir, to effect a rescue of the prisoner."

"Are you the victors, gentlemen?" said Rose, rising, and smiling with a quiet sarcasm that triving and smiling with a quiet sarcasm that triving and smiling with a quiet sarcasm that triving and and sin the same triving and smiling with a quiet sarcasm that triving and the sarcasm that triving and the sarcasm that triving and the sarcasm that the same triving and sa neck.
"Don't, sister, don't expose yourself."

prisoner."

"Are you the victors, gentlemen?" said Rose, rising, and smiling with a quiet sarcasm that stirred up all the major's rage.

"Your precious lover——"

A look of concentrated indignation from Rose checked his impertinence; and, turning to the company, the major bowed, hoped that they would resume their pleasures, and walked from the room.

"Where are the guard?" said he to Arbald, as soon as they had withdrawn from the presence of the ladies.

"Both badly wounded."

soon as they had withdrawn from the presence of the ladies.

"Both badly wounded."

"A curse upon them."

"It was adroitly planned, sir. We followed will-o'-the-wisp, while the real enemy was near at home. The whole party probably did not number twenty men. A half dozen lured us from the spot, the rest made a rush for the prisoner. Both of the guard were struck down, but, though wounded, they recount with clearness the whole affair."

Captain Arbald's surmises were mainly true. Walter's companions, whom he had left in the forest, finding that he had fallen into the enemy's hands, roused up the neighbors and effected his rescue in the manner we have seen. Major Cleveland took a turn up and down the plazza, after listening to the account of the affair from Arbald. "Humph!" muttered heat last, "I believe it is fortunate, after all. I was in a perplexity. Fate has decided for me."

He had spoken aloud. Rose was on the plazza unseen by him, and overheard him. "Magnanimously said, my dear major. The battle is over, and let us be friends. Will you dance?" "Madame, I yield to a woman. You fight with weapons I do not understand—" "With wit, eh?"

The major wiped his brow.

"Really, Miss Elsworth, you have me at every point. I am a prisoner at your mercy. May not tonight's work be forgotten?"

"Yes, if you seek no vengeance upon Armstrong."

"You have my signet."

"True. I will trust you."

The pleasures were resumed, and the ball continued to early daylight, when the guests dispersed, conducted to their respective homes by companies of the troops. A little after noon Major Cleveland resumed his march, and the mansion resumed its old quiet and peace.

When all were gone, Rose went to her father's library, seated herself at his feet, and confessed all. He was astounded. The perfidious scheme of Cleveland's aroused his indignation—and entirely justified, in his eyes, the extreme measures of his daughter.

"I designed it otherwise, Rose, but you have shown me the extent of your devotion to Walter. I will hope that time will

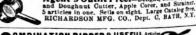
union."
That very day Mr. Metcalf came to Rose, and after much hemming and hawing, asked her consent to his marriage with Bridget.
"Oho," said she, "then you've been making love under the rose all this time!"
The consent was freely given.
Six months after the events above related, the marriage between Walter and Rose was solemnized, publicly. Walter continued in the service during the war, and lived for many years after in peace and plenty. after in peace and plenty.

THE END.











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The opening chapter of this intensely interesting story appeared in May Comfort. Back numbers may be obtained by enclosing two cents to Com-port, Augusta, Maine, for each number desired.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.
Caleb Brett, an aged and prominent citizen of Mansfield village, drew a considerable sum of money from the local savings bank on a certain forenoon and was seen to enter Purinton's mill located near the edge of the village. He did not reappear and later a searching party found his old beaver hat on a slab pile at the foot of a sluice leading from the upper part of the mill. There was also found on the slab a portion of an orange that Brett had been eating as he walked into the mill. It was considered probable that the old man had come to his death by falling down the sluice, but no one could explain just how. The strange part of the affair was that his body had been removed. The length of the sluice was such that it seemed certain that death must have resulted from the fall. Several persons, his nephew, George Brett, Arthur Wing, the village printer, Daniel Purinton, owner of the mill, were known to have been in or about the mill near the time when the old man disappeared.

## CHAPTER III.

"WHERE DID YOU GET THAT PAPER?"

"WHERE DID YOU GET THAT PAPER?"

ETECTIVE Ordwell was spending a sultry afternoon in his room at the village hotel. He was going over some two hundred pages of manuscript that embodied the results of his several weeks' of work on the Brett mystery. He was forced to admit to himself, as he had already stated to Mrs. Erskine, Caleb Brett's daughter and his employer, that his results were far from definite.

Nevertheless, Mrs. Erskine had asked him to continue his work, and to co-operate with the county officers. Therefore Ordwell had asked the high sheriff to call around that afternoon and go over the matter with him.

There came a vigorous plack! plack! on the cracked door of the detective's room. He opened to admit the red-headed nigh sheriff.

"I've brought Seleetman Andrews with me," explained the perspiring visitor. "He thinks that so long's the town has a big reward up it's only right that he should know how things is movin'."

The detective proceeded immediately to busi-

The detective proceeded immediately to busi-

The detective proceeded immediately to business.

"Probably, Mr. Sheriff," he said, "your findings as you have hunted for evidence correspond pretty nearly with mine. I'm not going to trouble you with all this stuff here," he said, fingering the pages of his manuscript book. "I simply state the many points of my discoveries and will ask you if your line of evidence corresponds with mine.

"Now it appears to be proved that on the 24th day of June at about 10 o'clock in the forenoon Caleb Brett drew from the bank the sum of \$1500 and started for Purinton's mill. He had previously stated to the treasurer that he was going to loan the money to Daniel Purinton. The latter wanted to pay for repairs that he had been making on his mill. Squire Brett went down to the mill with the money because, so the treasurer understood him to say, he wanted to look the Purinton property over carefully before he advanced the loan."

"That's all jest as I get it," broke in the

"That's all jest as I get it," broke in the

"I understand it the same way," added the

selectman.
"But before Brett went to the mill he dropped into the office of the Mansfield Mirror and told old man Wing and son Arthur that he had directed the bank folks to foreclose on the mortgage that the bank holds on the Mirror property. Brett was angry at Arthur the mortgage that the bank holds on the Mir-ror property. Brett was angry at Arthur Wing because the young man had been bold enough to pay his addresses to Grace Erskine, the squire's grand-daughter. It is admitted that young Wing talked roughly to the old man, who went away vowing vengeance. Young Wing repented, so he says, and for his father's sake started out to hunt Brett up and apologize and entreat the squire to leave his father in peace.

father in peace.

"Now, gentlemen,"—the detective became earnest and put up his forefinger to mark his points—"there were three men who are admitted to have been looking for Caleb Brett that forenoon. One was his nephew George Brett who had driven over from Mansfield Corner to have it out with the old man about that girl he was determined to marry despite the girl he was determined to marry despite the old man's commands. There was Daniel Purinton who wanted to borrow the money Brett drew from the bank. There was Arthur Wing, lover of Grace Erskine, who wanted to coax Brett not to turn his father and himself out of the Mirror office."

have got to talking and held the orange in his hand for half an hour—say, while he was talking with some one else than George Brett," counselled the detective. "We've got to be

counselled the detective. "We've got to be careful when we go to figuring a thing up on circumstantial evidence. Now follow carefully what Hawkes says: after the Squire had gone into the mill Arthur Wing came hurrying along. A few minutes after Wing had gone in George Brett came out, got into his team and rode back past the store. He reined up at the junction of the road with Elm street and after thinking a moment rode off down Elm right past the Squire's house and away towards the past the Squire's house and away towards the Corner. Then along came Daniel Purinton going toward the mill. All these happenings

going toward the mill. All these happenings covered only about twenty minutes.

"A minute or so before Purinton reached the door of the mill Wing came out and walked back up the street. When the two men met, Hawkes, who was sitting on his store platform, noticed that they exchanged a few words. Purinton went into the mill and Wing came along the street. About half way between the mill and Hawkes' store is a little brook. Hawkes noticed without thinking especially about it at the time that Wing stopped at the brook, went down beside the culvert and washed his hands. He wiped them on the grass and then came down beside the culvert and washed his hands. He wiped them on the grass and then came past the store and started up Elm street toward the Squire's house. But he stopped and cried out to Hawkes: 'Are you sure that you haven't seen the Squire come back from the mill and go home?' 'He's in the mill,' said Hawkes. 'No, he isn't,' said Wing. 'I hunted all around and shouted for him. George Brett had been hunting there, too, and he told me he couldn't find his uncle.' Hawkes says that Wing then allowed that he wouldn't hunt any more for they were busy at the office printing the paper. Then he went down street. Daniel Purinton remained at the mill an hour. He had a bump on his head and his hand was bleeding a bit when he came to the store. He explained to remained at the mill an nour. He had a bump on his head and his hand was bleeding a bit when he came to the store. He explained to Hawkes that the gate lever was a new one and the workmen had adjusted it so poorly that it stuck. While he was working at it it slipped and hit him a clip. He bought some courtplaster and liniment of Hawkes and went home. He did say before going that he hadn't been able to find old man Brett at the mill. Hawkes allowed that the Squire might have slipped out when he wasn't noticing and had gone up across the field to his house.

"Those are the direct statements of Grocer Hawkes, gentlemen, without theories. Unless we get some more facts to go with them, theorizing isn't going to do us much good. It's complicated."

"How about that hand-washing that Wing did?" the selectman inquired.

"How about that hand-washing that Wing did?" the selectman inquired.
"Says he had made up his mind to look the Squire up at the house and so he stopped to wash some of the ink off his hands. Thought he might see the women folks, you understand." "It's quite reasonable when a fellow's in love," assented the selectman.
"George Brett," continued the detective, "says that he hunted for his uncle in the mill. Thought the old man had come in ahead of him. He went down on the lower floors for he

"says that he nunted for his uncle in the mill. Thought the old man had come in ahead of him. He went down on the lower floors for he thought the old man might be looking the property over. Couldn't find him. He shouted several times, but the water running over the dam was making so much noise that there wasn't much use in trying to be heard. George says that he went all over the under part of the mill. When he came back onto the upper floor that you enter from the street, you understand, there stood Arthur Wing. Brett has been hinting around, when he has been drunk, that Wing jumped and looked guilty, but I don't take much stock in Brett's statements along certain lines. Wing told Brett that he had seen nothing of the old man, though he had been told that the Squire was right ahead of him. Both claim that the thought occurred to them that perhaps the Squire had peeped into the mill and then had gone across the field to dinner. George says that he did think of stopping at the house and hesitated at the junction of the road. But he realized that he had been drinking too much to talk with his uncle of the road. But he realized that he had been drinking too much to talk with his uncle. Wing, who staid at the mill for a moment in

Wing, who staid at the mill for a moment in the hope that the Squire might appear from somewhere, so he asserts, changed his mind, too, about going to the house.

"Purinton vows that he didn't see the Squire anywhere. He staid around the mill till noon, puttering, and then went to dinner. I asked him if he noticed anything on the top of the slab pile when he was in the under part of the mill and he said he didn't look to see. But he thinks he would have seen a body if it had been there."

The three men, detective, sheriff and select

old man's commands. There was Daniel Purinton who wanted to borrow the money Brett drew from the bank. There was Arthur Wing, lover of Grace Erskine, who wanted to coax Brett not to turn his father and himself out of the Mirror office."

"And, as I get the evidence together," said the sheriff, "those parties made a pretty close connection at the mill about the time Squire Brett got there."

"Just so," agreed the detective. "It is on this phase of the situation that Hawkes, the grocer, becomes our most important witness. He probably tells you the same story that he does me. According to Hawkes there was a man in that mill waiting for Caleb Brett."

"George Brett," said the sheriff leaning forward eagerly. "He—"

"Just a moment; let's not hurry," protested the detective. "But when you go to passing motives around don'tskip Arthur Wing. He was dead in love with Grace Erskine and rode past the store to the mill. The treasurer had told him that the old man had started for the mill. Hawkes says that George Brett came along from the direction of the savings bank in his team and rode past the store to the mill. The pretty soon along came the squire, bought an orange of Hawkes and walked away peeling it. He went to the mill, too."

"Find man ne sald he didn't look to see, But he thinks he would have seen a body if thad been there."

The three men, detective, sheriff and select-man, sat in silence and looked at each wrinkling their brows in thought.

"If there was anything crooked in this matter it strikes me that George Brett had the most to gain," said the sheriff. "He wanted to gain," said the she

to tell."

"It isn't a bit surprising to hear Dan'l Purinton talk that way," broke in Selectman Andrews. "He's always been as close-mouthed as tophet—and there don't anything git out of tophet. But as to Arthur Wing—he has always seemed to be one of the most open-hearted chaps in the world. I don't see how it happens that he has anything to cover up."

Detective Ordwell locked his papers into his trunk. "There is one more thing, gentlemen," he continued. "Last night the women-folks at the Brett house told me that George Brett had blurted out something rather peculiar, to say the least. He had been drinking and was very angry at the time, and those elements are to be

blurted out something rather peculiar, to say the least. He had been drinking and was very angry at the time, and those elements are to be taken into account. Brett, so the women-folks told me, declared that he knew that his uncle had been murdered and furthermore if he wanted to do so he could put his finger on the man who did the job."

"Sho!" ejaculated the detective, his eyes bulging. Then after a moment's pause the sheriff went on, his wrath blazing out. "By Jupiter, I think it's about time to give some of these knowin' people a chance to tell what they know. Here's this one and the other promanadin' around town and sayin' what they have a mind to and keepin' still about what they have a mind to. If I don't make an arrest pretty soon I can see my finish when election comes along. And——" the sheriff paused and smiled grimly—"If I arrest the wrong man it will be worse for me than——" He scratched his chin and fell to musing.

"Mr. Sheriff," said the detective, "can you take a short ride with me after supper?"

"Over to Mansfield Corner."

"Are ve thinkin' that it will be a good idea

"Over to Mansfield Corner.

"Are ye thinkin' that it will be a good idea to give George Brett a chance to git rid of some of his wide and extended knowledge?"

"It occurred to me that it would be well to do so," the detective answered quietly. They found George Brett at his clothing store. He greeted them rather ungraciously and when they asked for a half hour's talk with him he asked them to come to the hotel. with him he asked them to come to the hotel. He explained as they walked along that he and his wife were stopping at the Oriental. "We're going to keeping house as soon as the estate is whacked up," said he. "Maude says she doesn't propose to start up for herself until she can do it in style."

can do it in style."

A young woman with many frills arose languidly from a sofa in the hotel room and greeted the men with a bad affectation of gentility. At the request of George she set out a decanter and her husband and the high sheriff partook liberally.

"It might be well for Mrs. Brett to leave us a moment," suggested the detective. But the young woman seated herself on the arm of the big chair in which her husband was sitting.

young woman seated nerself on the arm of the big chair in which her husband was sitting. "Maude and I are in partnership in all things," said Young Brett.
"You understand of course that I wish to talk with you about the disappearance of your uncle—the old matter," commenced the detective.

"Of course," snapped the young man. "I'm

"Of course," snapped the young man. "I'm used now to having detectives dogging around after me."
"Perhaps if you had told your full story, honestly, at the start, you would have been chased less, said the detective quietly. Brett started to speak, but the officer went on quickly. "I was obliged to work the statement out of you processed as you wall remember."

ly. "I was obliged to work the statement out of you piecemeal, as you well remember."
"I have simply been attending to my own business," growled Brett.
"You have told your relatives that you know who killed your uncle and are not going to disclose his name. I suppose you call that attending to your own business, don't you?"
The detective shot his bolt fairly.
Young Brett changed countenance and com-

The detective shot his bolt fairly.
Young Brett changed countenance and commenced to bluster. His wife whispered in his ear and he smiled at her and said, "You fellows don't get a word out of me, understand? Isn't that so, Maude?"
"George and I have decided that there has been too much meddling where we're concerned," she remarked, with a toss of her chin.

chin.

"But consider your position in the matter," expostulated the detective. "You were known to have been in that mill at the time your uncle entered. You profit largely by his decease. You claim to have accurate information. And yet you refuse to disclose—you of all others, who should be most anxious to see your uncle's myderer run dawn." cle's murderer run down."

"Do you mean to insinuate here in the presence of my wife that I had anything to do with Caleb Brett's stepping out?" he demanded

"I simply state that your position is suspi-

"Yes, you can, my dear sir. You can at once give us such information as is in your possession and which you ought to have turned over long ago if you know anything about this matter."

"Then both of you go out and hoot," growled Brett. "You won't get a word out of me. 'Tisn't any of your business."
"Is that final, Mr. Brett?" asked the detec-

tive.
"That's just what it is." The young man leaned back with a sneer on his face.

Here occurred a startling interruption. The high sheriff leaped to his feet, his face fairly purple with rage and excitement. All the irritation that had nagged him for weeks, on account of the slurs and complaints at the inability of the officers of the county to fasten on the guilty person, now burst out.

bility of the officers of the county to fasten on the guilty person, now burst out.

"You stand there and thumb your nose at the law, do ye," he shouted, brandishing his fists at the shrinking George. "You and that millhand wife of yours sneer at me, do ye? I have felt right along, George Brett, that you of all men on the face of God's green earth had most reason to wish your uncle tucked away. Now you go to braggin' to your relatives about the service some man has done you by getting your uncle out of the way. Who was that man? It was the man who was waitin' there your uncle out of the way. Who was that man? It was the man who was waitin' there in the mill that day—the man that was prowling down stairs, the man that is settin' there in that chair."

The high chaift with trombling hands draw

The high sheriff with trembling hands drew The high sheriff with trembling hands drew handcuffs from his pocket and fairly stuttering in his excitement he cried, "I now do my duty, George Brett, by arrestin' you for the murder of your uncle, Caleb. Stick out your hands, and may God have mercy on your soul," he concluded hardly knowing that he was using the familiar formula of the sentencing judge. As he stepped forward with the irons Mrs Brett flow at him and dug her pails into his face. jest about the minute he went into that mill on the mill and yet he told the bank folks that flow at him and dug her nails into his face.

on the mill and yet he told the bank folks that he had changed his mind about borrowing the cash of them. He will not tell where he got his cuffs on the young man who sat staring at him money, though. Says he is under promise not in amazed silence.

As soon as the irons were on the detective drew the wrathful sheriff to one side of the room and whispered, "Haven't you been a bit hasty in this matter, Mr. Sheriff?"

"No, by —" the detective blurted, dabbing his handkerchief at the bleeding stripes on his cheek. But he checked himself and added in low tones, "Well, p'haps I have been. That drink of whiskey and them slurs were a leetle too much for my nerves."

"Wouldn't it be better to call it off?" suggested the detective.

gested the detective.

"Wouldn't it be better to call it off?" suggested the detective.

The detective glanced at the young man who stood with his wife at the opposite side of the room. "I've arrested him and now I'll stand behind it. I'll own up that I didn't intend to do it, exactly, but now it's done and I'll play my hand out. Let him go on the stand and talk to the judge, now."

That night a deputy sheriff of the county slept on a cot outside George Brett's door.

But over at Mansfield village stirring events had been transpiring in the absence of the sheriff and Ordwell. That same afternoon Arthur Wing had blanched and trembled when a scrap of paper had been shaken under his nose by a state detective. Then the officer had demanded sternly:

"Where did you get that paper?"

And when Arthur Wing had not been able to answer they had slipped the handcuffs on his wrists. That night Deputy sheriff Jason Dustin slept outside the door of the young printer. The smouldering rivalry between the high sheriff and the state detective had blazed up so hotly that within a dozen hours the county was on fire from end to end. The intensely interesting solution of this fascinating story can only be solved by at once sending your subscription to Comfort, Augusta, Maine, or renewing your subscription now either for six or twelve months, you can keep in touch with all of the good things being added to Comfort from month to can keep in touch with all of the good things being added to Comfort from month to month.

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hastened to overtake the girl whom, for the

are looking!"
Flossie smiled. "Am I?" she queried. "Do
you think we shall be gone long?"
"No—why should we?" And he helped Flossie into the cab.
It was not far distant, or at least it did not seem

so to Flossie, who had never before ridden in a hansom, and felt a strange exhilaration in the sunshine, fresh air, and the panoramic life that

swept by. Her heart gave an exultant throb as she passed at last under the white and gold portals of the Aethalion Theater, where, accord-ing to innumerable decorated placards, the "Great Spectacular Marvel of Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt" was at present being produced.

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## CHAPTER IV.

EARLY a week had elapsed and the bright winter sun was shining into Mrs. bright winter sun was shining into Mrs.
Joycotte's quiet parlor, one morning, when Flossie Field seemed to wake from a season of blank unconsciousness.
"Have I been asleep?" she asked, vaguely. "Oh,—I remember now."
She clasped both hands over her eyes and sank back on the pillowed sofa. Mrs. Joycotte came to her side with a cup of fragrant beef

tea.
"Drink this, Flossie," said she. "You'll be

"Drink this, Flossie," said she. "You'll be better soon."
Flossie obeyed, her sweet and submissive nature asserting itself at last. From that moment she buried within her heart the ashes of that terrible experience. No tears, or wailings could bring back the dear mother who was gone, but life was still a burden to be borne as bravely as possible for the sake of those around her. She gently clasped Mrs. Jovcotte's hand.

those around her. She gently clasped Mrs. Joycotte's hand.
"How came I here?" she asked.
"Well—we didn't know what else to do with you," hesitated Mrs. Joycotte, "and Mrs. Wurtemburg, if that is her name, refused to keep you, so they brought you here, where you are very welcome, my dear."
Flossie half rose. "But I have no right to be here," said she, "with people on whom I have no claim!"
"Have you no friends or relations?" asked Mrs. Joycotte.

"Have no claim!"

"Have you no friends or relations?" asked Mrs. Joycotte.

"No one in the world," said Flossie. "Only myself. Let me go away,"

"Nonsense, child," said Mrs. Joycotte.

"Why, you couldn't walk to the corner. Don't you know you have been very sick?"

Once more Flossie dropped her head. "I think," murmured she, "that you must be as kind as the angels."

Later in the week, Mr. and Mrs. Joycotte consulted together. "We must get something for her to do, George," declared the lady. "That is proper, of course," said her husband. "She is not one to live idly on other people."

"She's a sweet lassie. I only wish I could adopt her."

The minister shrugged his shoulders. "Too expensive a luxury," said he smiling. "But I'll try my best to find a bread-winner for her. I only wish she were not so pretty."

"Is that a crime, George?"

"Well, it almost seems so in this case," sighed he. "Where is she?"

"Gone for a little walk," said his wife. "She was very restless to breathe the fresh air and I.

he. "Where is she?"
"Gone for a little walk," said his wife. "She
was very restless to breathe the fresh air and I
thought it might be well. She won't be away

long."

But it was not only for air and exercise that Flossie Field had gone. She had long been maturing a plan in her secret heart. Among her few possessions were a turquoise ring and an antique watch seal which had been her mother's. Only the fact that she wore them in a chamois leather case suspended from her neck had kept them from Mrs. Wurtemburg, who had confiscated every other belonging of her hapless lodgers!

"I am sure they must be very valuable."

"I am sure they must be very valuable," thought Flossie, "and if I could only sell them I could pay Mrs. Joycotte something for my expenses."

So she crept out into the spring sunshine and entering the first jewelry store found, unfortunately for her, that it was one of those quiet, exclusive places which dealt mostly in antiques, old coins and gems dear to collectors. Flossie who had determined to be very composed, felt herself tremble as she laid the chamois bag on the counter.

"If you please," said she, "I would like to sell these articles."

sell these articles."

The clerk looked totally uninterested. "We are not buying much," said he. "However, I'll look at them."

More nervous than ever, Flossie pulled the

string into a knot.

"Will you open it, please?" said she. He obeyed, staring rather superciliously at the two treasures.

the two treasures.
"Is this all?"
"Yes," faltered Flossie, feeling her heart sink within her.
"I don't think we care about buying," he

observed, coldly.
"Oh, please do!" cried Flossie. "I need the money so much."

money so much."

The clerk looked at her again. After all he was only human and Flossie was so anxious and so divinely pretty.

"What's your figure?" said he, curtly.
"I don't think I quite know what they are worth," murmured Flossie.

"Oh, you want me to fix a price?"
"Yes. please."

"Oh, you want me to fix a price?"
"Yes, please."
"Three dollars for the pair, then," said the clerk. "And that's more than you'll get anywhere else for them." said the

where else for them."

Flossie's countenance fell. "But my father gave six dollars for the ring alone," faltered she. "It was a birthday present."

"That don't signify," said the clerk. "It's

she. "It was a birthday present."
"That don't signify," said the clerk. "It's
old style—not a particularly good stone—and
only useful for old gold. In itself, it isn't
worth a quarter. The seal is the better article.
Three dollars for the pair—that's the best we
can do. Come," as he saw the shadow of
advancing customers, "take it or leave it. I've
rot time to talk."

or time to talk."

"I must take what you offer," said Flossie, but as she spoke a tear brimmed over her eyelids and fell, with a plash, on the counter. She had always believed so firmly in the value

She had always believed so firmly in the value of the blue ring, and the intaglio seal. It was so bitter a disillusion.

"Your pearl stud is matched perfectly, Mr. Mayne," said the jeweler's voice—how silky soft and unlike his brusque accents to Flossie Field, but his customer was gazing after the light figure flitting to the door whose tearful eyes saw nothing but three crumpled bills in her hand.

"Oh, is it? All right," said Mayne, hurriedly. "I'll step in later. I—I've forgotten something."

thing."
He left the young man staring after him and

CHAPTER V.

"Is this the place?" cried she.
But instead of leading her into the great vacant auditorium, with its dim, overarching dome, and lurking shadows below, Mr. Mayne opened a little green-baize door, artfully concealed under silken draperies, and conducted her along a dusky passage to a snug little room where a stout, bald-headed man sat at a desk, seeming to fill the whole apartment.
"Well, Mayne," said he, looking up, absently.
"Well, Danton," was the cheery response, "I've brought you a new young lady for Cleopatra's body guard. This is Miss Field."
For Flossie had told him all about herself, including her name, in the long hansom ride.
Mr. Danton took his cigar from his mouth and stared at Flossie until the crimson color rose to her cheek.

"It is Kismet," he muttered, pulling at his drooping moustache. "By all the gods, here comes a shower to speed my cause along." For the pavement was already sprinkled with bright drops from a passing cloud above, and he opened his umbrella as he hurried towards Flossie. "Oh!" said he. "Pleased to meet you, miss. Turn around, please. Hum—ha. Nice figure. Carries herself well, too. Know anything about dancing, my dear?" "No, sir," answered Flossie, almost inaudibly.

respondent in tumbrena as he nurried towards Flossie.

"I beg your pardon," said he, ingratiatingly, "but won't you accept my escort for a little while? The rain is coming down in good earnest and you have no umbrella. Besides, you are wearing black. What has happened?"

And Flossie, weeping afresh, confided to him her loss. At any other time she would have been more guarded, but just now any friendly voice was welcome, and his expressions of sympathy were inexpressibly grateful.

"I've got a dear mother of my own," said Mayne, whose maternal ancestor it is needless to add, had been dead for years, "so I know how to pity you."

"Please don't detain me," sobbed Flossie.
"I'm in a great hurry to get back to Mr. Joycotte's." bly. "She'll pick it up in no time," interposed Mayne. "I told her you'd pay her ten dollars if she suits."

Mayne. "I told her you'd pay her ten dollars if she suits."

"All right," said the manager, selecting a fresh cigar, as if the matter possessed no particular interest to him—and Flossie followed Mayne into the sinuous corridor again.

"Why did he call me 'my dear'?" said she. "He is a stranger to me."

"Oh, they all do that," replied Mayne, lightly. "It means nothing."

"Where are we going now?" asked Flossie.

"I'm taking you to Lavoglio's—Madame Adalina Lavoglio's," Mayne answered. "Every neophyte has to go to her."

"What is a—neophyte?" Flossie asked, lifting her eyes to his face with childlike curiosity.

"Oh, I don't know—a learner, I suppose—a beginner. You are a neophyte, Miss Field."

"But what have I got to learn?"

"Lots of things. First of all, dancing. Cleopatra's attendants all have to dance."

"Do you think I can learn?"

"Of coarse you can—why shouldn't you?" said Mayne. "Dancing always comes natural to a fairy and that's what you are the start what you are to the start what you are the you are the start what you are the start what you are the you are "I'm in a great hurry to get back to Mr. Joycotte's."

"Oh, the old clergyman you mentioned," said Mayne. "I know him very well. St. Viga's, isn't it?"

"His wife is going to get me something to do," said Flossie. "That is, if she can."

"You would like a situation?" he asked, still in the same kind voice, full of friendly interest. Flossie looked wistfully at him. "I must do something," said she, "but good situations are so hard to obtain. Mr. Joycotte says—"

"Now I wonder," said Mayne, as if thinking aloud, "if I couldn't think of something?"

"Oh, could you?" Flossie stopped short with flushed cheeks. "A companion, perhaps, or a nursery governess?"

For he seemed so genial and gracious, and she, poor child, was so friendless!

Mayne paused as if considering. "Not exactly that," said he, "but I've a friend who is manager of a select theater, where they are bringing out a little operetta."

"Oh, I couldn't sing!" cried Flossie, intensely disappointed.
"A new operetta." went on Mayne, "and he

"Of coarse you can learn?"
said Mayne. "Dancing always comes natural to a fairy, and that's what you are. It's only the technique that will bother you."
"Well, what else?" eagerly questioned Flossie.

Flossie.
"Just a little singing. You're to be in the

chorus, you know."
"I think I could manage that."
"I am sure you could. Here's the street where
Lavoglio lives. A stuffy old hole, isn't it? But
comic opera people always live in narrow streets
and rattle-trap houses. I've noticed it, scores
of times."

of times."

Flossie was thinking. "How much will you pay me, did you say?" asked she. "Ten dollars?"

"Just at first, yes."

"A month?"

"No, Miss Curiosity, ten dollars a week."

Flossie's eyes sparkled.

"Oh, you'll soon go through ten dollars a week!" said Mayne, laughing.

"And all through your kindness," said she.
"I am so much obliged to you, Mr. Mayne. I don't know how to thank you."

"Then don't try," said Mayne, lightly.
"He led his companion under the carved door-

bringing out a little operetta."

"Oh, I couldn't sing!" cried Flossie, intensely disappointed.

"A new operetta," went on Mayne, "and he wants a lot of young ladies for peasants and rustic dances, and all that."

Flossie's eyes sparkled. "But I can't dance, either," sighed she.

"You can learn, can't you? It's nothing very complicated, I fancy."

Again Flossie hesitated. "I—don't think mother would have been willing," said she.

"She never approved of theaters."

"Oh, this isn't the ordinary thing at all," persuaded Mayne. "There are some very nice young ladies there, and it's a pleasant place to begin in. I could introduce you to an elderly lady there whom I know and she could help you, just at first."

"It's very kind of you," said Flossie, remembering how severely she had judged this kindhearted man. "I'll ask Mr. Joycotte."

"If you do that we're all up," said Mayne impatiently. "The place is only open for a short time—it may be filled before now for all I know. We ought to decide at once. But if you don't like it there's nothing more to be said!"

And he made a movement as if to turn away. "Here we are."

He led his companion under the carved doorway of an old house, which had been, in its day, an elegant mansion, but was now let in floors, and preceded her up a shabby staircase into a dreary room, whose yellow-silk-curtained windows were not over clean. The carpet was faded and a bunch of withered daffodils hung over the edge of a cracked was. A pretty hung over the edge of a cracked vase. A pretty girl, fashionably dressed, sat by the window, supporting her chin in her hands. She looked up listlessly at the entrance of the newcomers.

Mayne lifted his hat carelessly.
"Is Madame Lavoglio in?" said he.
"I don't know," said the girl. "I'm waiting
to see her myself."

said!"

And he made a movement as if to turn away.

"I might try," said Flossie, and then added, with a shy little laugh, "here we are, both standing under your umbrella and the rain has stopped long ago. Just look at that rainbow!"

"A good omen," said Mayne, lightly. "Here's cabby," beckoning to an approaching hansom. "Are we going to ride?" asked his companion.

"It's too far to walk. Why, how serious you are looking!"

Flossie smiled. "Am I?" she queried. "Do Mayne drew forward a chair for Flossie, and, opening the inner door, went in without further ceremony. The pretty girl stared at

"Are you out of a place, too?" she asked.
Flossie started a little. "Yes," she hesitated.
But I hope to obtain one."

"But I hope to obtain one."

"Is he pulling the wires for you?"

"I don't quite understand," faltered Flossie.
The pretty girl laughed. "Oh, I've seen him
before," said she. "He knows lots of theater
people. Say, what are you going to do?"

"I don't know yet."

"You must be a softy," contemptuously
spoke the girl. "I'm a soubrette, but business
is pretty dull just now. "I haven't any friends
at court."

at court

made no reply.

"Say," she resumed. "What's your name, anyhow?"

"Flossie Field."

Tipton. Say, I wish you'd introduce me to that fellow. He knows the boss—he can do anything with him. How much are you going to

thing with him. How much are you going to get?"

"Ten dollars a week if——"

"Ten—dollars!" The eyebrows went up.

"Well, you are lucky—for a beginner!"

"Don't they pay beginners so much?"

"Not much they don't!" sniffed Rosalie.

"You're lucky to get the experience at nothing at all, and find yourself. That chap storing you up, ain't he?"

"How do you mean?"

The girl only laughed. "I wish Lavoglio would hurry," said she.

"Is she going to teach you?"

"She can't teach me much, I reckon." The girl buttoned her soiled tan glove. "All the same, she needn't keep me here forever. I've been cooling my heels for an hour already, but Lavoglio never had any conscience."

Just then Mayne came out. "Madame Lavoglio will see you," said he to Flossie. "She's very much engaged this morning, but I've stated your case and she will spare you a few minutes. I'll wait here."

And Flossie found herself in a second room, even drearier than the first, where sat a richlyattired old woman, with silvery hair dressed in Pompadour style above her forehead. She looked keenly at the girl.

"Sit down, child," said she, eying her harder than ever. "How old are you?"

"I am eighteen."

"And you want to go on in 'Cleopatra'?"

"I am eighteen."

"And you want to go on in 'Cleopatra'?"

"I' am eighteen."

"And you want to go on in 'Cleopatra'?"

"I' want—oh, so very much—to earn a little money to pay my mother's burial expenses and the honest debts I owe," said Flossie, her heart touched by a certain kindness in the old woman's voice, and then, in her simple way she poured out her whole life story.

"Hand "I'm want on her simple way she poured out her whole life story."

touched by a certain kindness in the old woman's voice, and then, in her simple way she
poured out her whole life story.

"Humph!" commented Madame Lavoglio.
"I don't think I ever saw a case exactly like
yours, my little girl."

"Oh!" cried Flossie, "Don't tell me I shall
not succeed! You don't know—you could
never imagine—how much depends on this!"
"Oh you'll succeed fast enough" said the

never imagine—how much depends on this!"

"Oh, you'll succeed fast enough," said the old woman. "But do you want my serious advice on this matter?"

"I should be more than thankful for it."

"Then," spoke the Madame, rising from her chair and leaning forward until her hooked nose nearly touched Flossie's cheek,—"then go home to this parson's wife and stay with her. Avoid places like this as you would avoid a pest house! Child, you have this day stood on the threshold of ruin! Go home and thank Heaven—if there be a Heaven—that you have escaped

house! Child, you have this day stood on the threshold of ruin! Go home and thank Heaven—if there be a Heaven—that you have escaped this doom that hung over you!"

Flossie retreated a pace or two, and caught at the table for support.

"Child! child!" cried Madame Lavoglio in suppressed tones. "Are you blind? Can't you see what this all means? Joseph Danton is a scoundrel, and so is this man Mayne—a villain who passes in society as a gentleman and takes no thought beyond the passing hour! Oh, there's plenty such, and their victims are numbered by the score. But you are only a child and there's yet time for you to escape! Go home to your friends—and when you say your prayers tonight remember the old woman who warned you in your hour of peril!"

"But," gasped Flossie, "what shall Itell him?"

"Nothing. Never look upon his handsome, wicked face again! Here, I will let you out at the side door. Turn to the right and make all the haste you can. Earn your living by sewing, scrubbing, washing, if need be, but let these places alone! I had a pretty daughter once. She died young. If she had lived, she, too, might have been ignorant and unprotected, like you. Now go!" The continuation of this interesting serial will be published in the August number of "Comfort," and that you may not miss any chapters you should send in your subscription at once. 25c. for one full year, or 10c. for a special six months' subscription. See Special Coupon Subscription Offer an another page, this issue.

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"I don't know yet."

"You must be a softy," contemptuously poke the girl. "I'm a soubrette, but business s pretty dull just now. "I haven't any friends t court."

She flashed a side glance at Flossie, who nade no reply.

"Say," she resumed. "What's your name, nyhow?"

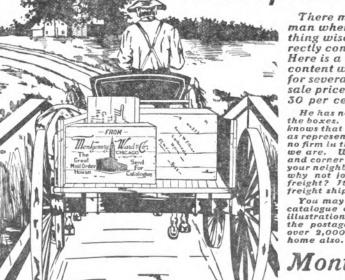
"Flossie Field."

"Sounds like a story-book. Mine is Rosalie"

"Inute of Refute Inute of VAIOI.

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cious Records of the Doin's in the Cobb Corner Postoffice, "Writ out" by the Boy Behind the Counter.

[EDITOR'S NOTE. The quaint philosophers, the dry wags, the shrewd dickerers and the eminent yarn-spinners of the countryside make a forum of the country postoffice when there is room at the rear around the big stove. The stories and incidents on which some of the most successful human interest novels of the day are constructed come from the quaint loungers around the stores in Yankee communities. These official records of "Jeth's Croud" are to be taken down month by month for the readers of "Comfort," and we hope that as you become acquainted with the members of the "Congress" your interest in their discourse and stories will deepen. In the August number of "Comfort" the "Cobb's Corner Congress" will continue sessions.



ACRID smell of burned powder was wedded in the sum-mer air with the mingled odors of salt fish and kerosene that floated from the open doors of the vilopen doors of the village store and postoffice. About, in the
dust, lay ragged fragments of exploded
fire-cracker wrappings. Cobb's Corner had been celebrating ever since
the first peep o'
dawn. Now in the
middle afternoon a
hush had fallen and
the old codgers who
haunted the post-of-

the old codgers who haunted the post-office dared to come out of the recesses of the 
back shop and bask in the sun on the store 
platform. It was evident that all the firecrackers had been busted.

"This is the fust time I've dast to come out 
for a whiff of fresh air today," growled Uncle 
Wack Spofford, as he brushed the dirt off a section of the platform and gruntingly eased himself down with his cane between his knees.

"There's been almost too much patri'tism 
'round here today to suit me clean up to the 
handle."

"Patri'tism be dum formation.

handle."
"Patri'tism be dum-flummixed," said Cap'n
Jote Bailey scornfully. "If I had a boy that
showed the kind of patri'tism that some of
these young squirts have been actin' out here
today I'd take 'em out in the mill pond and
keelhaul 'em. "Tain't patri'tism ye see Fourth
o' Julys now—it's cussedness all biled down
till it's gummy." till it's gummy.

"I jest reckin that's right, Cap'n," joined in Chet Woodrow. "Last night some of them tunketed boys in this village come along and tunketed boys in this village come along and stuck a cannon-cracker right in between the blind and the winder of our settin'-room. Busted the blind and the winder all to smash. I woke up and thought the house was tumblin' down. And while I was gittin' my pants on to go down an' mollywhop the life out of the young land piruts, I heerd one o' them say, 'Wal, I guess we've done all the damage we can round here. Let's go and pull old Seth Gifford's strawb'ry plants up and sling 'em over the fence. It'll s'prize him when he gets up in the mornin'.'
"I heerd they done it, too," said Woodrow.

"I heerd they done it, too," said Woodrow.
"And old Uncle Seth kind o' depends on them
strawb'ry beds for his spare change to buy
gros'ries in the summer."

"How's old Pudd Dobbs gittin' along?" asked Cap'n Bailey. "I heerd it hurt him consid'able when they put that Injy cracker under his

That's right-it did," said the stagedriver. "That's right—it did," said the stagedriver. His pants caught fire and it scart him nigh to death. He was dozin' when the boys done it. Reckin he woke up right sudden. He started to run and the fire blazed up where the burnin' paper was stickin' to his pants and they had to chase him with one of these partunt extinguishers and squirt on him. It's the fust time I everheerd tell of a perambulatin' conflagration. But it was a pesky mean caper to play on a poor old man."

"Mean—of course it was mean," ejaculated Ezry Pitts. "And Hiram Dumphy got a black eye out of the scrape that will last him pretty

Exry Pitts. "And Hiram Dumphy got a black eye out of the scrape that will last him pretty nigh all summer."
"Didn't hear about that," said Cap'n Jote.
"Why, Felix Dube, that jumpin' Frenchman, was settin' on the store platform at the time they put. the cracker under the old man's chair. When it went eff and Pud jumped and hollered Felix jumped, too, about nine feet right into the air. He looked like one of them 'ere flying machines that the mapers are tellin' ere flying machines that the mapers are tellin'.

right into the air. He looked like one of them 'ere flying machines that the papers are tellin' so much about.

"Wal, when he came I down Hi Dumphy was standin' jest about right to git it, and Felix struck out and hit Hi in the eye. The swelled place looks like a thunder shower comin' up in the west at sunset. Hi turned to and licked Felix 'fore he stopped to think that the unfort'nit' critter couldn't help it. If the two of 'em had only used their muscle on them boys it would have been better for the neighborhood. This patri'tism bus'ness is well enough to talk about in a stump speech but when ye turn a

This patri'tism bus'ness is well enough to talk about in a stump speech but when ye turn a cust fool boy loose with it and a punch of fire-crackers 'tain't reel wholesome. When Tom Jefferson writ the Declaration of Independence he wa'n't reckinin' it would ever make the boys of this country independent enough so they would go to pullin' up old men's strawb'ry beds and set old chaps' pants afire. No, siree!

I reckin if Tom Jefferson had a-knowed about how many big city fires and busted fingers and bunged eyes and general devilishness was to come out of that Declaration of Independence a hundred years after, he'd a-thought twice be-fore he'd a-writ it."
"Wal, 'tain't all one-sided," said Teed Strout.

a hundred years after, he'd a-thought twice before he'd a-writ it."

"Wal, 'tain't all one-sided," said Teed Strout.
"Doe Penely's been flyin' round all day like a red rag on a settin' hen's tail feathers. And he's still a-goin' it. I hear that Hen Torsey's boy has lost a thumb and tew fingers. Ziph Erskine's boy has had his thumb blowed off. Lester Strout has lost an eye and Ernest Drake has got pasted so full of powder that he looks like a raw egg with pepper sprinkled over it. The world ain't all one-sided. If ye go in to make other folks hump up ye'll most likely find yourself humpin' 'fore iong. I reckin that this will learn them boys a lesson that will last them over till next year."

"Ye can't tell nothin' about lessons lastin'," said Uncle Wack. "There's that boy of Springer's. Last year he had both arms blowed off while he was firing the cannon on the common. This year the darn fool was right around there ag'in while they was firin' the same cannon. Some one lit the corner of the paper but it looked as though it had gone out. That Springer boy walked up, danglin' them tew empty sleeves, and leaned over and phewed on the paper to start the blaze. Flish-h! off she went, and they don't think he'll save his eyes."

"Wal, any feller that don't know more'n that, wouldn't need eyes nor hands nor nothin' else, much," snorted Teed Strout.

"Wal, he hain't exactly intellectool," said Uncle Wack. "I've heern tell that down to the school the teacher asked him how many months there were in the year and he run his finger along under his nose, snuffed and said, "Septober, Ockjoober, Saint Padrick's Day,"

months there were in the year and he run his finger along under his nose, snuffed and said, "Septober, Ockjoober, Saint Padrick's Day, Fourth o' July an' Cris'mus'."

"The' hain't any too much brain goin' to waste out in your neighborhood, anyway," said Ezry Pitts with a great deal of sarcasm.

"Of course ye must know for I heerd ye was out there the other day lookin' for some brain matter to fill up the vacant spaces in your head," retorted Uncle Wack. "But ye didn't dast to buy any 'cause your head is so leaky it

head," retorted Uncle Wack. "But ye didn't dast to buy any 'cause your head is so leaky it would all run out ag'in."

Pitts went on after the crowd had laughed: "A feller was tellin' me the other day that old Eph Sargent who lives out there has been braggin' around about his new wife. He says that she is the most complicated lady he ever met. Meant accomplished, ye know."

"Sho! Don't b'lieve he ever said that," said Uncle Wack.

"Sho! Don't b'lieve he ever said that," said Uncle Wack.

"He did, and I'll bet ye on it," persisted Pitts.
"Furthermore," continued Ezry stoutly, "old Eph had his colt out in the yard the other day and he hollered for his wife to come out and look at the animil. 'Sairy,' he yelled, 'come out and see this 'ere colt desert hisself.' And after she had been standin' on the platform of the porch a leetle while he hollered to her, "ye'd better take keer of yourself and not get cold. Better go in off that pizarro for ye're standin' there with your cores all disposed to the air."

Even the Postmaster came out at the sound

Even the Postmaster came out at the sound of the laughter.

"The Springer Hill neighborhood is jest about's good 's some others that I know about,' good 's some others that I know about,' good 's some others that I know about,' good 'loadic' a loadic' and I don't need to. Sometimes common sense is better a blame sight than book-larnin' that you don't know what to do with. What's the good of loadin' a jackass down with books? Now there's Ezry Pitts there—he's sent his boy away to college. But did ye hear what he and his boy done the other day?"

"No!" was the chorus.

"Don't ye go to tellin' no lies about me," warned Ezry.

"You go hop up," snapped Wack. "I've got the floor jest at the present time. Ye see," he went on, "Ezry's boy got home from school in June and Ez put him to work on the farm. Boy was mad and he growled so much that it made Ez mad and they was at it most all day, ev'ry time they met on the place. One day Ez was wheelin' out to the fields some late seed that he was going to plant and he met his boy walkin' in from the field to git some bug killer. There was a path across the field and about ten acres on each side of it. "Turn aout and lemme go past,' says Ez. 'Won't,' says the boy, 'turn out yerself.'

"Wals'r, they stood there and rowed it and jawed it for a time and neither of 'em would turn out. Ez set down on the handle of the wheelbarrer and the boy set down in the path and they staid there all the forenoon and all the afternoon and nigh onto ten o'clock that night.

ternoon and nigh onto ten o'clock that night. Ez's wife had to come out and bat the both of 'em over the head with a club so's to make 'em come in and do the

"Do any of you folks believe such a gor-rammed lie as that 'ere?"

"Course "Course we do," was the answering shout. Pitts grabbed his paper of board nails and stumped away to his team. When he backed it out he found that the celebrating youngsters had shifted the wheels so that the rear end tipped down like a Roman chariot. But he was so angry that he wouldn't remain to remedy it and rode away doubled over his knees so as to keep from falling out behind. As soon as the Postmaster could get the ear of the crowd after this episode he unrolled a sheet of paper on which he had been at work with his marking brush. The paper bore this advertisement. answering shout.

advertisement.
"FOREFATHERS' NIGHT.

This evening in Hobbs' barn, rear of the postoffice, there will be a free entertainment for the benefit of the rising generation. All those patriotic boys who can prove that they honored their native country by assisting in the celebration at Cobb's Corner last night will be admitted free of charge."

"I guess that will take in all the young crit-ters that are responsible for the busted glass and gardens in this neighborhood," said the Postmaster to his little audience. And then he imposed secrecy and unfolded his plan. The aged conspirators listened and separated with chuckles.

o'clock he had admitted about fifty boys who apparently had shown a true bill why they should be allowed to enter. Some of the

younger boys and a few of the village boys who were known to be real good boys

were kept out.

Then, under the flicker of the lanterns appeared the Postmaster. He made a little speech in which he declared that the citizens of the town felt grateful to their town felt grateful to their enterprising boys for the manner in which things had been waked up the night before. But when the Post-master said that the village was especially proud of the manner in which the gardens and glass had been destroy-

manner in which the gardens and glass had been destroyed an expression of apprehension came over the faces of his little audience. But they were not left long in suspense.

"Boys" continued the Postmaster, "we older fellers have decided to kind of even things up by claiming the night after the Fourth as Forefathers' Night. The idea is that you boys git so heated with patri'tism that ye're likely to burn your bearin's onless the forefathers cool ye down and git ye ready for the calm of the day after the Fourth."

The Postmaster picked up a nozzle that was sticking through a hole in the side of the barn. "That hose," he said, "connects with the big tank on the top of my store." He turned the faucet. A mighty stream, a forty foot stream, gushed out. With a yell the boys fled to the further corner of the barn but the water searched them out.

It deluged them, it soaked them, it beat and buffeted them. One by one or in little bunches

buffeted them. One by one or in little bunches
they broke desperately past
the Postmaster and scut-

the Postmaster and scut-tered out the door, dripping and screaming in fright. When the last had gone the Postmaster turned off the nozzle and went back to the street where the vil-lagers who were in the se-cret had stood to watch the outcome of the enterprise. There were trails of wet along the dust in all direc-tions, where the fugitives had scurried for home. It has not yet been deter-

It has not yet been determined whether or not "Forefathers' Night" is to be a regular institution at Cobb's Corner but the Postmaster declares that

the town will probably adopt it as a regular celebration if another pane of glass is broken or another garden disturbed. And it may be that Cobb's Corner will be willing to dispose of its patent rights in the feature to other suffer-ing municipalities.

# Forests Primeval.



HERE are few people who realize that there is a quiet little village where progress is something so wholly unknown that the residents are living almost as their ancestors did in France one hundred and fifty years ago.

ago.

In the Acadian village of Little Brook, N. S., are the descendants of those whom we read of in "Evangeline" the exiles of Grand Pre. Little Brook owes its existence to a cousin of the immortal notary of Grand Pre, by name Anselm LeBlanc, who with his family were deported to Salem, Mass., at the time of the expulsion from Grand Pre. For ten years he lived in Salem, fishing and farming, but became so dissatisfied with longing for his old home, with several Acadian families he traveled through the New England forests for a thousand miles on foot to Grand Pre, only to find its fruitful lands controlled by the same military men who had expelled them years before.

This brave little band continued down the shore of the Bay of Fundy till they came to a fertile stretch through which ran a little stream. Here they settled and called the place Pett Ruisseau (Little Brook). They were soon joined by other Acadians from Canada and the States and now Little Brook is a village extending nearly forty miles along St. Mary's Bay. Among the fifty or so farmers only the original dozen names are represented.

The town has but one street on the sea shore and the houses stretch out for miles on each side of this thoroughfare from which toward the shore are meadows and on the opposite side are pastures and forests.

These homes are cottages of one and two ago.
In the Acadian village of

the shore are meadows and on the opposite side are pastures and forests.

These homes are cottages of one and two stories containing from one to four rooms. Some are whitewashed, while others are made waterproof by a covering of fish skin.

Within we see a spinning-wheel and a cookstove which burns only wood. And all the year round the inmates sleep on a feather bed. Castoff clothing is picked into threads which when spun into varn is woven into carnets and so on clothing is picked into threads which when spun into yarn is woven into carpets and so not a thing goes to waste. English is now taught in their schools though they all speak pure French. They are devout worshipers and attend regularly a two hour service in their little whitewashed chapel. Thus:—

"Linger a few Acadian peasants, whose fathers from exile Wandered back to their native land to die in its bosom."

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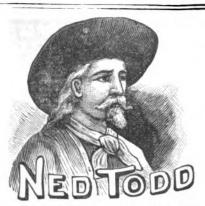
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# The Oklahoma Detective,

# The Strange Cabin in the Wilderness.

BY HENRY DALE.

Author of "Boomers and Cattle Kings," "The Cheyenne Outbreak," "Shadowing a Shadow," "Chepita," "Mormonism Unveiled," Etc.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

The opening chapters of this intensely interesting story appeared in February Comfort. Back numbers may be obtained by enclosing three cents to Comfort, Augusta, Maine, for each number desired.

During the past year portions of Indian Territory were opened to settlement by the Government allotment of lots by chance, and the scenes that were enacted in the years gone by, when Oklahoma was the objective point of settlers from east and west, north and south, were again presented in a much more exciting manner. A Kanass telephone girl lucki'y secured a lot valued at \$17,000, and others were nearly as fortunate.

fortunate.

Because of the exciting events that have transpired in Oklahoma and Indian Territory, events that have altracted the attention of the whole country, the story of "Ned Todd" is presented to our readers in the hope that instruction and entertainment may be derived from its perusal.

## CHAPTER XV.

# I AM YOUR BROTHER.

RCH Holland had heard the conversation

RCH Holland had heard the conversation recorded in the last chapter, and felt his blood run cold.

"Great heavens!" he gasped, but not loud enough to be heard by the precious pair of scoundrels above. "They are going to murder him almost before my own eyes, and I perfectly powerless to be of any service to him."

service to him."

He would have charged upon them with his gun, had it not been so dark down there, that he could not find his way up. While he, half dazed with dread for the detective, was still debating in his mind what he would do, the man bound hand and foot was thrown over the precipice.

Like a flash a new thought came to his mind. Instantaneously was the plan formed. It was very dangerous, but hazardous as it was, it promised success, and he determined to put it very dangerous, but hazardous as it was, it promised success, and he determined to put it in operation. He placed himself as far out on the edge of the lower ledge of rock as he dared, and the next moment the descending body fell plump into his arms. The fall being several feet, and Ned Todd being no very light weight, Archie was considerably stunned by the shock, and staggered backward until healmost toppled over the bluff himself. As he ran against the loose stone, it fell over and down into the dark torrent below. Archie just recovered himself in time to keep from following it.

Daisy, realizing what had happened, was too much overcome with dread to shriek, or she would have betrayed their presence.

The youth with the detective in his arms sank back upon the ledge of rock.

When Dyke and his companion leaned over the bluff above, and held their torch over trying to penetrate the dark abyss below, all three were out of sight.

"He went right down," said Dyke. "I kin see jist whar ther water closed over him."

"Sunk like lead," put in his companion.

"Bet he did."

"Well I'm glad on't. Guess we're rid o' him now fur good."

"Less go then, fur I didn't like this ere place. I half believe the cave is haunted."

"Less go then, fur I didn't like this ere place. I half believe the cave is haunted." "Come on."

And the two men with their torches turned about and went slowly up the steep path, and soon disappeared from view, leaving a more than midnight darkness behind.

Archie still lay upon the rocks gasping for breath. A sob from the darkness fell upon his ears. He knew who it was.

"Miss Miller," he said.

"Oh, are you there?" she gasped.

"Yes."

"I thought that you had fallen over into the

water and was drowned."
"No, it was a loose stone."
"But the detective, Major Todd, he was
thrown over into the water, tied hand and foot,

thrown over into the water, tied hand and foot, wasn't he?"

"Oh, no, he is right here by my side; but I believe that he has fainted."

"What, by you? How is that? Wasn't he thrown into the water?"

"I cought him. Here, I will strike a match and light a torch, and we can see what we are doing."

doing."
"But they may see it."
"No, they are gone. They have left the cavern."

cavern."
Archie lighted his borch, and saw lying insensible upon the flat stone the detective. Kneeling near him was the pale, beav'iful, Daisy Miller.

"Oh, he is dead, he is dead!" groaned the girl.
"I don't think he is. But he has fainted. Well, if that trial wouldn't make a man faint, it would be because he was not human."
Drawing his knife, he proceeded to cut the cords which bound the detective, and then chafed his limbs. From out one corner of the rock there came a few drops of water, dropping very slowly into a basin, where quite a little pool had been formed. In the hollow of his hand Archie took up some of the cooling water and dashed it into the face of the insensible hand Archie took up some of the cooling water and dashed it into the face of the insensible

In a short time. Ned Todd began to show signs of recovering. Such men seldom faint, but when they do, they recover rapidly. Todd was soon able to sit up, and staring at his young friend and companion in many dangers,

swered his companion.

"Let's see, is it all a dream, or was I really thrown over the bluff into the water?"

"It is not a dream. You were thrown over the bluff, but I caught you and kept you from going into the water."

"What? Impossible!"
"No, it is a reality. A solid truth."
"Great guns, what an adventure. Why, it is a thousand wonders that we didn't both go over the bluff." "We came very near doing it."

"We came very near doing it."
"And those rascally road agents?"
"They have gone from the cavern. They
don't like it very well. If this cavern could
speak, it would a tale unfold whose lightest
word would harrow up the soul, I have no
doubt."
"I don't care to hear the story, but we might
tell our own adventures since we parted."
This they did.

This they did.

The adventures of Archie and Daisy are already known to the reader, and all that the detective had to add was that he had been knocked from his horse, and was taken prisoner by the bandits and brought to this place to be executed. executed.
"Well, if you think it safe for us to venture

forth, we will go," he at last concluded.
"Oh, yes, by all means let us go," urged Daisy,
who had had enough of the horrible cavern.

who had had enough of the horrible cavern. The lighted torch showed a narrow path up the almost solid stone ascent, leading to the approach of the natural bridge. This they followed, and when they had reached the bridge were so completely exhausted that they were compelled to pause for breath. "This is a strange cavern," said Archie, gazing about the vast chamber in which they were. "When I first found the entrance, I supposed that it had never been entered for a hundred years, at least, but now it is apparent that it has been a sort of prison and rendezvous for the road agents since they have had their organizations in this country."

"This discovery is a most significant one to

road agents since they have had their organizations in this country."

"This discovery is a most significant one to me," returned Ned Todd. "I understand many things that have long been a mystery to me. I can realize now how it is possible for the outlaws when hard pressed to disappear from the earth, so that we are not able to find them."

Daisy was so desirous of leaving that they waited only a few moments, and then turned about and started toward the entrance.

Ned Todd having fully recovered from the fearful shock he had sustained, and being in full possession of all his faculties, went before the others. As they came to the narrow passage, where the path wound around among the broken boulders and hewn stone, he suddenly came to a halt, and raising his hand to enjoin silence, gave utterance to a faint warning: "Whist!"

Archie and his fair companion came to a

Archie and his fair companion came to a standstill, and the youth silently cocked a

The sound of approaching footsteps could be d. A moment later and they could even voices.

"Put out the light," whispered Ned Todd, and a moment later they were in total darkness. Then far in front of them there could aleady be seen the faint light from an approaching torch.
Again was the cavern of death to be invaded

Again was the cavern of death to be invaded by some of the infamous band.

"This way," whispered Todd, leading the way along a path which ran under a great projecting ledge of stone, where they all found hiding places behind broken boulders and crevices in the rocks. So near were they, that they could hear every word the two men said as they pessed down the nearest pathwar. The as they passed down the narrow pathway. The voice of one Archie recognized as the man he had heard the evening before.
"Oklahoma Peg knows this secret, if she could be made to tell it, Boydston," said the man who was in front

man who was in front.
"Why don't ye make her?" asked Boydston.
"You don't know Peg. She is a regular

tigress."
"Well, Captain Snell, I would think that a man who has so successfully managed a band as you have done, would not stand back a single moment on account of a woman."
"If you knew her, Boydston, you wouldn't talk that way. Peg would be burnt at the stake rather than be made to tell anything that she did not want to. She is a regular tigress, she is."

"Well, do you suppose that they have done for Ned Todd, sure enough, this time?" "Of course, didn't you hear Pyke say that he was done for; and that he had been plunged down the bluff into the stream?"

down the bluff into the stream?"

"Oh, yes, but Todd has more lives than c cat. It seems that it makes no difference how far you throw him, he always lights on hip fect."

"When he lights in the water tied hand and foot, so he cannot swim, it doesn't make any difference how he lights. But let's not think any more of him. I want the buried gold."

"What gold?"

"The money that we have for years been trying to find. You know the old cattle king, that had sold his vast herd, and had just got the money when we took him in? Well, he buried his money somewhere and no amount of torture could ever obtain from him where he had cached it. Now I have at last come to the conclusion that he must have buried it somewhere

eached it. Now I have at last come to the conclusion that he must have buried it somewhere in this very cavern."

Ned Todd, who was holding one of Archie's pistols in his hand, was about to shoot down the secundrels, and thus rid the earth of two of the worst characters that had ever infested the West; but at marking of the buried treasure. he determined to allow them to live a little

longer.

They though him dead, and he could more easily dog their footsteps. If there was a treasure buried he determined to do his part to

treasure buried he determined to do his part to find it.

When the two scoundrels went on into the cavern, so fs. that their voices could not be heard, he followed them. Creeping carefully and cautiously along from boulder to boulder, and stone to stone, always near them but always invisible, he managed to be close to them when they halted, and Captain Snell, putting the torch in the hand of Boydston, began digging about under the shelves of rock with his stick.

"I don't intend that any member of the band shall know anything of this treasure, even if I find it," the infamous Captain Snell remarked, as he pursued his investigation.

"Why?"

"Because we can then divide it evenly among

"Because we can then divide it evenly among ourselves. If we have only two to divide with, there will be more for each, than if there were

"Correct, Captain, you are a trump. I would not have thought of that," said Boydston. "Fool," thought the hidden detective from "Great guns, where am I?"
"You have had a narrow escape, Ned," anbehind his stone where he could unseen

all, and unheard hear all. "If he would only stop to think a moment, he would soon discover that there is more for one, than two. And that greedy scoundre will only use him to discover the treasure and then make way with him, so that he may not have to give up any portion of it."

portion of it."

The efforts of the two explorers proved futile, and after an hour spent in examining different parts of the cavern, they determined to give it up and leave the place. They went out, leaving our friends crouching among the rocks. Having no idea that Archie and Daisy were taking refuge in the cavern, and believing that Ned Todd had met his fate, they were not at all careful about searching for any one, nor did they seem to try to keep their own designs secret.

They had been gone fully an hour before our

They had been gone fully an hour before our fugitives again ventured to quit the cavern of

"Thank heaven we are out of that horrid "Thank heaven we are out of that horrid place," said Daisy, when they were once more in the open air. "For all the wealth of the world I could not be induced to again go through such an experience as ours has been in that horrid place."

"Well, Ned, what shall we do now?" asked the youth.

"Well, Ned, what shall we do now?" asked the youth.
"If I knew the exact course to the boomers' camp, I could tell, but unfortunately I do not. First thing to do, is to get this young lady to some place where she will be safe. Then we will resume the search for your father."
"He is not far from this place, I know, if he lives."

lives."
"Why, have you heard from him, or seen him?"
"No but I have seen the man who was re-

"No, but I have seen the man who was responsible for his strange disappearance."
"Who?"

"My half brother, Ralph Spencer."
"What, do you think that that scoundrel is

"I know it, I have seen him." "I know it, I know it is where, when?"
"In the person of Captain Snell. Captain Snell and Ralph Spencer are one and the same

person."

The detective was astounded beyond measure. "I had never dreamed that they were the same person. I supposed that if your half brother had had anything to do with the removal of your father, he had used this Captain Snell as an agent. Why, Captain Snell has been for years one of the most desperate and terrible road agents in the West."
"He has been living a double life then. For

terrible road agents in the West."

"He has been living a double life then. For while he was with my father he was only pretending to be an honest cattle herder and the keeper of my poor father's accounts."

"I can see through it all now."

"Well, explain it."

"While he was with your father, pretending to be an honest man, he was in reality only laying his plans to murder him for his money. He waited until he had disposed of all his cattle, and had the money in his possession, and then did his fearful act, whatever it may have been. But one thing is certain, from what we have learned, he did not succeed in finding the money." the money

"I care little for the money if I can only find my father, or at least learn his fate." Ned Todd was of the opinion that the boom-

Ned Todd was of the opinion that the boomers' camp was southwest of them, and they started in that direction.

They were walking along a wooded ravine, when they were suddenly startled by the sharp report of half a dozen rifles. The little party came to a halt, and looked at each other in a puzzled sort of a manner.

"Wait here I must see what that means," the detective whispered and like a flesh be desired.

detective whispered, and like a flash he darted up the hill side, where from the top of the ridge he could have a view of the valley upon the other side.

The valley was covered with grass, with only here and there a standing oak. In the midst of the valley were three men battling for life with half a dozen Indians. They all seemed to be armed with repeating rifles, and were drawing nearer to each other, firing as rapidly as they could. One of the three white men was down, and the other two continued to fight.

and the other two continued to fight.

An Indian was slain, and one of their ponies shot down, but still they continued to press closer and closer, firing their guns as rapidly as they could

they could.

A second white fell, and the remaining man turned to fly. Then the air was filled with yells, and the savages started in pursuit. A moment later, and pursuers and pursued had disappeared around the hillock.

"Oh, how I wish I had a dozen border rangers, and all well armed and mounted," said the borderer to himself, as he stood looking after the Indians. "I would swoop down upon those rascals, and sween them from the face of the

rascals, and sweep them from the face of the earth."

In the meanwhile how fared it with Archie and Daisy, who had been left alone? They sat down upon the ground, and on glassing at the sun the youth remarked that the day was well night sept.

nigh spent.
"It is," replied Daisy, "and we have not yet found the boomers. Oh, will we be compelled to pass another night alone in this terrible woods? It seems to me that I could not survive

Archie Holland fixed his pitying eyes upon the fair young face, and saw that the poor girl was suffering for proper food and rest. She was too weak and delicate to undergo long the

hardships and toils of the forest.
"I hope we may find them before night," he answered to her, "and even if we do not we will try to make this night more pleasant than the last few have been."

try to make this night more pleasant than the last few have been."

The firing on the prairie beyond the ridge still continued, and Archie Holland was anxious to know what it meant.

"There is lighting over there," he said, taking a few steps in the direction from whence the firing came.

ing a lew scape.

"Oh, don't go near there, don't," pleaded Daisy. "I cannot think of being left alone.

Oh, don't go near there, don't.

Daisy. "I cannot think of being left alone.
Don't go from me."

"I will not," he said, with his eyes and attention still directed towards the sounds of conflict. "Why don't Ned Todd come back and tell us what it is, and who is fighting?" he

asked himself.
"It must be some of the Oklahoma boomers,"

suggested Daisy.
"I suppose that it is, and it seems to be our duty if such is the case to go to their assistance."

"No, no, Major Todd said for us to stay here," put in Daisy. "He must know what is for the best, and we must obey him."
"I suppose you are correct, Daisy, but I am very anxious to know just what is going on for the best, and we must obey him."

"I suppose you are correct, Daisy, but I am very anxious to know just what is going on over there."

Both were standing with their backs toward a thicket, Daisy being nearest it. Both were sighed Archie.

looking in an opposite direction, and did not see the black sinister eyes that glared at them from the thicket.

from the thicket.

A head, then two, three heads, became visible, and all ornamented with feathers and grotesquely painted. Why don't they turn about and discover their danger?

Slowly one after another of the dark, lithe figures creep from the bushes, one goes toward the girl and the other to the youth. A wild whoop and both are seized almost at the same moment. Daisy faints, but Archie Holland makes a stout battle, and it is not until a blow on his head has rendered him insensible that he ceases to struggle.

on his head has reintered film insensible that he ceases to struggle.

When he recovers he finds himself being borne by two great brawny savages, or men painted as savages, and at his side is walking

painted as savages, and at his side is walking another.

A pair of baleful-looking eyes are fixed upon him, and a cold sinister voice whispers to him: "I am your brother."

"What are you going to do with me?"

"Wait and you shall find out. I have some old grudges to settle with you."

# CHAPTER XVI.

RESCUED AGAIN.

"Where is she?"

"Where is she?"
Archie's first thought was of Daisy.
"Oh, don't worry yourself about her," said
the cynical road agent, who disguised as an
Indian walked at the side of his half brother.
"She will be taken care of, and well taken care
of at that. I have gone to too much trouble to
find her to give her up, or allow her to stray
from me." from me. "Ralph Spencer-"

"Ralph Spencer—"

But he was not permitted to finish the sentence. The chief of the road agents sprang at him, and clapped his hand over his mouth, excluding any sound. Bending low, he whispered in the ear of the prisoner:
"Don't as you value your life, whisper that name in the presence of these men again."

Archie was dumbfounded and horrified. He glared at the scoundrel, who walked triumphantly at his side, and said:
"You can boast and exult over me now, but I assure you that you will not long. Major Todd will not be slow in releasing us."

At mention of the name of Todd, their captors all burst into a wild fit of laughter.
"Todd, ha, ha, ha! that's too good. So Todd is all of whom you have any hopes, is he? Well

is all of whom you have any hopes, is he? Well let me tell you that Todd is now somewhere under the earth, traveling at the rate of forty miles an hour, if the fishes have not devoured him."

The youth remembering that the road agents still supposed Todd dead, determined not to inform them to the contrary. He closed his lips and refused to talk.

He listened in vain for some sound of Daisy's voice, but heard it not. By craning his neck, however, he saw her carried between two stout Indians.

nowever, he saw her carried between two stout Indians.

In this way they were conveyed about two miles to a cabin. It was a small affair and had evidently years ago been the home of some boomer or hunter. It now bore all the marks of desertion.

The prisoners were taken into it. Small as it was it had two evert ments divided transactions.

was, it had two apartments, divided from each other by a board partition. The boards had evidently been split from the native tree by a former inhabitant.

Daisy was placed in one room and Archie in another.
"Now all of you go out of here, I want totalk

"Now all of you go out of here, I want to talk with this man," said Captain Snell, as we shall continue to call Ralph Spencer.

"Now, Archie Holland, I want to ask you some questions, and if you answer them correctly it will all be well with you, and if you don't, it will not."

"What do you want to ask? Do you want to know if your conduct killed your mother? if so I can answer at once."

"No, I am not going to ask anything about that."

"I should not think you would."
"Hush, until I have framed my question."
"I shall not promise to answer you, if it would assist you in some of your nefarious business."

business."
"Be quiet, will you?"
"I am certain that I do not care to hold any converse with you."
For a moment the road agent chief walked the floor of the small apartment, and then wheeling upon the youthful captive, he asked: "Do you know what your father did with his money?"
"I do not know, nor do I know what became of my father."

of my father.'

"I didn't suppose you did. I am not going to ask you what I know you don't know, but I am going to ask you what you may possibly know. Your father had a large quantity of money before his mysterious disappearance. Did he send it home?"

"I do not know. I think not."

send it home?"
"I do not know. I think not."
"Well, what become of it?"
"I cannot tell. What became of father?"
"Oh, he is dead. Was murdered by the Indians or cowboys."
"I have it from good authority that he is not."

not."
"You have? On what authority, I would like "You remember Frank Erwin, I suppose?"
"You remember Frank Erwin, I suppose?"
"Yes," answered the chief of road agents, starting violently. "What do your know of

him?"
"I know that he is dead."

Captain Snell heaved a sigh of relief.
"Well, I was not the cause of his taking off."
"No, he was wounded in a saloon fight in
Abilene, and sent for me. I went to him, and
he told me that my father was somewhere in Oklahoma a prisoner.
"He did?" shrieked Snell. Then after a few moments' silence he asked in a voice somewhat

Well what more did he tell?"

"Well what more did he tell?"
"Nothing."
"What, not tell you where he was, did not describe the location?"
"All he said was, that it was a log cabin in the wilderness."
"Well, Oklahoma is full of log cabins. If might be any of them or none of them. I have had nothing to do with the mysterious disappearance of your father. The old man and didn't get along very well, it is true; but then I never had any ill will against him. One seldom likes a stepfather, and I didn't. So I ran away from him and never saw him again."
The prisoner fixed his eyes upon the speaker

"Is there no one else for him you would give

"Is there no one else for him you would give your life?"

"Yes. I would give my life to set free the young lady whom you made captive with me."

"Aha, I thought as much," and there was a fleree look in the face of Ralph Spencer as he gave utterance to the remark. "Now let me tell you that there is not gold enough in and out of you that there is not gold enough in and out of Oklahoma to purchase her freedom. You might ask me to give up every limb on my body, but her never. I have captured her for myself."

"Ralph, you have developed into a complete "libin".

villain."

"You are very complimentary, brother, but as Miss Miller is a subject upon which I do not care to talk, I will leave you for the present. Don't be feeding yourself on any such idle fancies as that you are going to get away from us, for we are to look out for that. So goodby until I see you again," and the chief of road agents left Archie sitting on a rude bench that had become coated, doubtless, from long exposure to the weather.

had become coated, doubtless, from long exposure to the weather.

He was tied, so that he could not move without giving himself great pain, and in fact his ankles and wrists were becoming greatly swollen and painful. The sun had gone down, and the shades of night began again to spread a sable mantle over the earth. At first Archie supposed that he was alone, but anon he heard the voice of a sentry at his door conversing with another sentry.

the voice of a sentry at his door conversing with another sentry.

Despite all his anxiety, pain and suffering, however, he found his head nodding and his senses slipping away. He was almost asleep, when two voices talking outside, in an excited manner roused him a moment and he listened

manner roused him a moment and he listened to them.

"I was a'most sartin thet I heerd some un in ther wood," said one.

"Ye war asleep, Jake," another replied.
"Don't yer know thet thar's no un this side o' ther river. Them boomers who kim over war every one rubbed out, and we've got this ere feller an' ther gal safe enuff. Ye war jis adreamin', that war all.

"Wall, mebbe I war, but if it war a dream, it war dreamed with my eyes open, that ar' all."

"Go back, and go ter sleep ergin," and the sentry, who had been having some sport at the expense of his comrade in crime, laughed.

Again the youth was nodding, and his consciousness slipping away. This time he was awakened by a soft, gentle voice in the adjoining apartment. It seemed to be pleading, and he raised his head to listen.

"Oh, this cruel cord is cutting my arm; it pains me so that I cannot rest," the voice was saying, "will you not loosen it?"

"Can't do er thing until ther boss comes back," said her cruel guard. "He gin us no orders ter untie yer."

"But just loosen it."

orders ter untie yer."
"But just loosen it."
"Can't do it."

"Oh, it is almost killing me. Unloosen it Swar we couldn't do it ef twar ter kill yer."

"Swar we couldn't do it ef twar ter kill yer."
The youth heard her pleading, and the cruel denial of the guard, and was almost furious.
Bound as he was, he struggled to his feet and tried to break the cords that bound him.
"Hulloa, what yer doin' in thar anyway?" called his guard. "Don't yer know that yer can't bust them deer skin thongs?"
"Release her and you may kill me," he cried. "You may bind mine doubly tight."
"Yed better keep a quiet tongue in yer head, ur ye'll git yer jaw broke, we haint er goin' ter stand any nonsense here."
"I am only asking you to have mercy on her."

"Yed better keep a quiet tongue in yer head, ur ye'll git yer jaw broke, we haint er goin' ter stand any nonsense here."

"I am only asking you to have mercy on her."

"We haint er goin' ter hev any mercy on either one o' ye. I'll go in thar and kick her, ef she don't quit that ar' yellin'."

Archie's blood boiled with indignation.

"Coward, ruffian," he hissed through his clenched teeth, and made herculean efforts to break the deer skin thongs which bound him.

"See hyar yer doin' er leetle too much. Yer jist er carryin' that er thing er bit too fur," cried one of the guards, running at him.

At this moment there was heard a rush of footsteps without. There came the blinding flash, the deafening report of a pistol, and the fail of a body. The guard wheeled about, snatching a weap'n from his belt.

"Hold thar, what d'ye mean?"

But he was too late. A dark form sprang in the door, and at the same instant that it appeared, there was another blinding flash.

The sharp report of a second pistol shot broke on the air followed a second later by a third. The guard went down, and the man who had just sprang into the door staggered.

So sudden and unexpected had been the attack, that Archie hardly realized what was going on until he saw Ned Todd leap in at the door, a smoking revolver in his hand.

"You are just in time, Ned, I believe that I would have died had you not come to my rescue."

"Hush, there is not a moment to lose. We will have them on us in less than ten minutes, thick as the leaves of the forest."

"Don't forget Daisy."

"Have you gone to her rescue yet?"

"Have you gone to her rescue yet?"

"Have not, but I will. There, you are free,

"Have you gone to her rescue yet?"

"I have not, but I will. There, you are free, get up and go." Archie struggled to his feet, but so benumbed were his ankles that at first he could not stand. At last however, after rubbing them for a few

moments, he was able to hobble a little.

In the meanwhile Ned Todd had gone and liberated the captive maiden, and came back

"Come on, we have not a single second to spare. They are coming."

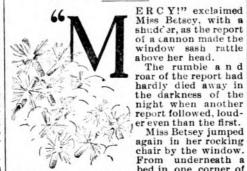
As Archie Holland sprang from the hut he heard the sound of voices and hurried tramp of feet coming toward them.

"There they are, come on," cried Ned Todd, springing into the thicket with Daisy Miller in his arms. Archie Holland followed him as rapidly as possible in his feeble condition. Subscribe to COMFORT at once and get the next installment of this fascinating story in the next issue. If your subscription is about to expire or you are anxious to become a reader of COMFORT now is the best time as these interesting serial detective stories will be a distinct ing serial detective stories will be a distinct feature in addition to all the many interesting departments, and you will not want to miss a single copy. But all subscriptions must be paid in advance, so we call your attention to the opin advance, so we call your attention to the opportunity of obtaining a renewal at the present 25c. rate by paying 10c. in advance for a six months' subscription. We shall add other features to Comfort, continue serials after the ending of the "Ned Todd" story, and give you the biggest and best home monthly that is published. Fill out and send 10c. coupon now (see coupon on another page), so you will not miss a single chapter. All expiring subscriptions are now being promptly removed, so unless you renew or subscribe at once the August copy will not reach you.

# Miss Betsey's Well.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY M. B. THRASHER.

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ERCY!" exclaimed Miss Betsey, with a shudder, as the report of a cannon made the window sash rattle above her head.

The rumble and roar of the report had hardly died away in the darkness of the night when another report followed, loud-

again in her rocking chair by the window. From underneath a bed in one corner of

the room there came a long-drawn-out and dismal howl.

"I really believe they'll scare that cat into

dismal howl.

"I really believe they'll scare that cat into fits;" the woman said."

"Poor thing!" she added, a moment later, as the rattle of half a dozen bunches of fire crackers set off at one time came in from the street. "To think that a set of tykes like them can't find any better way of celebrating the Fourth of July than to make night hideous.

"I daresn't go to bed," she went on, a little later, as the red light of a bonfire began to shine through the closed blinds of the window, "even if I could go to sleep—which I couldn't for fear they'll set the house on fire. And I just can't shut all these windows down, for it's so hot I'll suffocate if I do."

She pushed open the blind slats a little and looked out between them. At the far end of the village square the boys had built a bonfire of tar barrels. The front of the buildings near Miss Betsey's house stood out from the darkness and the plate glass windows in a business block next door reflected the red glare of the firelight.

While the woman was still peering through

block next door reflected the red glare of the firelight.

While the woman was still peering through the blinds, a man came hastily out of one of the buildings carrying a satchel in one hand, while he stood for an instant in front of the door, as if debating in his mind which way to go. The uproar at the opposite end of the village swelled to a louder chorus, and new fuel flung on to the fire made the red light brighter still.

At the sight of this the man turned abruptly from where he stood, and coming quickly to the edge of the sidewalk, dropped the bag which he held over the fence into Miss Betsey's

which he held over the fence into Miss Betsey's garden, and then hastened back to the building.
"Well, now! Did you ever?" said the owner of the garden, as she drew back from the window. "That was that good-for-nothing fellow in the drug store, I believe. I suppose that bag is full of his nasty torpedoes and fire crackers, and such things, and that he's gone back to get some more. If it wasn't for breaking every pane of glass in this house, I could wish the whole lot had gone off when he dropped the bag over the fence. I wish somebody'd see the the bag and steal it;" she went on. "It would serve him just right."

To the roar of cannon and crackers and

To the roar of cannon and crackers and voices there was now added the clang of the violently rung bell in the steeple of one of the

churches.

The cat under the bed yawled again.
"I'll steal it myself," said Miss Betsey, rising from the rocking chair with tightly shut lips.
The woman let herself out of the house by a side door. One corner of the garden was in the shadow of the two-story brick block which adjoined it, and she was easily hidden by the trees beneath which she walked. Seizing the bag she carried it away from the street; it was heavier than she had expected. When she had reached a place where she thought no one could see her, Miss Betsey opened the bag and looked in. In the dim light which reached her there she could see that the satchel was filled to the clasps with paper covered rolls.

clasps with paper covered rolls.
"I thought so," she said. "Fire crackers! what they call giant ones, I suppose! I'll giant

been developed there, and in ten years the quiet village had changed to a prosperous, busy town, whose business blocks replaced and crowded the staid residences which had preceded them. Miss Betsey had money enough to do as she chose, and she chose to retain and live in the house which had been her girlhood home, in spite of the fact that the lot on which it stood was coveted by half a dozen business firms, and that the house itself was elbowed on one side by a drug store and bank, and on the

firms, and that the house itself was elbowed on one side by a drug store and bank, and on the other by the county court house.

For family she had, besides a servant and cat, only a niece. This young woman, Gertrude Ford, was such a pretty and attractive girl that it was no wonder to those who knew her that the druggist next door should have fallen in love with her. Miss Betsey, however, for some inscrutable reason, had taken a violent dislike to the young merchant, had delent dislike to the young merchant, had de-nounced him as a fortune hunter, and had forbidden her niece to have him come near the house. As a matter of course the two young people met all the more often somewhere else, and it was they whom Miss Betsey had encountered at the side door amid the disturbance of a

Fourth of July celebration.

The eve, and the day, and the night of the day had passed at last. /There was still a smell of powder and tar smoke in the air and the snapping of some small children's torpedoes and penny crackers, but the Fourth was over, and those who had helped to create its uproar

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and mention COMFORT when writing the Doctor.

slept, ate or repaired damages. Some few After many futile attempts, he finally raised to burns there were to be done up, and one boy had had a part of one finger blown off, but in the main the young people united to declare that it had been a glorious celebration.

Then came the sensation.

When business would have been resumed on the morning of the fifth, it was discovered that sometime during one of the two nights, or during the holiday itself the bank had been burglarized and all the valuable contents of the safe taken, papers, bills, and gold and silver coin put up in rolls.

Miss Betsey passed a most uncomfortable day. Not only was she a heavy holder of the stock of the bank, but at the time of the robbery she had had some thousands of dollars on

bery she had had some thousands of dollars on

deposit there.
"That druggist is the thief," she kept saying to herself, "but I'm just as much of a thief as he is. And I'd die of mortificationn to have folks know I flung my own money into the

Toward nightfall that day Gertrude saw her

Toward nightfall that day Gertrude saw her aunt looking down into the old well in the garden. The older woman's discomfort could not but be noticeable all through the day.

"Are you sick, today, Aunt Betsey?" the girl asked with honest sympathy, for in spite of her aunt's peculiarities, Gertrude recognized the real goodness of heart which was underneath them.

"No, I ain't," Miss Betsey replied fretfully, turning away from the well, and then going on to say, as if in a sudden fit of desperation, "but I'm clean tired out and worried to death with the racket of the last forty-eight hours, and with finding you out at midnight trapsing

she could see that the satchel was filled to the clasps with paper covered rolls.

"I thought so," she said. "Fire crackers! what they call giant ones, I suppose! I'll giant 'em!"

Snapping the bag together she took it from the ground again, and walking unhesitatingly to an old well at the far end of the garden, dropped it into the well. She listened for the "splash," far down below the time-worn curb. When she heard it she straightened up again.

"I'll see if he'll fire them off under my nose, now;" she said, and went back to the house. Stepping quickly and silently upon the porch at the side door, she ran plump into a young man and woman standing there.

"Why, Aunt Betsey!" said the girl, as the three started back from each other. "What in the world are you doing out at this time of night?"

The older woman bent forward in the darkness, as if to make sure who the others were.

"None of your business," she said, as she drew back from them to go into the house. "Why ain't you abed?"

Miss Betsey Prillerman was the representative in Brinsmeadow of what was spoken of as "one of the old families of the town." For years Brinsmeadow has been a quiet, well-to-do country village. Then a water power had been developed there, and in ten years the quiet village had changed to a prosperous, busy town, whose business blocks replaced and crowded the staid residences which had pre-down and in the park the state of the last forty-eight hours, and the finding you out at midnight trapsing around, as pour out businest from the racket of the last forty-eight hours, and the finding you out at midnight trapsing 'round with a thief and a robber."

"Aunt Betsey! Stop!" The girl's eyes blazed and her mouth shut together as firmly as ever her relative's could have done.

"I was not 'trapsing around,' as you call it. I had just come from Mrs. Eldred's, where we had been watching the fireworks. And Mr. Will not hear you say it."

"He is," said Miss Betsey bring a bag out of the bank had hen only and in the dark ness, as if to make sure w

After the disturbance and excitement of the two preceding days and nights the people of Brinsmeadow went to bed early that night. If they had not, some of them might have seen in the dusk of the evening a group of two persons—a woman and a man—gathered around

the old well in Betsey Prillerman's garden.

The man was industriously fishing in the well with a big pair of grapples heavily weighted at the end of a long, stout line.

satchel.

The next morning the town had another sensation. The bank's missing property was found returned as mysteriously as it had been taken, but wet and sodden in a leather valise. The specie was all right, of course. The bills required the help of the Treasury Department to redeem. The papers were spoiled, but the most of them could be repaired.

In the confusion of talk and speculation which followed, folks never noticed—what otherwise would have been a nine-days' wonder—that Betsey Prillerman had suddenly become reconciled to the attentions of druggist Raymond to her niece.

Raymond to her niece

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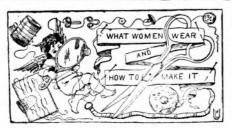
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Summer Girl Gowns.

How To Dress a Summer Girl of from Twelve to Fifteen Years Becomingly And Inexpensively.

A most charming dress for a young girl is of Persian lawn, although any of the beautiful sheer materials now displayed in the shop windows may be chosen. The waist is tucked to form a yoke in clusters of fine tucks and lace inserting between each cluster. The skirt is a straight one of three or four widths according to the size of the girl, and tucked in small tucks from the waist half way to the knee. Arrange inserting as in the waist between the cluster of tucks. Two ruffles edged with lace finish the bottom of the skirt, the elbow sleeves are tucked and finished with a wide frill, trimmed with lace and inserting. A belt of rose or blue velvet ribbon is worn at the waist also heads the frill of the sleeves and finishes with a bow. The high collar is touched with the velvet and a bow ornaments the hair.

collar is touched with the velvet and a bow ornaments the hair.

Pink organdy: This will be effective in a simple inexpensive gown. The entire waist is tucked—the sleeves the same (elbow sleeves if preferred) and finished with five tiny ruffles. Nine small ruffles give the finishing touch to the gored skirt. The neck is cut square and trimmed with tiny ruffles. In making this dress the goods is first tucked and then cut out.

trimmed with tiny ruffles. In making this dress the goods is first tucked and then cut out.

Green mercerized ginham: This goods with its sliky effect, make a charming girl's dress at a small expenditure. The gored skirt is made with three graduating flounces. Standing at the head of each is a dainty little ruffle. The waist is cut in the novel Gibson style with six narrow ruffles running from the neck to the belt forming a vest, in harmony with the most extreme fashionable taste of the present period of fluffiness. The sleeves are gathered into deep cuffs and the waist buttoned in the back with small black buttons and the waist band is a tie of black velvet ribbon, one half inch wide. High collar may be worn with this, with a small turnover embroidered in black silk.

Blue lawn of one of the fashionable shades. The skirt is gored and the wide flounce at the bottom is tucked one-third its depth and trimmed with three rows of narrow blue velvet ribbon, the same shade of the lawn. The sleeves are tucked to the elbow, forming a graceful hanging sleeve caught at the wrist by a narrow band trimmed with the velvet. The waist is plain, with a large sailor collar with deep points crossing in the front and fastened to the belt at each side with bows of the velvet ribbon. This collar is finished with three rows of velvet. The high collar of latticed velvet and belt completes this very smart costume.

Any one of these simple and pretty gowns is worn with a large white hat and white gloves. Every summer season brings its new and inexhaustible supplies of soft, gauzy materials, in which the girl of any size can be gowned, not extravagantly but most becomingly and attractively, and all can be produced at home. To complete this wardrobe add the grey or tan linen skirt. White pique and dark blue duck skirts with circular flounce, are to be worn with shirt waists of percale and India linen.

# Pedigree Yeasts.



HE brewers both in this country and abroad are quite generally adopting the use of so-called pedigree yeasts—that is to say, yeasts derived by propagation from known varieties of ferment-producing fungi. fungi

Until recently brewers were accustomed to rely upon yeast which they kept in stock, but, though the utmost care was taken to conserve its purity, it was always apt to be spoiled by the intrusion of "wild" and undesirable fungi, the spores of which float about in the air. Inas-

intrusion of "wild" and undesirable fungi, the spores of which float about in the air. Inasmuch as beer depends chiefly upon yeast for its flavor and quality, and each variety produces its own peculiar taste in the beverage, accidents of the sort described constantly happened, and not even the most painstaking manufacturer could count upon uniformity in his output.

At length, however, two Scandinavian experts started in to breed yeasts, beginning with single cells so as to be sure to avoid any mixture. By experiment they found what species produced the best-flavored beer, and two of these, known as "Carlsberg Unterhefe No. 1 and No. 2," are now used in breweries all over the civilized world. They are pure cultures of known kinds of fungi, grown in beerwort, and

and No. 2," are now used in breweries an over the civilized world. They are pure cultures of known kinds of fungi, grown in beerwort, and are sold in hermetically-sealed bottles.

A Chicago firm is likewise breeding and selling pure cultures of first-class yeasts, which the brewers buy and utilize in place of the old-fashioned stock yeasts. Employing these preparations, which are guaranteed virgin, they know exactly how a brew is going to turn out, whereas formerly it was a sort of gamble. The beerwort is made by steeping the powdered malt (barley), kernels in water at a certain temperature until the starch of grain has been converted into sugar, whereupon the stuff is sterilized by heat and inoculated with a few germs of the species required. Quickly they multiply throughout the substance, which thus becomes a culture of the yeast.

Bacteria of various objectionable kinds have a way of getting into beer, to the serious in-

Bacteria of various objectionable kinds have a way of getting into beer, to the serious injury of the beverage. A while ago a man named Effront, in Germany, discovered that such germs would not grow in the presence of fluorid of sodium, a very small quantity of which he put into the vats. It seemed to work beautifully, but the government sat down nard upon the inventor, because the law in that country says that nothing but water, hops, malt and yeast shall be used in the making of beer. Then Effront rented a field of barley and watered it with the fluorid solution, enough of which was found to be contained in the reaped grain to serve his purpose. the reaped grain to serve his purpose.

This persuaded the government to withdraw its prohibtion, but Effront's process was abandoned later, because it was found that the fluorid, while interfering somewhat with the propagation of the good yeast, offered less opposition to wild fungi that might intrude, thus giving encouragement to the latter.



G. F., Abbeville, S. C.—Careful and frequent brushing of the eyebrows will increase their growth. A formula that will darken them and will make them grow is composed of two ounces of red vaseline, one eighth ounce tincture cantarides, and fifteen drops each of oil of rosemary and oil of lavender. Apply once a day with a soft tooth brush until they show an improvement, and then less often. This is good for the eyelashes also, but be very careful in applying it as it will inflame the lids.

Blue Eves. Hastings. Out Wassen

the lids.

Blue Eyes, Hastings, Ont.—Wear your gown down to a point just above your shoe-tops. Your type, blonde, may wear almost any color or rather tint, which is less pronounced, but do not wear combinations of colors. Blue is the popular color for blondes, but they will look well in other colors, and the present light greens if used carefully should be very attractive.

fully should be very attractive.

Somebody's Darling, Nevada, Iowa—Etiquette is not considered by the men who propose to their lady loves, as far as any work on etiquette records manners. The man can do exactly as he pleases, and may make his proposals on his knees or in any other way which seems proper to him. Usually the young woman is not very critical. (2) By no means seek a husband through a matrimonial agency. Occasionally such husbands turn out well, but the risk is too great to try for one that way. (3) If the young man is too bashful to speak you might gently suggest a line of conversation for him leading him up to what you want to hear. But do it very delicately, indeed.

Beatrice, New London, Iowa—Seventeen is ordi-

Beatrice, New London, Iowa—Seventeen is ordinarily too young for a girl to accept the attention of a man, but some girls are older than others at that age, and many girls marry even earlier than that. If you are of a strong character and serious minded, you might do what a more frivolous girl could not do. The man in the case, however, should be over twenty. He is scarcely more than a boy at that age, (2) A seventeen year old girl five feet eight inches tall, should wear her dresses full length and fix her hair as a woman should. She may not be a woman in age, but she is in appearance. (3) A simple and harmless remedy for freckles is made by dissolving three grains of borange-flower water. Or equal parts of glycerine pure, and rosewater, applied every night and allowed to dry on the face.

lowed to dry on the face.

Sweet Violet, Bedford, Ky.—Your reply to the man asking to escort you home would be to tell him that you will be very glad to accept his courtesy. There is no rule for this sort of a thing, and you must be governed by your own sense of politeness. The same applies to his asking you if he may call. Tell him you will be glad to have him come. (2) The young lady's address is New York City. (3) Moles are dangerous little things and you must not attempt to remove them except under the advice of a specialist. Consult your doctor. (4) We cannot publish your poem.

Gifford, New Matamoras, Ohio.—A girl five feet

cor. (4) We cannot publish your poem.
Gifford, New Matamoras, Ohio.—A girl five feet seven inches tall would look well enough on a bicycle to warrant her in riding one. Even if she did not the exercise would be good for her. (2) White, or colored silk half-hands are generally worn in the summer. At least they are for sale in all the stores, though we would not recommend them for their beauty.

May Rose, Keystone, W. Va.— A girl's motive, we would think, in stealing a bow from a boy's hat, would be to attract his attention, or to make him think she liked him and it is very silly, and unladylike. Don't do it. (2) A bouquet worn topside down represents the bad taste of the wearer. Don't do it.

Anxious, Moody, Texas.—There is no harm as far as we can see. But it is not good manners, The men should not smoke while driving with you, or when walking.

you, or when walking.

Wild Rose, Tyler, Texas—It is a matter of your own pleasure whether or not you shake hands with your escort when telling him goodnight. (2) There is no set form of speech in responding to recognition of the pleasant things you have done for people. If they tell you they have had a good time all you have to say is that you are glad. Usually what they say suggests a reply to fit the case.

fit the case.

Morning Glory, Keystone, W. Va.—It is a matter of your own taste how you will hang your window curtains, but the harmonies would seem better preserved to turn the narrow border to the middle. (2) Flowers are not usually sent to men unless on special occasions, like a public speech, commencement exercises, or when they are sick. It is proper enough, but not customary.

Heliotrope, Washington, D. C.—The man should nottake the lady's arm at all, therefore if he asks to do so, he should be told it is bad form. (2) Girls of fourteen should wear their dresses to within two inches of their shee tops.

Blue Eves, Maple Grove, Va.—Going to church

Inches of their shoe tops.

Blue Eyes, Maple Grove, Va.—Going to church or anywhere else, the lady should be ready when her escort calls. It is not necessary to have her hat and gloves on, but they should be ready to put on as soon as he is in the house. If she happens to have other company, he or she should be invited to go along unless it is a special engagement, or an invited or pay affair to which they are going.

Orange Lily cures Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacement, Painful Periods. For a free trial address, Mrs. H. L. Fretter, Detroit, Mich.

# A BOON TO WOMEN.

A BOON TO WOMEN.

The free trial offer of the Natural Body Brace Co., of Salina, Kans., whose illustrated advertisement appears elsewhere in this issue, affords every woman who values health, comfort and beauty an opportunity to test the merits of this brace in her individual case. Its use is relieving tens of thousands of women every year, and we know it to be and do all its makers claim for it.



A Bottle of "5-DROPS" Free.

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No other remedy ever introduced has become so famous in such a short time as Swanson's "5-DROPS." It is a purely vegetable and herbal preparation which every family should keep on hand ready for use in case of sickness.

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So positive are the Swanson Rheumatic Cure Co. of the curative powers of this remedy, they will send postpaid a trial bottle of "5-DROPS" absolutely free to any of our readers who will cun jut the coupon which appears in their advertisement in this issue and send it to them with their name and address. We advise our readers to take advantage of this liberal offer.

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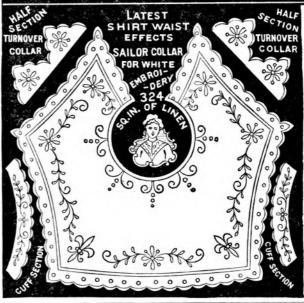


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The tireat Popularity of the stamped linen fancy embroidered collars and cuffs has induced us to get up this "Comfort Shirt Waist Set." These sets are to be worn everywhere the coming season and the ladies are now ordering their patterns so as to be ready and get them worked in season for spring and summer wear. It would seem that one of these sets would make pretty nearly a whole waist as there are 324 square inches of linen in the assortment, we send you free. If you have an old waist you want to dress up and make a new one of it this is just what you want. This latest Shirt Waist Set including Sailor Collar, Turnover Collar and Cuffs, are easily embroidered in colored or white mercerized linen floss. Can be attached to any waist. They are washable and when laundered present stylish and chic appearance. No ladies' wardrobe complete without one.

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scription.

Owing to extensive additional improvements in "COMFORT" much beyond those first contemplated, we may be obliged soon to announce an advance in the subscription price from 25c. to 50c. a year, of which we give timely notice to our valued old subscribers. To all subscribers old or new we make the following offer at this time. Fill out, sign and send in the special coupon subscription blank below with tencents to pay for six months' trial subscription; and we will put you on our list as paid six months in advance, the subscription to

subscription for ten cents, and continue for 25c. a year if you like. If you do not like, you can stop it at any time. We feel that this offer will be fully appreciated by our many readers and if you are already a paid up subscriber it would be well for you all to accept the same at once and have your subscription extended at the low price now

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COMFORTS AT HOME LAWYER

For the enlightenment and benefit of its subscribers, COMFORT has inaugurated this department under the title of
COMFORT'S AT-HOME LAWYER, wherein will be carefully and correctly solved any legal problem which may be
submitted. All opinions given herein, will be prepared at
our expense by eminent counsel.

Law suits can frequently be avoided by timely and judicious advice concerning matters in dispute; this, however,
can only be done by one who is fully conversant with his or
her legal rights and privileges. This department will also
prove of great value and interest from an educational standmonth, as in it will be answered any proper legal question that
may be propounded.

Inasmuch as it is one of the principal missions of COMFORT to aid in upbuilding and upholding the sanctity of
the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce.

the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce.

Any yearly subscriber to COMFORT fully paid in advance is veicome to submit inquiries, which, so far as possible, will be answered in this department. If any reader, other than a subscriber, wishes to take advantage of this privilege, it may be done by sending twenty-five (25) cents, in silver or stamps, for an annual subscription to COMFORT thus obtaining all the benefits which our subscribers enjoy including a copy of the magasine for one year.

Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any legal question, privately mated, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing the same to "THE EDITOR, COMFORT'S AT-HOME LAWYER," Augusta, Maine, and in reply a carefully prepared opinion will be sent in an early mail. Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not necessarily for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

M. T. B. Your letter presents some technical question of law which need to be carefully investigated. You wil find it fully answered in the August number of Comfort.

M. E. If you will read the introduction to the "Comfort.
At Home Lawyer Column" you will find that it is not our
policy to give advice with reference to divorce matters.
It is the purpose of Comfort to build up rather than to
destroy the home, and we therefore must reluctantly refuse to give you any information pertaining to methods
of obtaining a divorce.

of obtaining a divorce.

C. E. B.—The Bankrupt Law provides that any person can be discharged from the indebtedness which such person contracted, in a business way, no matter how long since contracted. The fact that the original creditor is dead and that the debt is now due to his heirs would not debar the debtor from taking advantage of the Bankrupt Act. In what you call, "The Story of the Case," you give the debtor's assets as fifty dollars and his liabilities as twenty-eight thousand dollars. Under these circumstances it would seem as though you were wasting time to endeavor to collect the money.

J. W.—In order to bring su't to recover damages for the killing of your brother at Stonington, Maine, it will be necessary for you to have an administrator appointed over your deceased brother's estate for the purpose of bringing this suit. Such administrator will have to be appointed by the court which jurisdiction over such matters at the place where your brother, in his lifetime, lived. If he lived in Brooklyn you should go to the Surrogate's Court there, and take such action as is herein advised and the administrator can then begin action to recover damages against the Co. which may be responsible for the accident which caused his death.

S. K. S.—What the father might do to punish the son if

sponsible for the accident which caused his death.

S. K. S.—What the father might do to punish the son if he called on his mother contrary to the father's wishes is a question which the editor of this column can hardly answer. There is really only one thing to do in a case of this kind and that is the following: Under the law a minor child who has arrived at the age of fourteen has a right to choose his own guardian. In the case you put, the boy can choose either his father or his mother or any other person whom he cares to thus honor. To do this, he must petition the court having jurisdiction of such matters, to have the guardian appointed; he will then be permitted to visit whomsoever he pleases, provided such visits are made with the approbation of his guardian.

S.—It you have suffered any loss or damage by reason

visits are made with the approbation of his guardian.

S.—If you have suffered any loss or damage by reason of the failure of the other party to adhere to the terms of the contract, a copy of which you submit, you can enter suit in the courts of your county and recover such damages as you can prove that you sustained by reason of the other party's failure to live up to the contract. As a rule it is a difficult matter to recover damages by reason of a breach of contract to ship goods. Inasmuch as the question of loss of profit thereon is purely speculative, it does not follow but what you might have made a loss on the goods, had shipment been made. In the event, however, that you can prove actual damage you have clearly a cause of action, and can recover all the loss which you sustained because of the failure of the other party to adhere to his contract.

E. L. S. It is not necessary as a matter of law, that the

which you sustained because of the failure of the other party to adhere to his contract.

E. L. S. It is not necessary as a matter of law, that the author of any poem, song, or musical composition should have his production copyrighted. The chances are that any one who would buy the manuscript of an original production of this kind would have it copyrighted, as in case such action were not taken the same could be copied or reproduced by any one who would care to do so. The cost of an ordinary copyright is fifty cents and the time which it takes to get it is simply the length of time that it takes for the mail to reach from the place of mailing the application to Washington. If you will write to the Hon. Thorvald Solberg, Register of Copyrights, Washington, D. C., he will, on request, send you full instructions, telling you how to proceed to obtain a copyright.

Mrs. E. A. P. The method of opening an account in a National Bank is as follows: You must go to the bank with some person who is known there and who will introduce you to one of the officers thereof. Thereupon you will be asked to sign a book or card for the purpose of leaving your signature. You will then make out a little ticket known as a "deposit slip," whereon you will write the amount of money you wish to deposit. This deposit slip, together with the amount of money for deposit, is taken to the receiving teller of the bank who will give you a book upon which your name will be plainly written and the deposit you make, as well as all subsequent deposits, will be recorded in this book. You will also receive a check book for your use in drawing such funds as from time to time you may wish to withdraw. The officer of the bank will instruct you how to make out the checks.

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# Some Negro Superstitions.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16.)

of the story of the sick man who asked his doctor, "What do you think of my trying a change to a warmer climate, doctor?"
"Good heavens, man," exclaimed the physician. "That is just what I am trying to save you from."
While peacock feathers are kept in a house, sickness will never be out of it.

If a person mends a garment while wearing it, an enemy will be made for every stitch taken.

A ring around the moon indicates bad weath-A ring around the moon indicates bad weather, and the bad weather will last for as many days as there are stars inside the ring.

For every fog you get in March, you will have a frost in May.

If the thread knots in sewing, the one doing the work will live to see the garment worn out. If you dream of a person who had died within the last six months, it is a sign of rain.

## Awards of Prizes in Comfort State Puzzle Number Two.

The following is a complete list of the names of states represented in May number of "Comfort:"

Kansas, Illinois, Iowa, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland. And the following subscribers were the successful contestants in the minds of the judges.

S. Maude Richard, Willimantic, Conn., \$5.00. Nellie Hill Moat, Clackville, N. Y., \$3.00. John M. Beattie, 226 E. 63d St., Chicago, Ill., \$2.00. Mrs. M. E. Horton, 337 W. High St., Piqua, Ohio, \$2.00.

Addie O. Kellogg, Shoreham, Vt., \$2.00.
Addie O. Kellogg, Shoreham, Vt., \$2.00.
Stella Pomeroy, Epworth, Ill., \$2.00.
Mrs. Edw. Dobbs, Woodbury, N. J., \$2.00.
Harry E. Strout, Mulberry Grove, Ill., \$2.00.
W. C. Allinson, 545 C. St., Fresno, Calif., \$1.00.
Marvin Goforth, Mt. Grove, Missouri, \$1.00.
Mrs. Rosa Neale, Cecil, W. Va., \$1.00.
Roy M. Clark, Amarilla, Texas, \$1.00.
Mrs. Geo. G. Ross, Greenfield, Mass., \$1.00.

# EVERY LADY READ THIS.

I will send free a positive cure for all female diseases, irregularities, etc. A simple home treatment, a common sense remedy that never fails. FREE with valuable advice. Mrs. L. D. fails. FREE with valuable ac HUDNUT, South Bend, Ind.

LEARN SIGN PAINTING in 2 HOURS and make the particular FREE SIGN SIGN CO., WATERTOWN, N.Y. TELLS FUTURE of future husband or wife. Send 10c birth date, to Prof. Morse, Box 2510, Boston, M ass.

\$8 Paid Per 100 for Distributing Samples of Washing fluid. Send &c. stamp. A.W.SCOTT, Cohoes, N.Y. WRITERS WANTED to do copying at home, ART INSTITUTE, Lima, Ohio. CHICAGO HOUSEHOLD GUEST 50 cents a year. Sample copy free on application

Rods For locating gold and silver. Positively guaranteed. From \$5 up. Catalogue and testimonials free. A. L. BRYANT, Box 10, R Dallas, Tex. LUCKY SEALS AND TALISMANS.
Persons destring Lock in life or to equivate friends should
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you buy a watch out this out and send to us with same and address, and we will send you by express for examination a handsome WATCH AND CHAIN C. O. D. 53.75. Double hunting case beautifully engraced, stem wind and hunding case beautifully engraved, stem wind and stem set, fitted with Itchly jeweids uncernentually unranteed a correct timekeeper; with long Gold plated chain for Ledice or vest chain for Gents, if you consider it equal to any \$35.00 GOLD FILED WATCH Warrennted 20 YEARS por the express agent of with each watch. Mention 15 you want Gents' or Ledice' size. Address H. FARBER & CO., D54, 23 Quincy St., CHICAGO.

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The worst possible spavin can be cured in 45 minutes. Ringbones, Curbs and Splints just as quick. Not painful and never has failed. Detailed information about this new method sent free to horse owners. Write today. Ask for pamphlet No. 53. Fleming Bros., Chemists, Union Stock Yds., Chicago.





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DYSPEPSIA. I cure the worst cases. Send for book, written by specialist, sample and advice free. Dr. B. J. Kay, Saratoga, N. Y. A PAYING PROFESSION Can be learned in ten days. Become independent. Be your own boss. Particulars free. PROF. S. A. WELTMER, Nevada, Mo.

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RRSNHIAO

Can you arrange these five different groups of letters into the names of five (5) former presidents of the United States? If so you can share in the distribution of the above. We will give away \$1200.00 in cash and Four Genuine Grand Upright Fiance among those wheoure the content, and will work for our interest. READ CAREFULLY. REMEMBER we do not want one cent of making the nyou answer this contest. In making the five names the letters can only be used in their own groups and as may appear in each individual group, and no letter can be used which does not appear in its own group. After a suppose the five groups and formed the five correct names, write them out plainly and send to used you will receive the present of the five from group and formed the five correct names, write them out plainly and send to us and you will receive hy return mail. TRY AND WIN. If you make the five correct names and send them to us at once, who knows but you may get a big cash prize and possibly a piano. We hope you will, and anywe it costs you nothing to try. WOOD PUBLISHING CO., Dept. 24 394 Atlantic Ave., Box 3124, Boston, Mass.

# \$1,000.00 IN GOLD FR



THE PARROT HAS ESCAPED FROM THE CAGE—TRY TO FIND HIM Boys and girls over twelve years of age

CAGE—TRY TO FIND HIM Boys and girls over who will cut out this picture and mark plainly with pencil or pen the missing bird (if they can find it) MAY SHARE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY IN FIVE MONTHLY PREMIUMS for doing a little work for us. This is a contest where both brains and energy count. We are determined to make the name of our charming monthly magazine a household word, and we take this novel plan of advertising. This and other most liberal offers are made to introduce one of the most entertaining New York magazines into every home of the United States and Canada. WE DO NOT WANT ONE CENT OF YOUR MONEY. There is only one condition, which should take less than one hour of your time, which we will write you as soon as your answer is received. After you have found the missing parrot, send it to us at once. It may take an entire \$1,000.00. A sample copy of our MAGAZINE WILL BE SENT FREE to everyone answering this advertisement. Try to solve this puzzle Do not delay. Send your answer in immediately. We positively guarantee that this Missing Parrot can be found. Of course, like all problems, it will require some thought, patience and time. But the reward is well worth striving for, especially when we do not ask you to send us any money with your answer. The golden prizes of life are being gained by brains and energy monadays. Lary people and the drones and idlers are always complaining of bad luck. Now here is a GOLDEN CHANCE for anyone who will strive hard, and the pleasing part of it is that it does not cost you one cent outside of the letter you send us. Our magazine will please you. It delights us to please our readers. We are continually giving away large sums of money in different contests, as we find it is the very best kind of advertising. Try and Win. If you find the parrot and send the slip with it marked thereon to us at once, who knows but what you will get the gold? Anyway, we do not want any money from you, and a puzzle like this is zery interesting. As soon as we re mail. We hone you will try for it, as we shall give the \$1.000 00 away anyway. Do not delay. Write at once, Address THE ROBINSON PUB. CO., 22 NORTH WILLIAM ST., NEW YORK CITY.



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To introduce our famous little Giant Oxien Pills, giving all the chance to derive the wonderful benefits from these new life-giving wonders, we send two boxes absolutely free, all charges paid. You sell the Pills for 25c. per box, send us the money within 20 days, 50c. in all, and we give you as a premium this wonderful Gold Lined Silver Dish free. These dishes are warranted quadruple plated silver; they are fluted top and beautiful and useful ornaments; they are suitable for dining table use, or used as they are suitable for dining table use, or used as side dish for bon bons they are elegant and will last for years. Send your name and address at once so your friends can derive the great benefits coming from the use of Oxien Phis and you get the profits as the dish can be sold in a minute for 75c. These Phis are retailed by the profits as the dish can be sold in a minute

get the profits as the dish can be sold in a minute for 75c. These Pills are noted for their quick action on Liver, Stomach, Heart, Bowels, and special organs of either sex. All ills vanish as if by magic if you use these Pills. Send quick so as to be sure of a dish before they all go, and get full particulars of our great money-making agency proposition, where you get hundreds of dollars from a one dollar investment. Address,

THE GIANT OXIE PILL DEPT. M. Augusta, Maine.

# The Family Doctor.

O many inquiries are received by COMFORT concerning the health of the family, that a column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be referred to physicians, not to us. Address The Family Doctor, Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

DAVINS

| Sepavin can be cured in bones, Curbs and Spilets of painful and never has information about this informa

Old Man, Roncevalles, W. Va.—For sprains of the muscles of the back make a mixture of half ounce of Canada turpentine, soap liniment six ounces and one drachm of laudanum. Rub well in before a hot fire, and give yourself a rest. You cannot expect your back to get well land strong if you do not give it a chance.

Ball Player, Anderson, Ind.—Wormwood boiled in vinegar and applied hot, with enough cloths wrapped around the ankle to keep the part moist, will be found a most excellent remedy for a sprain. Don't put your weight on it until it can be done without pain, and be very careful how you walk. A sprain is sometimes more serious than a fracture.

S. K. D., Sheridan, Wis.—A simple remedy that has cured many of the barber's itch is to moisten the part affected with saliva (spittle) and rub it over thoroughly three times a day with the ashes of a good Havana cigar. This simple remedy has been very highly recommended.

Mrs D. McD., Pittsville, Pa.—An excellent remedy to have in the house for burns and scalds is a preparation of flaxseed oil, chalk and vinegar mixed to the consistency of thick paint. Keep it in a closed jar. It will be ready for use when needed and may be applied as the case requires.

needed and may be applied as the case requires.

Hiram J., Wausa, Nev.—If your rheumatism is no more serious than you say, you may find relief from it, since you do not wish to go to any expense, by bathing the part affected with water in which potatoes have been boiled, as hot as can be borne, just before going to bed. Some quite obstinate cases have been practically cured, that is relieved so they were no longer troublesome, by this remedy and you may find it to be just what you want.

Painter, Auburn, N. H.—Do not wash your hands in turpentine to get the paint off, as, if the practice is persisted in, it may lead to serious results even to paralysis of the wrist joints. It also has a tendency to enlarge the finger joints, renders the hands more sensitive to cold and lays the foundation of rheumatism.

tion of rheumatism.

Miss G. H. O. R. Modesto, Ills.—Yes, blood root syrup is good for colds and bronchial troubles with difficult breathing. It may be made as follows: Two and a half ounces of blood root, threelows: Two and a half ounces of blood root, threefourths of an ounce of lobelia, one and a half
ounces of white sugar, and a pint and a half of
water. Gently simmer half an hour till it thickens
and when cool add a teaspoonful of paregoric
elixir. Take a tablespoonful when needed. Give
a child a teaspoonful or less. Any druggist will
compound the mixture for you.

Mather Highland, Kans.—Do not worry about

Mother, Highland, Kans.—Do not worry about the little girl with the mumps which you think may result seriously. Nurse her carefully, keep flannel around her neck, give her a mild diet of the simplest food, and administer gentle laxatives at intervals. She will be sure to come around all right and have many more serious afflictions than even a persistent case of mumps.

Miss Choir, Afton, N. J.—To remove the hoarseness that troubles you put into an ounce of alcohol twenty drops of saturated solution of iodine, and put five drops of the mixture on a lump of sugar, and let it dissolve in the mouth every two hours, until relieved.

G. G. H. Westlake, Minn.—It is not unusual for quinine to affect some people as you complain of its doing. Try antikamnia.

King, Chase, Md.—Consult a physician. You should have done so three months ago. You are in no danger, but will be if you let it continue.

Mrs. John V. Bridgeton, Ind.—Some patent medicines are excellent remedies despite what some physicians may say to the contrary.

CHICHESTER'S PILLS A Standard Remedy. Ladies, ask Drugsist for CHICHESTER'S ENGLISH. Take no other. Send 4c. (stamps) for Particulars, Testimonials and "Booklet for Ladies," in letter, by return mail.

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2383 Madison Square, Phila., Pa.



n order that each cousin may be answered this column, no cousin must ask more than ree questions in one month.

A July greeting to you all, dear cousins, which, of course, is a warm one, but greetings are not like the weather, and I am sure you do not care how warmly I greet you. Do you? It is not nice to work in hot weather, but we are not always our own choosers, so let us get at it

not always our own choosers, so let us get at it cheerfully.

The first one in the list is from Cousin Beatrice Bergstressor, Bolivar, Mo., who wants to accomodate those cousins who are musically inclined but who can't get words for the music they write. I know how hard it is to do this kind of work and if Cousin Beatrice is willing to help by doing so, she certainly should be encouraged.

Mary McCormick, III.—To the men who talk affectionately and want to flatter you, the very best way to do is to answer them in the same way—that is, don't mean half you say. As soon as the men see you have good common sense they will treat you accordingly. (2.) Do not love the young man until he tells you he loves you. Let him make all the advances and don't show him your feelings until he has shown his.

Sweetheart, Manhattan, Kans.—The young man

until he has shown his.

Sweetheart, Manhattan, Kans.—The young man should have only one sweetheart. (2) Cousins should not "keep company." (3) A girl may have as many men paying her attention as she can, but she must not firt with them ordeceive them as to her feelings. (4) If the man has no other vices save being "ungodly" he might be reformed by marrying a good, Christian woman. Some men, who are not professing Christians, make excellent husbands. husbands.

You & I, Arbuckle, Cal.—If your prejudices against the Catholic church are very strong you had better not marry a Catholic. (2) Say "yes" to the man who proposes to you, if you want him; and "no" if you do not. The manner of saying it, I leave to you. (3) Yes.

Foster, Evening Shade, Ark.—If your parents object to your corresponding with a young man, do not do it. (2) A wedding dress for a bride of seventeen does not differ from those of brides of more suitable age. (3) Wait until he tells her he loves her.

Black Eyes, Agra, Kans.—Ask the man for his arm if you want to take it.

Donna, Fidelity, Ohio.—The young man should not play escort to one young lady when he is devoting himself to another. (2) There is no rule for calls for young men. Oftener than once a week usually means that he is serious in his attentions. (3) No. (4) Pretty names for a girl baby are: Ruth, Charlotte, Judith, Bruce, Edith, Elsa, Viola, Fairfax, Page, Beatrice.

Worried, Charleston, S. C.—Before trying to become a correspondent get something to do for one of the Charleston papers. Write something and submit it to the editor. Penmanship has nothing to do with becoming a correspondent, as most writing is done these days on the typewriter.

M. E. G., Biggsville, Ill.—Address a letter to

M. E. G., Biggsville, Ill.—Address a letter to Cousin Marion asking any question you may want answered, but don't ask too many, and make them brief.

Belle. Goldfield, Iowa—For the present it would mean that you must do the work before you, and wait for the chance to teach music. But keep up your practice, to be ready for the opportunity which will surely come if you do not get discour-aged.

which will surely come if you do not get also aged.

Blue Eyes, Kilkenny, Minn.—Twenty is much better age than seventeen for an engagement. (2) No, no, no. (3) If the man neglects you that way when he has escorted you to a dance, simply tell him you do not like it and that you will not give him the opportunity to treat you so again—and don't. (4) He may call as often as you wish, and 10.30 is a good leaving time. (5) Yes. (6) Usually when a brother or other near relative is your escort to a dance you are allowed to "go with" more "others" than if your escort was not a kinsman. (6) Let him go.

(6) Let him go.

Wild Cherry, Florence, Pa.—Tell the man that your parents object to your seeing him and that you think they are quite right. If he is a decent man he will commend your action.

Bright Eyes, Hay Creek, Ore.—Fourteen year old girls should wait till they are twenty before they ask the questions you do, my dear, and then they would not ask them. Wait and see for yourself, if I am not right. I am not right.

Daisy, Clover, Utah.—By all means refuse to go with the man who has been drinking. Surely you can better look out for yourself than for such a man to try to do it. All your other questions have been answered in this column.

nave been answered in this column.

Pinkie, Millville, N. J.—Go to school for two or
three years longer, and you will be better able to
judge which of the two kinds of work will suit you.
(2) You did quite right to accept the escort if you
were afraid to go alone. (3) You write a very good,
plain hand. plain hand.

Snowdrop, Wilmington, Del.—Eleven o'clock is too late to ask an escort in, unless the members of the family are in the party. (2) It is better not to loan your ring to the young man. (3) There is no harm in such a correspondence as you mention.

harm in such a correspondence as you mention.

Sweet Flower, Mt. Vernon, Ill.—I can not tell you how to get him back and I would not if I could. You did right in sending him away and why should you want to shame yourself by trying to get him back? (2) If you do not love the man your mother likes do not marry him. There is plenty of time; wait three or four years and see what changes will come.

Harry. Ottawa, Kan.—If you are so large, you could wear your dresses longer than a small girl of fifteen. (2) I suppose there is no harm in letting one of your schoolmates walk home with you, but not a young man who is out of school. That kind of attention is for girls who are done with school.

Union, New Dover, Ohio.—It is your place to speak about it, and you should do so at once.

K. I. B., Donnells, Iowa.—The only cure for bashfulness is constant association with people. In time you will be easy and if you will read and improve your mind you will attract people to you. (2) October 20th, 1886, came on Tuesday. (3) There is none that I know of. (4) I cannot give you the address of any of the cousins, so that you may write to them. write to them.

Ida, Lutsen, Minn. -August, 28th, 1879, fell on Thursday, and April 28th, 1888, on Wednesday.

There, my dears, all of you have had your ques-

tions answered and I hope you will get much good out of the advice I give, for you must know I want it to have only the best influence, always. By, by, till we meet again.

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321 229	Bridal March from Lohengrin Wagnet Brunette Waltz Bragg Bryan and Sewall March Noles	1
307	Cavalry Parade Polka Sampson	ľ
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133 327	Cadences and Scales in all Keys . Czerny Celestina Mazurka De Lasaide	,
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141 243	Home, Sweet Home, Transcription Stack Jenny Lind polka. Four hands . Muler Last Hope. Meditation . Behr Lee's (Gen'1) "On to Cuba" galop Durkee Lohengrin. Selections . Durkee London March—Two Step Answer Lord's Dreamland Waltzes Madden's Prayer, The Badarzewske Martha Selections . Johnson May Bre ezes. Four hands . Krug	ľ
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207 263 225	May Bre e zes. Four hands Krug May Bre e zes. Four hands Krug May Day Schottische Reefer McKinley and Hobert March Turner Memorial Day March Heecit Midnight Bells Galop Ludwig Monastery Bells, Nocturne Wely Music Box, The. Caprice Wely My Old Kentucky Home. Variations Cook	ľ
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90 84	Bride Bells Brown Eyed Bessie Lee. Chorus Arbuckie Called Back Marchant Can You. Sweetheart. Keep a Secret? Estabrooke Childhood's Happy Hours Dunsmore Come When the Soft Twilight Fails Schumann Come Back to Our Cottage Estabrooke Coon's Breach of Promise. Cake walk Blake Crown of Glory Tours	-
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iğ	Oh, Sing Again that Gentle Strain Dinsmore Old Folks at Home (Swanee Ribber) Foster	
28 42	Old Kitchen Clock Turner	
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74	Outcast, An. Character Song. Fruit Character from our Dear Ones. Keller Peace to Thy Spirit. Duet Fred Peal of the Village Bell. Chorus Skelly Picture of My Mother, The Skelly	
06	Peal of the Village Bell. Chorus Skelly	,
54 48	Picture of My Mother, The Skelly Poor Girl didn't know. Comic. Cooke	j
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12	Titania's Cradie Titania's Cradie Trea d softly the Angels are calling Warrior Bold What are the Wild Waves Saying? Duet Glover Whistling Wife. The. Comic Why am I ever Watching Why do Summer Roses Fade Wish A- Chopm	
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[So many inquiries are made by "Comfort" readers con-cerning real estate (country and city; farms and location, for homes that this column has become a necessity and here we shall be glad to answer all questions.)

Paid-up subscribers who desire to make a change in their present situation or are in any way uncomfortable in their abode and want information about any particular location in any State in the Union can address "The Comfort Home Finder," Augusta, Maine, and we will try and serve them.

the Union can address "The Comiort Home Finder," Augusta, Maine, and we will try and serve them.

Miss L. P., Colchester, Ills.—Oregon is one of the finest states in the Union in many respects, and it has wide diversities of soil and climate. West of the Cascade Range of mountains, the climate is very damp. The rainfall is not greater than in Illinois, for the year, but it requires more days to get it. For that reason the state along the coast is not good for asthmatic people. It very rarely freezes in that section and is never hot in summer. It is not good for raising crops except in a small way. East of the mountains, however, the climate is entirely different, extremes of heat and cold being common, but not more so than in your own state, though possibly some colder in winter. Here grow tremendous crops of wheat, and the apples are the finest, many of them being as large as a cocoanut. We have seen Oregon apples five inches in diameter, and of fine flavor, notwith-standing their size. Pears and plums also grow to enormous size, and grapes are equally as fine. All the vegetables thrive wonderfully, and enormous crops of prunes are raised. Irrigation is necessary in some sections for the other crops than grain. The health records of the state show it to be one of the health est. There are thirty millions of acres of tillable land in Oregon, not more than a tenth of which is under cultivation. Portland is one of the richest cities, per capita, in the world, and it is growing rapidly. The Oregonian is the leading paper. A request to the Oregon Railroad and Navigation Co., Portland, will bring you its book by Col. P. Donan, on Oregon, Washington and Idaho, which will give you all the details you need before a personal inspection.

Mrs. A. L. S., Elsie, Mich.—We could not recommend the Hawaiian Islands for the raising of chickens and squabs. You must have a larger market than can be found there. They could be raised, of course, for the climate and the food supply would be found all that you wished, but there is no

sent to you. The postage of letters to Honolulu is the same as in the United States.

R. D., Niangua, Mo.—You might do well by moving to Arkansas and you might not. There is no doubt about its being a great state agriculturally, and in some lines it is second to none, but if you are not able to make money in Missouri, you would be better off in Arkansas unless you happened to hit upon something special. If you have enough money to give yourself a start in Arkansas you might do better than where you are. You do not say in what business you are or whether you want to live in town or in the country, so we cannot advise you definitely. If you will be a little more definite in your questions we can tell better what to reply. The Public School system is quite as good as that of Missouri, we imagine, and back from the lowlands along the rivers, the health is as good as it is in your own state. Parts of Arkansas are malarial, but the newcomer can easily keep away from these sections.

E. S., Muskingum, Ohio—A circular of Virgina

away from these sections.

E. S., Muskingum, Ohio—A circular of Virginia lands will be sent to you with prices of farms. Or you may write to H. W. Weiss, Manager of Immigration, Emporia, Va.

D. H.J., Clinton, Iowa.—Lands on Long Island are to be had, but the Island is becoming practically a suburb of New York City, and prices are high, except in undesirable localities. Yes, there are musquitoes. There is no point on the Island five hundred feet above sea level.

Mrs. K. R., Montville, Conn.—You can buy a Blue

are musquitoes. There is no point on the Island five hundred feet above sea level.

Mrs. K. R., Montville, Conn.—You can buy a Blue Grass farm in Kentucky at from \$75 an acre up to any price you want to pay. The climate is good.

H. I. H., Wooster, Ohio.—Real estate in New York City is at fancy prices in good localities, and not cheap anywhere. Money is made in real estate in that city only by those who have large amounts to expend. One man there recently paid \$375,000 for a small plot of about 1,200 square feet on Broadway, and he has rented the forty thousand dollar building he put on it for \$40,000 a year for twenty years.

Mechanic, Wilkesbarre, Pa.—If you are really a good blacksmith we would advise your moving to a town of from fifteen hundred to three thousand people in an agricultural section. There are numerous such towns in your own state, and they may be found in any southern state, where an upto-date white mechanic, with energy and promptness in doing his work, would be sure to do well.

Harkins, Plainfield, N. J.—A good laundryman

ness in doing his work, would be sure to do well.

Harkins, Plainfield, N. J.—A good laundryman
in a southern town would be a success if he
brought the latest methods of laundering with
him, and had active people in his employ. We
know of several who have done extremely well
simply because they got away from the old-fash
ioned style and slow delivery, and did their work
in city fashion, with enough energy to gather in
the business of neighboring towns. A visit through
Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia would open
your eyes to the possibilities, but you would have
to see for yourself.

Mrs. J. H. G., Ellsworth, Kans.—If you have

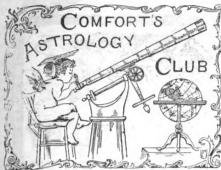
your eyes the possionities, but you would have money enough to pay \$5,000 for a home do not buy it in one of the larger cities. For that amount you can not get much of a place, and your income will not enable you to have any social advantages. You might get a good place in a suburb, but we fancy you would in a town of similar size that was independent of the city. Select a town of from three to seven thousand population in a long settled community, say three hours from a city. Either the East or West would answer, but your property would increase in value.

We are in receipt of a number of letters addressed to inquirers which we are unable to forward as we keep no record of these names, and inquirers as a rule do not wish their full names given. If those who do will so inform us we will give their addresses in full for the benefit of any who may wish to apply to them directly.

may wish to apply to them directly.

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Embroidery silk will cost you a lot of money bought at the store. We have a great jobbing-house lot of rich silk bought at wholesale. No high retail price with a lot of middle profits; but we get actual cost price. We want to give the whole benefit to our lady readers. We have prepared a lot of assorted packages containing a liberal supply of bright, rich, new silk in a variety of tones and shades, which would cost a heap of money bought at the stores. We will send our illustrated bargain list and full assorted, large sized silk package for the ridiculously low price of ten cents; or, for the ridiculously low price of ten cents; or, three packages for twenty cents. Write to-day before the rush. S. W. LANE & Co., Augusta,



CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.



in general is laworable for the prospect, action.

Mars and Venus conjoined with the 8th and ruling the 5th house jointly, indicates a bad shipwreck in the western waters or a bad disaster from some flood, also an unusual number of accidents to pleasure seekers upon or in the water. Let all engaged in public sports see that no accidents happen through carelessness. The 8th so fully occupied and affected cautions against careless use of steam and explosives, for avoidance of sudden death, especially among men of wealth.

CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR AUGUST, 1902.

AUGUST 1-Friday. Push all matters vigorously during this day, giving preference, if any, to transactions pertaining to the elegant avocations and the polite arts; prosecute mathematical and musical studies and pursuits; the latter part of the forenoon advises moderation and deliberation rather than haste in any important affair and recommends self-control and the avoidance of quarrels or controversies.

2-Saturday. Use the early part of the day for the most important moves, for as the noon passes, baffling and disappointing conditions arise which promise very unfavorably for the launching of any new undertaking or the progress of matters already in hand; be sure not to sign any writings pertaining to business or lands.

3-Sunday. The forenoon is the best part of the of fir all kinds of religious exercises. The afternoon detrimental to church interests.

4-Monday. A favorable day generally, provided caution is observed during the afternoon against rashness and contention; do not enter into any matrimonial engagement during the afternoon and evening nor expect much satisfaction from musical or artistic efforts.

pect much satisfaction from musical or artistic efforts.

3-Tuesday. Beware of any engagement of a commercial or monetary nature on this day and hold on to the purse-strings, lest extravagant expenditures exhaust the finances without satisfactory returns; the latter part of the afternoon and evening are the best parts of the day and encourage all mechanical undertakings, the initiation of very nice work by machinery, chemicals or manufacture of any kind, also for the elegant pursuits in any line; social, musical and dramatic engagements will be agreeable and satisfactory.

6-Wednesday. Make no personal application for favor from any public official of large corporations in the forencon, when conditions are adverse for dealings in patents or patented articles or any writings concerning novelties, trade marks, or copyrights; use the afternoon for important moves pertaining to real estate or buildings.

r—Thursday. After 10 o'clock in the morning give every energy to the prosecution of business, especially such as is concerned with trade, monetary matters and the literary world: make contracts with banks, with monied men or institutions, adjust accounts, open new places of business; enter upon educational schemes and plan all enterprises of consequence in ecclesiastical and judicial matters; the evening is specially favorable for extending mental labors and efforts in politic literature.

S-Friday. Seek promotion or advancement in employment during the early forenoon; have no dealings in tace or artistic goods from 9 to 12 in the forenoon when the elegant pursuits meet hindrances; the early afternoon is good for dealings with railroads and government officials, also with persons of marked eccentricity of habit; do not seek the society in the evening when conditions hinder progress of matters or consequences.

9-Saturday. Push all matters vigorously during this day, giving preference, if any, in the afternoon for transactions pertaining to the literary and scientific pur-

10—Sunday. Not particularly promising for a Sab-bath day, though likely to be marked by increased abili-ty and vigor, inducing out-of-door exercise and recrea-tion.

tion.

11—Monday. Bright and prosperous are the conditions of this day; authors and artists are particularly favored in their business dealings and dealers in scientific and artistic works and productions should vigorously improve every moment. Conditions give special activity to dealings in fancy goods, jewelry, perfumes, silks and all articles of adornment, also household goods and furnishings; architectural and horticultural work should be planned and urged on this day, begin journeys, change residences, deal with great corporations and should be planned. be planned and urged on this day, begin journeys, change residences, deal with great corporations and public offi-cials; urge all transactions relating to building and min-ing.

12—Tuesday. This day has but little to recommend it until the late afternoon; it is not favorable for a birthday anniversary and all persons claiming it or who were born about the 9th of January, 15th of April, 20th of May, 14th of July, 17th of October, or 1st of December, of past years, should be careful of health for some months to come, and be guarded in their acts and so cautious in their associations as not to debase themselves or hurt their good name and honor among their fellow men: let all such be on the alert against deceit or being misled into holding evil communications. Give preference to the late afternoon for crowding all general business.

13—Wednesday. Begin the day early for pushing important matters in trade, avoiding dealings with corposations in the middle hours of the day and particularly urging the literary pursuits in the last half of the day, when mental efforts will be peculiarly happy and effectual; do correspondence, adjust accounts and travel.

14—Thursday. A very indifferent day, without spe-

14-Thursday. A very indifferent day, without spe-ial promise in any direction.

15—Friday. Use the pen cautiously during the forenoon; engage no help nor journey unnecessarily; as the
evening approaches more than usual caution will need
to be exercised to guard against contention and quarrels;
the tongue otherwise is likely to prove an unruly member and involve thee unpleasantly.

ber and involve thee unpleasantly.

16—Saturday. Dramatists, musicians, artists, jewelers, upholsterers and furniture dealers are "under the ban," experience losses and embarrassments, and will need to exercise extraordinary caution in all their acts; it will be well for theatrical managers and artists, if they have deterned entering into very important professional engagements during these passing days; let the fair sex especially avoid this day for any kind of a matrimonial engagement, and social entertainments are not likely to prove successful or happy.

17.—Sanday. One of the best Sabbaths of the month

17—Sunday. One of the best Sabbaths of the month, especially so for the good and prosperity of church matters and for religious and moral improvement.

18-Monday. The inventive faculties are now unus-

ually acute and some remarkable discovery in electrical apparatus or process is likely at this time; public men and persons in charge of great corporations will be agreeably disposed during this forenoon.

19—Tuesday. An unfavorable day in nearly all respects and the atternoon hours caution against the execution of deeds or writings and discourage the doing or correspondence of importance; keep the temper in the evening or bad quarrels arise.

20 - Wednesday. Give preference to the forence for the most important of the undertakings; the elegant and artistic pursuits are adversely affected in the afternoon; the evening gives much improvement and should be used for planning all engagements pertaining to manufacture, construction, building and mining enterprises.

21-Thursday. Continue thine efforts of the even-ing preceding relative to mechanism and landed interests and crowd all general business to the utmost.

22-Friday. Chose this day for urging all honorable business to the utmost: buy goods for trade and have money transactions generally, preference being given, in all cases, to the first half of the day for most important steps; seek no favor from thine employer in the afternoon.

noon.

23—Saturday. This day is evil for the most part, as malicious conditions conduce to bad accidents and physical detriment; let the tongue be kept well under control and controversies of all kinds be avoided; keep out of the way of harm from machinery or falling objects. Let all persons born about the 13th of January, or April, or the 18th of July or 17th of October of past years, especially observe the above suggestions and have care in all matters of diet for avoidance of stomach and kidney troubles; they should especially beware of stimulating foods and drinks, and those accustomed to indulgences in intoxicating drinks will need to be peculiarly on guard to avoid very serious if not fatal harm from their habits.

24—Sunday. Unfavorable for church matters and

24—Sunday. Unfavorable for church matters and not conducive to best results from pulpit discourse.

25—Monday. Be stirring early, engaging in all classes of transactions pertaining to houses and lands, such as purchasing, selling, hiring, letting, building, repairing, improving, or furnishing; make contracts for stonework, excavation and bridge building.

stonework, excavation and bridge building.

26—Tuesday. Seek no favor from thine employer or promotion in office during the first two-thirds of this day; shun all real estate transactions during the middle hours of the day; but urge all the elegant pursuits in the afternoon, when also make thy purchases of goods for trade, particularly of goods of an artistic and decorative character; seek money accommodations and deal with the wealthy.

acter; seek money accommodations and deal with the wealthy.

27—Wednesday. An evil day in which particularly matters of much importance are best deferred; see that thy tongue or pen do no violence to good judgment on this day; have no dealings in stocks or in speculations of any kind; those employed with the pen should act with great circumspection; errors of account are more than usually liable in the forenoon hours. These suggestions are especially applicable to persons born about the 10th of March, 9th of June, 10th of September, or 8th of December, of past years. Such persons are likely to be experiencing very trying evils, either in their domestic or business affairs, or are having physical troubles of peculiar and baffling character. Married ladies so born will need to be very circumspect in deportment and exercise more than ordinary patience and forbearance with their husbands, and no some, at best, will come quarrels, disagreements, separations, or even divorce, or unusual misfortunes to or through their married partners or near male relatives in these passing weeks. Broken engagements and strange and unexpected social disorders are threatened in the lives of marriageable ladies who were so born.

28—Thursday. Have dealings on this day with officers of everywards and everytics.

ladies who were so born.

28—Thursday. Have dealings on this day with officers of government and apply for favor or advantage from thine employer.

29—Friday. Give preference to the forencen and the very late afternoon hours for thy most important engagements; the afternoon hours are baffling in nearly all matters, but particularly such as are concerned with real estate and building; give attention in the evening to all classes of literary and intellectual work.

30—Saturday. Avoid rashness of word or act and be not easily moved to wrath; the day is peculiarly dangerous for surgical operations, especially if performed upon the head, stomach, or kidneys; the afternoon and evening threaten the purse and thou art cautioned not to buy articles except for urgent matters, as the purchases so made are likely to give you little satisfaction and be unprofitable.

31—Sunday. One of the best Sabbaths of the month.

31—Sunday. One of the best Sabbaths of the month, particularly conducive to successful efforts by the clergy: the day also invites thee to busy the mind with the elegant in literature and art.

# A WOMAN'S DISCOVERY.

I have discovered a positive cure for all female diseases and the piles. It never fails to cure the piles from any cause or in either sex, or any of the diseases peculiar to women, such as leucorrhœa, displacements, ulceration, granulation, etc. I will gladly mail a free box of the remedy to every sufferer. Address MRS. C. B. MILLER, Box 106, Kokomo, Ind.

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A dandruff-bedecked garment is not pleasing to the eye, and materially detracts from an appearance otherwise impressive. Such miniature "snow-falls" not only mar the evidences of dressy gentility, but point to careless neglect of the hair and scalp, and foreshadow the be-traying signs of age—gray hair, thin growth or baldness. If the evidence is on you, the friend who gently brushes it off is perfectly justified in scolding you for your palpable neglect of your hair and scalp, particularly if your attention has ever been called to the wonderful proper-

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Read How You May Get this Splendid Japanese Gift for Your Own Home.

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# To Celebrate the Glorious Fourth.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT



EITHER the small boy, nor the pedestrian, stopping to look at the array of fire-works in the shop windows, has any idea of the enormous trade

windows, has any idea of the enormous trade in these "gems of fire" or the method of their manufacture. All through the winter months the factories, big and little, have been preparing to fill the orders that come pouring in from all parts of the United States and Europe—for Yankee ingenuity has invented specialties in pyrotechnics that are unequaled. Each factory has its own designs and devices in tireworks, and the rivalry between the firms at times burns as fiercely as their powder. The small boy who pictures to himself the fun of filling rockets full of stars, of stuffing Roman candles with balls, of building dandy big pin wheels, would be a trifle awed at the quiet and order that reigns in a fireworks factory. Before the visitor is admitted to the building he dons a pair of thick woolen shoes, then follows the guide over the copper covered floor to the powder room, where about a dozen men are feeding the revolving powder mills. The sulphur, charcoal and saltpetre for the gunpowder are ground by small zinc balls that tumble about with a monotonous, rumbling noise.

In the rocket room, the work is divided be-

tumble about with a monotonous, rumbling noise.

In the rocket room, the work is divided between many men. At one table the pasteboard tubes are made; at the next the fuses are put in, and so they pass on down the line until they reach the man who finishes them off with conical cap and stick. The materials for the stars are kept in air tight vessels, and mixed together with mealed powder and glue water. Men at side tables mix up the ingredients and form them into balls. This one of copper and zinc filings and potash will burn a beautiful blue; this of lampblack, strontia, potash, sulphur and charcoal, a bright crimson; this of amber, salt and rosin, gold; this of barytes, potash and sulphur, a gorgeous green. These balls are put in the tubes with the firing charges, and filled at the top with powder and steel filings. When these rockets "go off," showers of silvery sparks will surround the flashing stars.

steel nings. When these rockets "go off," showers of silvery sparks will surround the flashing stars.

More gorgeous rockets have layers of colored fire added to fall in showers of rain, or are packed with slender sticks of yellow fire to burst into sheaves of golden grain; still others are filled with nests of young snakes to go hissing and writhing across the sky; while the triumph is reached in the rockets that explode and expand into parachutes, that go floating gracefully through the air, supporting burning globes, which change from gold to purple, then in turn to red, blue, green and silver. These rockets require delicate manipulation, and there are many little secrets connected with their manufacture which the visitor is not allowed to penetrate.

Equal variety in design is found in the bomb room. After the firing charges and fuses are in place, separate charges of powder are put in the centers of the bombs, and the "display" packed around the sides. Some bombs are packed with balls that will burst into flaming suns; others are filled with golden fire and small colored balls, to spread into sparkling sheets of flame showered with stars; and in still others the balls are arranged in the shape of stars, triangles and wheels that will whirl and flash in the air with dazzling rapidity; but the most splendid of all is the bomb that bursts into a globe of golden light, turning to blue as it slowly descends, then bursts into balloons of variegating colors, which finally explode into showers of shooting stars of rainbow hues.

The popular Roman candles are very simple affairs. Long pasteboard tubes are plugged to

balloons of variegating colors, which finally explode into showers of shooting stars of rainbow hues.

The popular Roman candles are very simple affairs. Long pasteboard tubes are plugged to receive the charges of slow burning powder, then colored balls and charges of powder are alternately put into the cases until filled, fuses inserted and the tops covered.

How the small boy would stare could he behold the men making aerial "flower pots" and "bouquets," as they ladle in the powder and pour in hundreds of balls to blossom into prismatic flowers, the like of which were never seen on this earth before. The shower of American Beauty roses is one of the most brilliant of these "flower pieces," while the vases and cornucopias of flowers that change in hue against backgrounds of silver and gold spangles are strong rivals in popularity.

As for the penny pin-wheel, it counts its relatives by the dozens. Rows and rows hang up drying, some with single tubes, some with three that will throw out showers of balls and tiny stars, some that stop suddenly and revolve in the opposite direction. With all of these the small boy will scorch his fingers and blacken his face, trying to make them go around, for the pin-wheel is the most erratic of all fireworks, stopping and starting off again in the most unexpected fashion. The double wheels have six short tubes of colored fire attached to the rims, small boxes of fire fastened to the spokes and tubes of parti-colored spangles wired out from the hubs.

But the zenith of pyrotechnic display in the pin-wheel line is reached in a large wheel suspended from a standard. Upon the rim large tubes of white and colored fire are arranged irregularly. Fastened to the center of each spoke is a small wheel and three boxes of tinted stars and spangles grouped on either side. When the fuse is touched off the whole wheel is soon ignited and hereins to revolve the whole design

regularly. Fastened to the center of each spoke is a small wheel and three boxes of tinted stars and spangles grouped on either side. When the fuse is touched off the whole wheel is soon ignited and begins to revolve, the whole design bursting forth, revealing a dream of color that glows, and flashes and blends into the glory of sunset skies. A row of these wheels set off in a framework of silver birches and golden willow trees is a spectacle not easily described. "Wigglers" that go darting high up across the sky bursting into a myriad of small "twisters;" "chasers" that fly back and forth in the air like maddened serpents till they melt into a thin trail of red fire; balls that spread out gracefully into a peacock's tail, or explode into a waterfall of golden spangles, are some of the novelties designed especially for this year's firework displays. In making fireworks the fuse gives the most trouble, how to get it just right so it will burn neither too fast nor too



says:—"Statistics prove that a mosquito-ridden neighborhood is a most dangerous locality for residence and that in localities infested with these disease-carrying insects the death rate is exceedingly high."

Dr. A. F. A. King, in a paper read before the Philosophical Society of Washington, says:—"Malarial diseases are spread through the instrumentality of mosquitoes which by their punctures inoculate the body with the malarial poison."

A year ago several experiments in Cuba resulted in the death of the subjects. Two Spaniards who submitted to the test were bitten by infected mosquitoes, died very quickly with severe cases of yellow fever, caused by the insect injecting the deadly virus of yellow fever into their system. Miss Clara Maass, a trained nurse in Havana, was the last victim. She allowed a mosquito to bite her arm. The venom soon took effect and her death resulted. These tests prove beyond question that the mosquito is the most dangerous of all insects, carrying and spreading disease wherever it goes.

J. R. Kean, Surgeon U. S. V., writes: "The role of the mosquito in the transmission of certain diseases is now well established. The evidence is now perfect and conclusive that malaria, as well as filarial infections are carried by this insect."

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These most dreaded and dangerous diseases can be cured by "5-DROPS."

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fifteen feet square, holding the traditional arrows and olive branches; his background is a network of rockets, candles, fire and rain. His body is made of golden stars, the shield is worked out in red and white, with a blue field studded with stars. The outline of this, as well as all set pieces, are formed with thick paper tubes at the back of the design, and also serve as fuses. The piece is touched off at several points and should ignite rapidly to display the whole device before any one part has burned out. Steadily and majestically the eagle burns, while showers of stars, rain and spangles in myriads of colors, shoot forth into flashing rays around him. Across the bottom of the frame golden stars twinkle out until the word "Liberty" appears.

No celebration of the 4th would be complete without "The Star Spangled Banner," either in the form of aerial fireworks or a set piece. Nothing can add to the dignity or beauty of the "Flag of the Brave," "the sign of hope and triumph high," as its stars glitter and the stripes unfold across the sky with only the clouds for its background.

Battleships and portraits of heroes and states-

its background.

its background.

Battleships and portraits of heroes and statesmen are also popular among the simple set pieces. In the Niagara Falls, the landing of Columbus, the battle of Santiago, the battle of Manila, etc., thousands of stars, rockets, bombs, lights and other fireworks are used, and they are the result of much time and labor. These are but a few of the fireworks prepared for the celebration of the Glorious Fourth, but all the others are mere variations of the same principles. From them some idea may be formed of the care and skill required for the manufacture of even the simplest Roman candle.

Strange as it may appear we cannot make firecrackers to equal the Chinese, they seem to possess some secret knowledge for their manu-

sunset skies. A row of these wheels set off in a framework of silver birches and golden willow trees is a spectacle not easily described.

"Wigglers" that go darting high up across the sky bursting into a myriad of small "twisters;" "chasers" that fly back and forth in the air like maddened serpents till they melt into a thin trail of red fire; balls that spread out gracefully into a peacock's tail, or explode into a waterfall of golden spangles, are some of the novelties designed especially for this year's firework displays. In making fireworks the fuse gives the most trouble, how to get it just right so it will burn neither too fast nor too slow, is a difficult problem. The success or failure of the fuse is a very important matter in the set pieces.

The Great American Eagle is a much demanded piece for the Fourth. He stands in a frame



have bad luck. To avoid this you must turn and walk backward beyond the rabbit's path. A squirrel crossing your path brings good luck. Colored people believe that the warm puffs of air frequently felt in traveling country of air frequently felt in traveling country roads are the ghosts or "haunts" of the dead. One day a curious person was trying to investigate this belief. "Where do these 'haunts'

this belief. "Where do these 'h a u n t s' come from, Uncle Peter?" was asked of an old

No. 11000
Cut this out and send it it your name and address

water in a running stream, his illness will be carried away.

If a peahen calls, a donkey brays, pigs carry straw, geese flap their wings, a pot boils dry, or the clouds move northward, it will rain.

If a silver coin or a new laid egg be placed in the hand of a new born child, long life and prosperity will be assured.

If the sun goes down behind a bank of clouds on Friday it will rain on Sunday.

Negro mothers believe that it will bring bad luck to the child to make a baby's clothes before the child is born and hence although they provide the material and have it in the house, no shears must touch the cloth nor any

house, no shears must touch the cloth nor any needle. As a result, when the baby comes along, he is wrapped up in anything handy until a first garment can be hastily manufactured.

"It surely bad luck to count on de Lord's do-in's, dat fashion," said one prospective black mother. "It seem like you think you done know already how things gwine to turnout. I got a check pattern in de house now, what haint never had scissors in it, an' I got stuff for



THEY SEE A "HAUNT" GO BY!

body clothes, too, but I aint darst to touch any piece of it, not so much as to cut out one sliv. This reply of the old negro's makes one thind (CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)





# THE KEY TO

# A Million and a Quarter Homes.

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Entered at the Post Office at Augusta, Maine, as second-class mail matter.

Published Monthly at Augusta, Maine.

New York Office, Temple Court, Chicago Office, Marquette Building

Strikes still prevail in various parts of the country, and the strikers are still using their brawn instead of their brains to gain their points. Some day they will learn where their strength is and will be wiser and more successful. They have plenty of strength of the right kind, but they do not seem to be able to use it.

It was generally supposed that former President Cleveland had retired forever from politics, but since he made his appearance in New York where he talked to David B. Hill, for the first time in years, it begins to look as if his party has not entirely given up all idea of his availability as a Presidential candidate. Strange things happen in politics.

Mr. Rockefeller, the so called "richest man on earth." and the head of the great Standard Oil Trust, has reached out for more worlds to conquer, and is now combining all the big pork packing establishments that he can gather in. Rockefeller probably fears that he will be a poor man some day, and he wants to provide for his family in case of hard times. And the Bible says a man who won't provide for his family is worse than an infidel.

We may have to forego the comfort that the flippant philosophy of a proverb has furnished. "As good fish in the sea as ever were caught' has consoled many a loser who has seen the fish slip off the hook or out of the net just at the critical moment. Science will take all the poetry and part of the philosophy out of our existence. A committee on biology has been appointed to determine if there is any danger of the seas being fished out. If they decide that there is such danger, a calendar committee should be appointed to abolish Friday, for what would Friday be without fish?

The railroad people would try to make the world believe that since the railroads have come in the great rivers of the country are of no particular use as freightways. Yet on the last rise in the Ohio river in six days six million bushels of coal left Pittsburg for points down the river. With all the great railroad facilities of Pittsburg, this work could not have been done by them in a month, five times as long as required by the river, and at freight rates far in excess of the water route. The railroads are all right in their field, but they can never take the place of our rivers, and the peopleat large should always be favorable to all wise legislation looking to their improvement.

The American people are really a hard people same strenuousness with which they pursue business. With feverish energy they exhort first this then that form of amusement. Golf, bicycling and bridge whist are taken up and dropped. Each "would-be-fashionable" professes the most intense devotion to the sport that is popular for the moment. The newspapers are filled with the technical terms of the fad Ping Pong! How much more mysterious it sounds than plain table tennis. How the scribes do delight in saying that he pinged an argument to his opponent who ponged it back again. How the Pharisees do delight in dwelling on the pleasures of Ping Pong. Sad to think that by the time the roses bloom again the game and the name will be forgotten.

Every year in London the Americans have a Fourth of July dinner at which everybody makes a real Star-Spangled-Banner-Fourthof-July speech and spouts away in fine style. They like to do it the more because they

## THOROUGHBBEDS TWAIN.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

Copyr : jht, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher. Grand-daughter Katherine married tonight!
I am weary of music and laughter and greeting;
I have stolen away from the riot and light,
—Ah, gallant old comrade, the years have been fleeting.

I am old, and I am bent, I am wrinkled and white And I felt like a ghost at the wedding tonight. I searched through the mansion from celler to

garret
For a little dark corner—no lover could spare it!
So I've hastened away from the music and laughter,
With splendor and melody pulsating after,
—Hobbling as fast as my old legs were able
Down to the gloom of your stall in the stable.

Now lie where you are in the straw, my old chap! Come nuzzle your grizzled, brown nose in my lap, While I stroke through the strands of your ragged,

grey mane.
The banner in many a hard-won campaign.
We have fought the good fight, you and I, my old

beauty,
And ever with faithful regard for our duty;
Who will challenge our pride as tonight we look

back,

I on my statecraft and you on the track?

For we trotted our squarest and steadiest gait,

You on the race-course and I for the State.

Do you hear, my old fellow, the pulsing and beating Of the passionate waltz in the mansion up there? As it floats to us here it seems softly repeating A song and a toast of the past, my Lothair.

—The song and the toast that I boldly sung When the clang of the glass with a challenge rung, And with flaming soul

I took the pole
And past Life's grandstand gaily swung:
Here is my toast to the thoroughbred!
After he dies he's a long time dead;
Dying, he goes—where? Well, God knows!
And exactly where God has not said.

Who dare say where?
Yet this I'll swear
That the thoroughbred here will be thoroughbred There.

There.
But the boastings of Life are behind us, old fellow, We covered our course to the sere and the yellow. We covered our course to the sere and the yellow. We are turned out to run, two old Has-Beens together,
Too feeble for bridle, or bit or for tether.
But, faithful campaigner, the good time was, when Our stride was the topic for thousands of men. I marshalled the van of the Law and the State, And you on the race-course were fairly my mate. All the victories won were the victories fought—Inch by inch, word by word, not entreated or bought.
So there's naught of regret though the racing is over;
We can feel there are due us a few days in clover,—A bit of a rest in the lengthening shadows Before we're turned loose in the asphodel meadows.
Do you hear, my old fellow, the wailing and sigh-

Do you hear, my old fellow, the wailing and sigh-

Do you hear, my old lenow, the waining and signing
of the far violins in the mansion up there?
I've tried all my life not to think about dying,
But we're down the homestretch to the wire,
Lothair.
Is it silence and stall till the Judgment Day?
Or a welcome and wisp of celestial hay?
Do we blindly thrust
From Life's Track dust
To be fined for our stumbles along the way?
But here's hope for the thoroughbred—hope for
the man
Who has raced and finished as best he ean;
May the Judge Most High cast gracious eye

the Judge Most High cast gracious eye the breaks he has made in the Great Race

And to him who has tried Be not denied A place in The List on the Other Side.

Eagle fly high. It is a real vent to their pent up feelings and is a good thing, but this year, Ambassador Choate, because King Edward was still not out of danger, decided there were to be no speeches at the dinner. This was simply awful, but Mr. Choate was firm, and the regular dinner passed off speechless except for two responses to "The King" and "The President." He left the dinner at ten o'clock to meet some diplomatic engagement, and no sooner had he gone than the true American spirit began to bubble up strong, and it wasn't lon; before the very liveliest kind of American speeches were being made all around the hall, even the

only so much unclaimed money, but so many persons ignorant of their claims or how to es tablish them; and he accounted for it by pointing out how widespread is the British Empire, and how migratory are the habits of its people, and the kinship of many families in the three kingdoms of England, Scotland and Ireland, to others who have settled in the United States, the British colonies, and other parts. It is an undoubted fact that there are a vast number of unclaimed estates in England, some of them very large and in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. An official list of these estates has been obtained from the British Government, and for the benefit of those readers of "Comfort" whose fathers, grandfathers, great-grandfathers, or great-grandfathers may have originally come from the British Isles, and who may have left property to which the present generation are the surviving heirs, we have compiled a little booklet entitled "Comfort's List of Heirs," particulars of which may be are on foreign soil and they want to see the found in our advertising columns.



WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HERE will be a grand display of beauty in the garden this month, if the right kind of material is there and it was only cared for during the earlier part of the season. Among the hardy herbaceous plants, the "Golden Glow" Rudbeckia will stand out prominently because of the rich color. A clump is sufficient to light up a garden like a burst of sunshine. Every one ought to grow this plant because it can always be depended on to do its share without coaxing and coddling. It never winter-kills. It

ways be depended on to do its share without coaxing and coddling. It never winter-kills. It never fails to blossom, and so profusely that it appears, at a little distance, like a solid mass of yellow. It is easily propagated by division of the roots. A bit of crown with a bit of root attached will grow into a goodsized plant next season. Because of its tall growth, it should be given a place in the background.

Another most excellent hardy plant that will be in the height of its beauty during this month is the perennial Phlox. You will find some varieties of it in nearly every country garden. There ought to be several there where as a general thing there is but one. It is a plant as hardy as a Lilac. It grows rapidly. It requires as little care as any plant I know of, and as for its flowers where will you find anything that equals them in richness of color and profusion? Each stalk sent up from healthy roots will bear a head of bloom a foot long and nearly as wide, with hundreds of flowers in the cluster, and there will be so many stalks that you get a solid body of color from the flowers they support. There are many varieties, ranging from pure white to darkest crimson, delicate rose, carmine, lilac, mauve and rosy violet, and all are good. Some sorts grow to a height of four feet, while others are many to little more than a foot. Care must be taken if

than a foot. Care must be taken, if several varieties are used, to give the low-growing kinds a place in the foreground. This plant is easily grown from division of the than a foot. COLDEN GI

from division of the roots. September is the proper time to set out new plants of it.

Many of our common flowers, such as we grow in the garden in summer, make excellent winter plants. There is the single Petunia, for instance. Give it a six or seven inch pot of moderately rich soil, a sunny window to grow in, water enough to keep its roots moist all the time and, almost any temperature above freezing-point, and it will bloom freely all winter long. Few plants give a more cheerful eftime very riveriest kind of American speeches were being made all around the hall, even the English guests taking part and adding to the patriotism of the occasion by adding the good things they had to say of America and Americans. It was a great Fourth of July dinner after all, and no thanks to Ambassador Choate who ought to have known better than to try to gag the glorious Fourth.

It may not be generally known to our readers that "Comfort" has now for some time had an office in London, England, and we hope to be able to bind still closer the ties of kinship which exist between the two countries. Our representatives in London have been looking closely into the affairs of our British cousins, and one of the things which caused them astonishment was the large number of vast estates, money and property in England for which no owners are known. It was an English professor who remarked not long ago that in no country but his own could there be not only so much unclaimed money, but so many persons ignorant of their claims or how to select the ten and the first and pot it carefully. Water it well to settle the soil about its roots, and set it in a shady place for a week or more. As a general thing, a plant will keep on growing as if nothing had happened to it, and by October it will be ready to bloom. But I would not let it do so. Keep all buds picked off until about the holiday season. Then give it a chance to show what it can do, and you will be delighted with it. Chinese Pinks are good winter-bloomers if taken up early in the season and allowed to become thoroughly established in pots before being taken into the house. So are the Marguerite Carnations which we find growing in nearly every country garden nowadays. In the open garden they are not as satisfactory as we would like to have them, because they come into bloom so late in the season.

bloom so late in the season.

But by selecting the most desirable most desirable
specimens
and potting
them early we
can force
them into bloom in the house during the winter, and they will be found more satisfactory of the greentions which cost a great deal more, and are richer in color, and no more fra-

PERENNIAL PHLOX.

places where they are to bloom. They will be found most effective if set in groups. Five or six plants of the same color, or of colors that contrast harmoniously, will give a much finer effect than single specimens, because of the greater body of color obtained by this means. Rose-colored and white kinds look well together. So do the pink and pale yellow sorts. But avoid putting the pink and red varieties together, if you want harmony. Now is a good time to sow Pansies for early flowering next spring. Or, if you look] over the bed where these plants grow, you may find a good many seedlings. These can be set out in beds of rich soil, where they will make a good strong growth before winter sets in. If you want Pansies as soon as the snow goes away, you will have to depend on fall-grown



SINGLE PETUNIAS.

plants for them. So get ready for a fine display of them by giving them the attention they need at this season.

# ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"How shall I take care of my Rambler Roses this fall?" Mrs. W.—Lay the bushes down on the ground when you are sure that cold weather is at hand, and cover them with sand or dry earth to the depth of three or four inches. Throw abasettal of coarse litter over the roots of the plants.

"Can I move Rose-bushes safely in fall, or should I wait until spring?" S. S. R.——The bushes can be moved safely as soon as the foliage is ripe. Disturb the roots as little as possible. Cut away at least half the top. Make the soil firm about their roots, and water well.

roots, and water well.

"What will kill lice on the Lady Washingtes Geranium? My plants are literally covered with them, and nothing that I have tried has any effect on them." Amateur.—There is an insecticite that I depend on because it is cheap, always a hand, easy to prepare, safe, and always effective. It is made by shaving a quarter of a pound of lvory soap, such as we use in the household, into this strips and melting it. Put this in a pailful of water, and give the infested plants a bath in it. one application is not enough, give another, and keep doing so until there is not an insect to be found.

"How often shall I water my plants? Some tell me three times a week, and some say every day. Which is right?" Mrs. O.— There is no positive rule. There can be none, for plants, under certain conditions, may not need it more than twice a week. We must give as needed, and in order to understand the needs of the plant we must keep watch of it. If the soil looks dry on the surface, it is to be taken for granted that more water is needed, and enough should be given to thoroughly saturate all the soil in the pot. Then wait mult the surface of the soil looks dry again. This is the general rule by which we water plants. Observation will enable you to modify it to suit existing conditions. Much more water is needed in summer evaporation takes place rapidly, and in winter very slowly.

"I want to set out some Tulips and Hyacintha."

ration takes place rapidly, and in winter very slowly.

"I want to set out some Tulips and Hyacintha this fall. I have read somewhere that this ought to be done next month, but a friend says wait until November. What would you advise?" P. D. F. —I would advise September planting, by all means. For this reason: Bulbs set out then make a strong root-growth during the fall. This growth must be made before flowering-time if fine flowers are wanted. If it is not made during the fall, there will be very little time to make it in, is spring, consequently you will not be likely to get really good flowers. Therefore set out your bulbs early, and let them get ready for next springs work at their leisure. I would never advise putting bulbs into the ground after the middle of 0ctober, at the north.

"I have been told that old geraniums are not good winter-bloomers. Is this so? I have several plants I kept in the house last winter. They bloomed finely. This summer I have not allowed them to bloom, calculating on getting winter flowers from them again. If they are of no value for a second season, I would like to know it in time to get some young plants started." H. D. D. — Your Geraniums are just what you need for your winter-garden next winter. A young plant may give a few clusters of flowers, but it cannot give many, because it hasn't flowering-surface enough. Old plants, having many branches, will give a score of clusters

it hasn't flowers, but It cannot give many scanned it hasn't flowering-surface enough. Old plants, having many branches, will give a score of clusters where a young plant will give one, and are more desirable than a young plant, in every way. Feed them well with liquid manure, or by mixing in old, well-rotted cow manure from the barnyard with the soil, and they will delight you with the beauty of their blossoms during the entire season.

Mrs. W. S. There are four roses which I can

beauty of their blossoms during the entire season.

MRS. W. S. There are four roses which I can recommend for house-culture—Agripina, dark crimson, Queen's Scarlet, same color, but larger, Grass and Leiplitz, lighter crimson, and Hermosa, pink. These are all grand winter-bloomers.

"Schoolmarm." Young Geraniums are not satisfactory for winter use, because, as a rule, they have very few branches, and the quantity of flowers depends upon the bushiness of a plant. Old plants, if cut back at this season and forced to produce new branches, will give far greater satisfaction. It smaller plants are preferred for winter, start them from cuttings next spring. Do not allow them to bloom during summer. Pinch off the ends of them from time to time to make them throw out branches. In this way you secure a busby, compact plant with a large amount of flowering surface.

C. C.—Give your Banana a rich, light soil. Water

C. C.—Give your Banana a rich, light soil. Water well, and expose to sunshine. No special culture is needed.

PERENNIAL PHLOX. no more fragrant. In potting them, use a rather heavy soil and pack it firmly about the roots.

As soon as the seedling Hollyhocks are large enough to transplant safely, set them in the





1. Americans may be counted upon as coming to the front on all occasions and in all lands. The latest one is J. H. Martin, better known as

The latest one is J. H. Martin, better known as "Skeets" Martin, a jockey who rode Ard Patrick, the winning horse in the great English race at Epsom, called The Derby. By this American boy's skill in handling a good horse its owner, J. Gubbins, an Irishman, won a prize of \$50,000, to say nothing of the bets he won.

2. New York is said to be the most charitable city in the world, and it should be, with all the people of vast wealth it has. A notable charity is that of the establishment all over the city of milk booths, where the poor may get a bottle of prepared milk for children at one cent a bottle, or of the ordinary kind, pure, for nothing. This charity has been dispensed by Mr. Nathan Strauss, a millionaire, for ten years past, and last year 800,000 bottles were sold and given away, and millions of glasses were sold

given away, and millions of glasses were sold at a cent a glass. The milk depots are kept open only during the summer months.

open only during the summer months.

3. When the present King Edward of England visited this country as the Prince of Wales forty years ago, he was entertained at the White House in Washington by President Buchanan, his niece Miss Harriet Lane doing the honors as Mr. Buchanan was a bachelor. The King remembers so well the courtesies extended him then, that Miss Lane, who is now Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnson, was personally invited by the King to attend his coronation, among his especial guests.

4. The Beef Trust, which has recently gained more disagreeable notoriety than any combine the people have had to do with, carried things

the people have had to do with, carried things with such a high hand that it was believed no power of the courts could be brought to bear upon it. But injunction proceedings were begun and Judge Alden Chester of the New York Supreme Court granted the injunction restraining the trust from fixing prices, thus breaking its power as far as the law can go.

5, 6. Diplomatic circles in Washington are pleased with the appointment of the Hon. Michael Herbert to succeed the late Lord Pauncefote as English Ambassador to the United States. This country is also well pleased because Mr. Herbert is not only a man of ability, but his wife is an American woman, being the daughter of R. T. Wilson of New York City. Mr. Herbert is Secretary of the British Embassy at Paris, and will not take his position at Washington until September.

7. Peace has at last come to the Boers and their submission to the English government is the price of it. As a special favor to President Kruger he will not be asked to acknowledge the ascendancy of England. Lord Kitchener,

through whose efforts the war was pushed to the end, will be made a Viscount and be grant-ed a gift of \$250,000. The terms of peace were advantageous to the Boers, if they will accept them in the proper spirit, but many will still refuse to submit.

8. One of the best known colleges through the West and South, is Oberlin College at the town of that name in Ohio. It was one of the first colleges to admit colored students equally with white. Very many teachers have graduated from Oberlin. Its President, Dr. John Henry Barrows, died there recently, aged fifty-five years.

9. No Democrat in all the party or out of it is better known than the Hon. David Bennett Hill, and while some may have thought that Mr. Hill was no longer a power in his party because he had apparently gone into retirement, it is not so in fact. Mr. Hill is now one of the guiding influences in New York state, and what he will be when the next Democratic Presidential Convention assembles in 1904, no.

Presidential Convention assembles in 1904, no-

10. France has recently gone through a Cabinet upheaval and the old ministry has given place to a new one. It once was the case that France was almost as bad as the South Ameri-

can republics, but that day has passed and now changes in the government are made without any great disturbance. The new Premier of France is M. Combes, who is also Minister of

11. Ordinarily when we think of Kings they

are associated with crowns and scepters and thrones, and we can only imagine them with glittering diadems on their heads, golden rods in their hands, purple robes on their backs and lotty thrones under them. But the picture we wished where the state of the state of

give of King Edward conveys a very different impression, and we see only a very nice-look-

impression, and we see only a very nice-look-ing English gentleman who looks about like

any ordinary, well-dressed man. And that is what he is when we get him away from all the pomp and circumstance that are thrown about him. Kings are not what they used to be.

12. The first United States Minister to the Republic of Cuba is Herbert G. Squiers of New York, former First Secretary of Legation at Pekin, China. Mr. Squiers has had much experience as a diplomat and is a man of wealth. The salary of the position is \$10,000 a year.

13, 14. Probably the most colossal swindle of the age is that recently worked in France by two people known as Frederic and Madame

# PORTRAITS AND PARAGRAPHS OF **PEOPLE** THE PUBLIC PRINTS.

Humbert. These two sharpers represented that they were heirs to an estate of twenty million dollars left by Robert Crawford, an American, who died at Nice some years ago. The papers were alleged by Madame Humbert to be locked up in her safe, where, under the French law they could not be got at for several years. On the supposition that they were telling the truth, and by several suits brought by their coconspirators which were decided in their favor, they succeeded in borrowing money from all sorts of people, business men, bankers, and others, until they had gathered in something like twenty million francs, about four million dollars. They have now disappeared, and strange to say, had not been caught at last accounts. They lived in great style in Paris.

15. For many years the best known man in

horse racing circles was James F. Caldwell; whose part in the races was starting the horses, and he was known as "The Prince of Starters." In later years he had lost his prestige, but at one time his income was from \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year. He died at Saratoga, N. Y., recently at the age of sixty-five. He was born in Danville, Kentneky.

16. The present President of Venezuela, Cas-

16. The present President of Venezuela, Castro, came to his office chiefly by a revolutionary raid on the office held by President Andrade, and now President Castro is doing his best to prevent General Manuel Antonio Matos from taking the Presidency away from him as he took it from Andrade. It is not at all surprising, however, as most of the South American republics elect their Presidents in that manner. At last accounts Castro was still in office but the revolutionists were getting nearer.

but the revolutionists were getting nearer.

17. Just before the coronation of King Edward of England, there was a report that he had been stricken with partial paralysis, and a fear prevailed that he might not live to be crowned. Of course King Edward can command the attention of the greatest physicians in the world, but his Physician in Ordinary and Surgeon Apothecary is Sir Francis Henry Laking, who will be seen by his picture, herewith, to be a young man of pleasing physiognomy.

18. No American woman spends more money on society in London than does the wife of John W. Mackay, the millionaire business man of New York, who made his first million in Western mines. Mrs. Mackay lives in London and her husband lives in New York, but he gives her money enough to spend to her heart's desire. News of the death of Mr. Mackay in London has just arrived.

19. General Charles P. Eagan, former Commissary General, U. S. Army, who was retired from the service because of his violent attack on General Miles in the "embalmed beef" investigation, has for some time past been mining in

General Miles in the "embalmed beef" investigation, has for some time past been mining in Mexico and Arizona, where he is said to have made a great deal of money. Recently, however, he almost lost his life at Hermosillo, Mex., where he drew his revolver on a man named Goldbaum. Goldbaum caught the pistol in time to send the bullet to the ceiling, and he threw Gen. Eagan to the floor and might have ended his career if others had not interfered and stopped the fight.

20. Much discussion has arisen over the conduct of Governor General Wood in Cuba in using his influence and Cuban money to effect American legislation in favor of reciprocity with Cuba. The stories circulated did much to

with Cuba. The stories circulated did much to secure the defeat of the bill which if passed would have injured the Beet Sugar industry in

General Wood did not exceed his authority, and the money he spent was subscribed by Cubaus for the purpose and was legitimately

21. A Mayor of national reputation is Mayor John Hinchcliffe of Paterson, N. J., head-quarters for anarchy in this country, and the home of Bresci, who assassinated King Humbert of Italy. At the recent silk strikes in Paterson, chiefly led by anarchists, Mayor Hinchcliffe discharged his Chief of Police, who was afraid to act, and took charge himself, with the result that the rioting was settled in short order. In the twelve million dollar fire not long ago in Paterson, and in the great floods almost overwhelming the city, Mayor Hinchcliffe did more than all others to restore the normal condition of affairs. He has been at the front in other needs of the city. He is a democrat and carries the town over a big republican vote entirely on personal qualities and his re-

vote entirely on personal qualities and his re-

22, 23. The two most prominent and noto-rious anarchists in the United States are Herr

rious anarchists in the United States are Herr John Most and Emma Goldman. They have not been much in evidence since the assassination of President McKinley, but recently Most was sent to Blackwell's Island penitentiary, New York City for a year, for publishing an incendiary article on the death of President McKinley, and Emma Goldman was reported to be the woman who made a speech in Paterson, N. J., urging the strikers to deeds of destruction. She disappeared after she made her speech. When Most was sentenced—he had been out on bail for a year—he said: "This is the funeral day of the press of America." We believe it is nearer the funeral day of anarchy.

24. Emperor William of Germany is always seeking some way of getting himself into the

and stopped the fight.

expended.

No American woman spends more mon-

**366666666666666666666666666666666666** 



world's notice. It was a great bit of advertis-ing to send his brother Henry to this country

last Spring, but that is all over now, and not long ago William made a speech at Wiesbaden which was more like a sermon, and after giving a great amount of flattery to both Protestants and Catholics, he assured his hearers that he would place his "Empire under the protection of God."

25. Sometime ago a New Jersey millionaire, Henry M. Bennett of Farmingdale, died, leaving more than a million dollars, the bulk of his estate to the actress Laura Bigger, "for tireless service and unfaltering devotion." Mrs. Bigger

service and untattering devotion." Mrs. Bigger nursed the old millionaire for four years before his death and ruined her own health in caring for him. Now she is sued by his heirs, his wife having died some years ago, as having exercised undue influence upon the aged and sickly millionaire, but she has a good case.

The best known politician in the United

26. The best known politician in the United States never to have been in office, is Richard Croker of New York, at one time "Boss of Tammany." Mr. Croker is now in England, at his horse-farm "Wantage," and he says he has retired from politics and New York. Among his most vigorous opposers in Tammany is John C. Sheehan, who recently charged Mr. Croker with getting a million and a half dollars out of a contract let by the city to some friends of his. This angered Mr. Croker to such an extent that he sent word to his New York friends that he was coming back, but only long enough "to smash John C. Sheehan's face." As will be seen by Mr. Sheehan's face in the picture, Mr. Croker will have plenty of face to smash.

27. Among the American prisoners in Cuba released by President Palma's amnesty proclamation was Estes G. Rathbone convicted with others of post office frauds and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. He was also finded \$35,324. Rathbone has returned to New York and he is very bitter against Gen. Wood, whom he accuses of preventing a fair trial. Rathbone is a near friend of Senator Hanna and the Senator is doing all he can to get Rath-

and the Senator is doing all he can to get Rath-bone's case straightened out.

28. The greatest killer of human beings of recent years is Jane Toppan, a trained nurse, recently sent for life to the Insane Asylum from Taunton, Mass. Miss Toppan is about thirty-five years old and during her services as nurse has killed thirty-one persons with morphine. Some of them were her best friends. She showed no remorse when her acts were brought home to her, and freely admitted that she killed her patients because she could not help herself. She also attempted on various occasions to set fire to houses.

29. Very few newspaper readers have not heard of "Uncle Joe" Cannon, the veteran Congressman from Illinois. He is a Republican of the stalwart kind, and he is the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, and lately has been getting more than usual public notice from his attempts to cut down the sums to be expended. In a speech he said to Congress: "I say to you that the extravagance of appropriations must be stopped. We are face to face with a deficit if we don't quit."

30. The features of the late Lord Pauncefote, British Ambassador to this country, were fa-

British Ambassador to this country, were fa-miliar to many people from his frequent pic-tures, but pictures of Lady Pauncefote, his widow, are less in evidence. She sailed with her three daughters for England in June, and

before leaving, her photograph got into the public prints. As will be seen she is a hand-

31,32. If King Edward of Great Britain

31,32. If King Edward of Great Britain should die, as may occur at any time in his present condition, he will be succeeded on the throne by his oldest living son, George Frederick, Prince of Wales. He was born in 1865 and is reported to be most progressive in his ideas, and a good speaker. His wife is the Princess Victoria May of Teck, daughter of the Duke of Teck. She was born in 1867, and they have three children. She is an Englishwoman, and is very popular.

33. Blacking boots at five cents a shine in City Hail Park, N. Y., is a bootblack known as "Herman," who a few months ago was worth \$25,000, made in betting on horse races. Herman quit blacking boots when he had money, but like many others, it turned his head, and

but like many others, it turned his head, and he didn't stop with what he had, but tried to make more, as he had made the rest. In a very short time Herman was as poor as ever, and had to get back to shining again.

34. Edward Marks, Treasurer of the Metropolitan Turf Association and one of the best known book-makers in this country, died re-

known book-makers in this country, died recently in New York, thus dissolving a partnership of years with Edward Burke, another book-maker. This partnership was remarkable in that no agreements of any kind were entered into, but they divided all gains and losses equally, taking each other's word for all transactions. At one time Burke asked Marks for \$60,000, which was passed over to him without a word, as representing Marks' loss of a bet of \$120,000, and at another time \$25,000 was

of \$120,000, and at another time \$25,000 was passed between them, as profit on a winning bet of \$50,000. No question ever rose between

them and they had implicit confidence in each other. Marks left a fortune of a million dol-

occasions to set fire to houses

ome woman.

face to smash.









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body can say.





# THE HOME WORKERS OF COMFORT.



the household, for it is one of the essentials of health, as well as showing the character of the housewife, for what shows more conclusively a woman's ideas of neatness and cleanliness than the care with which her bed paraphernalia is attended to and the every day appearance of her chambers?

When a mattress is new

when a mattress is new it should be encased in a cover of unbleached sheeting, which should be removed and washed once a year. This keeps the dust from the mattress cover. For covers which have not been so protected, rinse the ticking well in cold water to which has been added a little potash, and rinse well afterwards.

which has been added a little potash, and rinse which has been added a little potash, and rinse well afterwards.

When people live in or near a city, the easiest and most satisfactory way for cleansing blankets is to send them to a regular cleanser. The charge is only seventy-five cents for a pair, and they are re-bound if they need it, and returned to you in almost as good condition as when first bought. If it is not possible, however, to have it done outside, choose a warm, sunny day. Brush and shake them thoroughly to remove as much dust as possible before wetting them. Put some household ammonia in the tub, in the proportion of a tablespoonful to each quart of water; pour warm water over the ammonia before putting in the blankets; then put in the blankets and move them around in the water, but do not rub them. Rinse in warm water, press through a wringer, but do not wring with the hands. Hang out to dry in the shade, where there is good air, squeezing the lower edge of the blankets occasionally, to get rid of the water that runs down from the top while drying.

It is better, when blankets are first bought.

while drying.

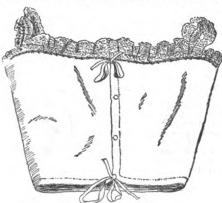
It is better, when blankets are first bought, to cut them in two and bind the edges, for in washing it is much easier to cleanse one and then the other, rather than the two at once in the same tub. Then, too, there are times when only one blanket is needed on the bed, and it is easier to have a single one to use them to is easier to have a single one to use, than to handle the double ones, only using half.

A correspondent, writing to thank us for the

PATTERN.

description of a warm weather nightgown in last month's issue of COMFORT, asks if we can give as satisfactory a pattern for a corset cover. We think we can, and are glad to do so here-

The beauty of this cover is that it has no seams. It is cut on the bias, Long Cioth being used. The diagram will show the shape, and of course the size is determined by the measurements of the person who is to wear it. The lower line, which is the waist, should be an inch longer than the size of the waist, and the upper line long enough to be comfortable across the bust. The waist is cut and hemmed all around, narrowly, except the two front edges which are turned in enough to lap an inch. Then the top of the cover is trimmed with lace beading, lace insertion and lace edge, in the order given, and straps made for the shoulders of the same, and sewed on back and front where the armhole shows in the diagram. Buttons and buttonholes are made in the front, riboon is run through the beading and into the lower hem, and the waist is complete. Be sure and have the lace straps over the shoulders large enough, as lace shrinks in The beauty of this cover is that it has no plete. Be sure and have the lace straps over the shoulders large enough, as lace shrinks in



COMPLETED COVER

the laundering. Use wash silk ribbon, which is heavy and looks just as well after using a long time as when new, while the ordinary baby ribbon looks like a string after one wetting. It is a good idea to sew a tab of double white tape an inch wide at the waist

HE proper care of bedding should enter into the education of every daughter of the household, for it is one of the essentials of health, as well as showing the character of the housewife, for what shows more conclusively a woman's ideas of neatness and cleanliness of neatness and cleanliness

lace, beading, insertion and allowing large bought and quite a saving made in buying large quantities.

If a waist that is fuller across the bust is desired, all that is necessary is to tuck the cloth top and bottom, across the front, tucks running up and down, fastening the tucks only at the top and bottom, and letting the cloth out loose between. In cutting for this, simply allow nine inches on each end, which will give all the fullness desired. Slim people like to do this, but stout people are looking for just such a pattern as the diagram, for it fits the figure like the proverbial glove.

A young woman, known to the writer, whose reputation for saying the right thing to the right people almost unerringly has spread abroad in her circle, has frankly admitted that not all of her success is spontaneous.

"It often happens," she says, "that I have an



FAVOR BOX.

entertainment, a dinner, a tea, or a dance, after

entertainment, a dinner, a tea, or a dance, after a fatiguing day, and am in a condition by no means up to normal; I feel stupid and destitute of ideas. It is then I refresh my mentality with a glance into a book that I keep for the purpose. It is a blank book, and it is slowly filling up with matter of my own culling.

"Really bright and fresh stories that I hear, good and adaptable thoughts that I come across either in a book or in the speech of friends, I copy out in this little volume for service when I most need them."

This isn't a bad idea, by any means, as we are all expected to be at our best when invited out and to do our share of the entertaining, and this is no small matter when one has had a fatiguing day, or, perhaps, is feeling indisposed. With such a book to glance into just before going out, one's mind is taken off one's self, and one or two suggestions from the book will set the tired brain in motion and lead to all sorts of interesting thoughts and ideas which would otherwise have lain dormant.

A pretty fancy for a children's party where small favors are to be distributed, is to have a large, round cardboard box with a cover, as a receptacle for the gifts. A three-cornered section is cut from the cover before the icing is put on, and then replaced, and the box iced over and decorated like a wedding cake, the

section is cut from the cover before the icing is put on, and then replaced, and the box iced over and decorated like a wedding cake, the place where the cover is cut being marked in the icing before it is hard, and then, when the favors are to be distributed this piece can be cut out of the top of the cake (or box) and the inside reached without mutilating the rest of the icing. Before the box is iced, small gifts are rolled in tissue paper and placed inside, tied around with narrow ribbons or gold and silver cords, and the ends of the cords are left quite long and all together, so that when the piece of the cover is removed, an end of each cord or ribbon is given each little guest and he or she can draw out the gift on the other end of the cord. of the cord.

# Terms Used in Crochet.

Ch, chain; sc, single crochet; dc, double crochet; tc, treble crochet; stc, short treble crochet; dtc, double treble crochet; p, picot.

# Crochet Insertion.

The materials are a steel crochet-hook and white cotton; and the pattern is a very pretty one for trimming petticoats, drawers, bodices, etc. Begin with the middle pattern, and crochet rows forward and backward crosswise. Make a chain of 10 stitches and work upon this for the

1st Row—Ch 3 for 1st tr, then 3 times alterate the head transfer with each obsidial attich

nate, ch 1 and 1 tr and with each ch skip 1 stitch of 1st ch, ch 3, skip 1. The last three stitches of the 1st ch are to divide 7 tr.

row of ch 1, and 1 tr, skip 1 stitch of previous

row of ch 1, and 1 tr, skip 1 stitch of previous row.

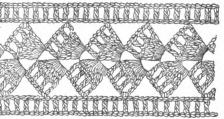
So many queries come to us from beginners trying to learn the simple stitch of tatting we give the following directions feeling sure they will benefit some one.

Workers are most, if not all the time, directed to use two shuttles, but if you will try my plan of using one shuttle and a spool of thread you will find you can avoid making knots on the half-loop (or under-loop), which makes neater, stronger work. When shuttle needs refilling, use thread from another spool for the purpose.

purpose.

To begin: Make a loop with shuttle thread thus: 8 stitches (or, as they are usually called by most instructors, double knots), 1 picot: 8 stitches; a second picot; 8 stitches, a third picot; 8 stitches, then draw closely to form the loop, in which are 32 stitches (or 16 double knots), with little picots on it.

Turn this loop upside down and hold it and the thread from spool between thumb and finger; put the spool thread around the fingers,



CROCHET INSERTION.

bring it up and slip it under thumb with the loop end of thread, and then, using the bring it up and slip it under thumb with the loop end of thread, and then, using the shuttle, make 16 stitches upon the thread from the spool—just as if it were the shuttle-thread. Draw the stitches closely toward left hand, open fingers, and the spool thread will drop. Twenty stitches will make a more drooping curve to the half-loop, and, if you wish, you can make picots on it, too.

Turn work "right side up," put shuttle thread round fingers and make another whole loop—drawing the first stitch as closely as possible to the half loop. Reverse work; make half loop—and so proceed as directed.

It may seem slightly awkward at the first, but with a little patience and perseverance you will succeed.

will succeed.

# A Veil-Case.

A piece of fine white linen twenty-four inches long and seven inches wide is folded crosswise in the middle, then the bottom edges are folded backward to the middle crease, making three receptacles when the sides are stitched. Bind the raw edges with pale blue satin ribbon. On the face of the case, work blue forgetme-nots with their green leaves, using blue silk for the lettering, with these words:

See Within

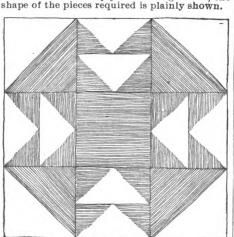
See Within This Dainty Case Filmy Veils For Thy Fair Face.

The one to whom it is given will be cleased with the dainty gift.

Below we illustrate a new method of utilizing small pieces of silk, satin, or velvet for a sofa pillow. It is very pretty when finished and so inexpensive. Pieces two inches square are used and sewed in place, slightly overlaying one another. This same design could be carried out in red, blue, or green checked gingham for a summer pillow. It would be durable and could be easily laundered.



Patchwork is again becoming very fashionable. A thin piece of tin or card-board cut the exact size and shape of the pieces required should be kept to insure all the pieces being the same. This greatly facilitates the work. The Double Square pattern given here is very popu-Square pattern given here is very popular and also easy to make. It is very effective made of sharply contrasting colors; the



THE DOUBLE SQUARE.

# A New Use for Shoe Strings.

Shoe strings have heretofore been considered as only useful articles, but now they will have to be classed as ornamental as well. The unique way of utilizing them for purposes other than for what they were intended, originated with a Western woman, and the craze for shoe string bags, belts, neckties and hat bands quickly spread all over the country, and now every up-to-date woman has, or intends to have, one or more of these articles.

They are very durable, inexpensive pretty.

every up-to-date woman has, or intends to have, one or more of these articles.

They are very durable, inexpensive, pretty, and above all, easily made. The belts are great favorites as they adjust themselves to the form and stay in place. They can be made of black, brown, blue, or crimson, or braided in a pattern combining two or more colors as one prefers. The bags are very handsome when made of black shoe strings and lined with a bright color. Any of the articles would make an acceptable birthday or Christmas present, and hat bands made of the different college colors are at present very popular with students.

The leading articles of favor and now most made by ladies for general use are the shoe string bags and shoe string belts that are illustrated on this page, and, believing that our readers will appreciate the opportunity to obtain full and complete instructions and material to make up these various articles, we have taken it upon ourselves to prepare a set of





wide awake we anticipate that our efforts in this respect will be appreciated, and that we will have a very large call for these shoe strings that as many as desire may procure the material for a bag or belt which are at this particular season of the year so very popular. Kindly address your orders to

"Comfort" Shoe String Department, Augusta, Maine.



HE origin of the word "tost" in drinking a health is interesting. In the 16th century a piece of toast was added to the drinks, which floated on the liquor and was supposed to give additional flavor. A story is told of that time regarding a certain beau, at Bath, who pledged a noted beauty in a glass of water taken from her bath, whereupon another beau and the would have nothing to meaning the lady herself. From this incident is said to have arisen the habit of giving a lady's name to preface or flavor the drinking of wine. HE origin of the word "toast"



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CHAPTER VI.

HY, Flossie, child, where have you been?" questioned Mrs. been?" questioned Mrs. Joycotte as the girl hurried, an hour later, into the parsonage. "And as white as a ghost, too! Oh, I knew you were foolish to go out so soon after your illness. Did you lose your The color came and went like a red flag on roor Flossie's face.

The color came and went like a lot ling of poor Flossie's face.

"Yes," she faltered, "1—did—lose my way. I have been seeking work."

"And without success? Oh, my dear, I see that in your poor, pale face."

Flossie sank spiritlessly on the sofa. "Yes, without success."

without success."

Mrs. Joycotte brought her a glass of wine.
"Take this, dear. Then it's well that I have been more fortunate. I believe I have secured you a good place—that is, if you don't mind hard work."

Weary though she was, Flossie's face brightened; she put down the wine glass. "Mind

ened; she put down the wine glass. "Mind hard work? Not in the least. What is it, dear Mrs. Joycotte? Where is it? Oh, I am so thankful!"

"I won't tell you another word today," smiled Mrs. Joycotte, "not until you have eaten and slept. Tomorrow will be quite time

And not all Flossie's entreaties could move

her.

The next day, however, she arranged Flossie's hair herself and pinned a fresh lace frill into the girl's black gown. "It's necessary that you should look very pretty," said she, laughing. "Old Mrs. Towers cannot bear anyone near her who is not young and lovely."

"Then I'm to be a companion?" said Flossie. "And whose?"

"Didn't I tell you? Mrs. Tressilian Towers."
"But I don't know who she is."

"But I don't know who she is."
"That shows how ignorant you are of New York society. She is Mrs. Vaillant's mother; She lives at No. — Fitty-Eighth Street; she is very old and childishly young—she is pink and white like a rose, and yet she is shriveled like a nummy."

I don't understand you," faltered Flossie. "I don't understand you," faltered Flossie.

"Put on your hat, dear, and we'll start," said
Mrs. Joycotte. "I don't wonder that you are
puzzled. But we are late already. Mrs. Tower is
very capricious, and it may cost you your situation if we keep her waiting. I can tell you
about it as we walk. Mrs. Vaillant is a very
fashionable lady, and her mother, Mrs. Towers,
was a famous beauty, half a century ago, and
is an enormously rich woman now. But she
had a severe illness—some trouble of the brain—
vers before you were born. Flossie—and when years before you were born, Flossie—and when she recovered her reason was practically gone with it. To this day she believes herself as young with it. To this dayshe believes herself as young and beautiful as Venus or Psyche or any of those ideals. And she is dressed and painted and gold powdered every day, and drives in the park, goes to big balls and drives her poor companions half crazy—indeed, they say she can never keep one more than a month at a time."

"She shall keep me!" cried Flossie earnestly.
"If only I am lucky enough to please her."
"Oh, she's a good-natured soul," said Mrs.
Joycotte, "only so full of whims and fancies.
Mad, of course—but it's a harmless mad, if you Mad, of course—but it's a natimess mad, if you give her plenty of cosmetics and listen to her talk about her own beauty and grace. It will be tedious, of course, but —"
"Not too tedious for me," said Flossie. "Oh,

I must find a home!"

Mrs. Joycotte looked surprised at the girl's ars. Joycotte looked surprised at the girl's big, frightened eyes. Flossie dropped them, terrified lest they should betray the experience through which she had yesterday passed. "For I never, never, could tell her how foolish I was to go with that man," thought Flossie. "She would despise me—and, after all, perhaps it isn't wrong to have a secret if it harms no one else."

"I am terrifying the poor child," thought Mrs. Joycotte, "and it won't be such a bad place. Flossie," she said aloud, "did you ever act in private theatricals?"

And Flossie started. "No," she answered, almost inaudibly, with wildly beating heart. Could Mrs. Joycotte know about the Æthalion Theatre and Madame Lavoglio?

"Well, this will be a sort of to-be-continued private theatrical all the time," said Mrs. Joycotte, "and you will be dresser and decorator allibitum, besides being an audience who must never get tired of the love stories and society triumphs of fifty years ago."

triumphs of fifty years ago."
Flossie gave a sigh of relief. "I shall not be she said.

"You are very white, dear," said her kind escort. "Are you sure we are not walking too fast?"

"Oh, quite sure," declared Flossie. "Is this the place? Why, it looks like a palace! I am alraid—"

Come," said Mrs. Joycotte, firmly, or Flossie might have quailed on the very doorstep.

A man servant in black showed them into a

big semi-darkened room, soft with steam heat and odorous with blossoms of roses and blue and white violets, and disappeared, with Mrs. Joycotte's card on a silver salver.

A minute later the Persian portieres were lifted and a strange vision glided in, leaning

partly on a pearl topped cane, partly on the arm of a stout woman whose lace cap and muslin apron, tied over a black silk gown, betrayed the status of lady's maid.

status of lady's maid. "I'm sure I beg pardon, ladies," said this per-mage, "but she would come in. She always comes if she chances to hear the door bell. Oh ma'am, it wasn't my fault," to a portly, aged lady in a trailing tea-gown of pink Japanese silk, billowed over with cascades of creamy lace, who entered from an adjoining door at the same moment.

"Never mind, Morris," said the lady. "Good morning, Mrs. Joycotte."
But Flossie had stopped abruptly. Had her

senses deserted her? or was she in a dream? In spite of Mrs. Joycotte's words of prepara-tion she hardly knew whether she was looking upon a beautiful vision of eighteen, or a figure

stepped from one of Vandyke's old canvases. For a moment only, and then she became aware that the curling treasures were dyed, the eyebrows artificially manipulated, the complexion a dazzling sham, and the milk-white teeth mere porcelain. She looked intently at the beauty of half a century ago in sheer white muslin draperies and sparkling diamonds. The strange vision eyed her with equal earnestness.

nestness.
"Oh!" said she in a lisping baby voice, sweet "Oh!" said she in a lisping baby voice, sweet with the sweetness of forgotten years. "This is my new companion. Morris, I told you it was some one for me. Come here, darling, and kiss me. How pretty you are! And I am so glad! Wintergrove had a crooked nose and a wart under her chin. Beautiful people are always drawn towards each other, and Wintergrove hated me. But you are like a rose."

Mrs. Joycotte and the lady in the pink gown smiled at each other. "I knew she would suit,"

smiled at each other. "I knew she would suit, murmured the minister's wife, and the rich lady whispered back: "It's so fortunate!"

A faint odor of roses floated through the room as Mrs. Towers led Flossie towards the

door.

"You must pardon us, ladies," said the beauty, "but I have been expecting this young friend for some time—Miss Eveleth, you know, Sir Brian's daughter. He wrote to me about her the night before he shot himself. Such a tragedy! But what could I do? I was engaged to Tressilian Towers then, and how could I disappoint him? Come up stairs, Miss Eveleth, and I'll show you your father's miniature, set in diamonds. Tressilian said I might keep

set in diamonds. Tressilian said I might keep it. There is no harm in that, surely?"

"Not in the least, mamma," said Mrs. Valliant, yawning behind her pocket handkerchief. "Go with her, Miss—Field,—I think that is your name."

"No," lisped the sweet voice in resolute accents. "Miss Eveleth—didn't I tell you? Sir Brian's daughter. I think you are growing more stupid every day, Helena."

Flossie hung back a little, but Mrs. Joycotte nodded encouragingly, and she accompanied Mrs. Tower, greatly to Morris' relief.

"She have took to you wonderful, Miss," muttered the maid. "And a blessing it is, too, and I hope it'll last. Hush-sh,"—she stooped to pick up a jeweled hairpin—"she'll hear—she have got ears like an Indian hunter, and she near eighty." near eighty.

near eighty."

"Seventeen, Morris, not eighteen," said the lady, composedly. "But you're right. All my ancestors had quick hearing. Remain where you are. We do not need you, now that Sir Brian's daughter has come."

And the upshot of this strange visit was that Flossie Field was engaged as companion to Mrs. Tressilian Towers at a sum that seemed to her almost fabulous.

her almost fabulous.

"Oh, madam, I never can earn all that!" she protested to Mrs. Valliant, who settled the terms, while Madamoiselle Nanon, the hairdresser, was "doing" Mrs. Towers' golden tresses in her own bedroom. "You will have to keep a constant eye on her," said Mrs. Vaillant. "She takes the strangest fancies sometimes, and one can never relax one's vigilance. She tore up all Mr. Vaillant's business papers the other day, thinking they were her old love letters. She throws away money on beggars who call her a pretty young lady, and she gave my diamond cross to Morris yesterday because she thought the stones were false. She can never remember the right medicines to take, or the proper quantity. "Of course it's Morris' business to wait on her, but Morris won't have much chance now that she has taken such a fancy to you."

she has taken such a fancy to you."
"I will endeavor to please her," said Flossie

Nothing would suit Mrs. Towers short of

Nothing would suit Mrs. Towers short of Flossie's going down to dinner with her, until the girl pleaded a piteous excuse.

"I have no dress, madam," she said at first, remembering the wonderful dinner costume of white chiffon and seed-pearl embroidery in which Mrs. Vaillant's tall daughter had swept past her.

"Nonsense!" said Mrs. Towers. "I'm g sure you could wear my dresses. There's a pale blue China crepe that would become you im-mensely. Morris, bring it here." And then Flossie was forced to fall back on

And then Flossie was forced to fall back on a headache.

"Though to be sure," said Mrs. Towers, "she must think me very heartless—It can't be a year since poor Sir Brian—dear me, dear me! I am so glad I remembered."

But on the second day the ghost of Sir Brian had passed entirely from the poor lady's memory, and Flossie was promoted to her own personality again.

personality again. "My companion, a charming creature of my own age, Miss Field of Field Court," she in-troduced her to some guests who were to dine

at the house that day.

Miss Hilary Vaillant, a this season's beauty, lifted her pretty eyebrows. "The Field Court people are quite a different people," whispered she. "But Theodora is so ridiculous."

For Mrs. Towers would not allow her grand-daughter to call her any name but that of her girlhood, and treated her exactly as a contem-

girlhood, and treated her exactly as a contemporary.

"Miss Field has sustained a family loss," said the beauty with dignity. "Else you would have the pleasure of dining with her. But she will join us in the drawing-room afterwards." So Flossie, in black taffeta dress with black lace veiling her beautiful shoulders, and a simple jet neck lace around her throat, which Mrs. Towers had given her, sat, palpitating, among the roses and orchids by the grand piano until the dinner guests should find their way back.

"Oh, if I could only run away and hide," thought she "What shall I say? Which way shall I look? And I don't think Miss Vaillant likes me very much—but if she knew that I was the one that picked up her Paderewski ticket, that day, and sat in her seat with her flowers in my hand, she would like me still less."

For Flossie Field was one of those who never forgot a face, and she had seen Hilary Vaillant in the carriage driving away from Carnegie Library on the eventful day that had already begun to color her destiny. Moreover she had

heard her name on Mayne's lips when first he had entered the box, expecting to find her

"I suppose he comes here sometimes," thought Flossie, starting a little, as the electric radiance suddenly flamed up and the shadowy room became a blaze of light. There was a sound of nearing voices and soft,

well-bred laughter, and the next minute Mrs. Towers entered. "Oh, here is my shrinking violet," she said,

"Oh, here is my shrinking violet," she said, in her lisping voice. "I hope you are not tired waiting, love. Here is a gentleman I wish to present to you. Miss Field of Field Court, this is Capt. Mayne from Devonshire, England, a near neighbor of poor dear Sir Brian Eveleth." Captain Mayne bowed low, but Flossie ignored him utterly. "May I go upstairs for my fan, Mrs. Towers?" she murmured, and vanished like an apparition.

### CHAPTER VII.

There was a momentary silence among the guests. Captain Mayne colored and bit his lip. Miss Vaillant opened her eyes very wide, but Mrs. Towers smiled, supremely calm.

"Oh, my poor wounded dove!" she said.

"But you cannot marvel that the very mention of Sir Frien Evelety's news should guest her

"But you cannot marvet that the very mention of Sir Brian Eveleth's name should upset her. I may trust to Captain Mayne's chivalry to excuse her. At some later period she may have her feelings more under control. And now, perhaps, Helena," to Mrs. Vaillant, "Signora Delmata will favor us with that song."

Mrs. Vaillant nodded to the Italian cantatrice standing behind the relies and so reor Election.

standing behind the palms, and so poor Flossie

escaped.
"But, mamma," whispered Hilary, her black brows knitting, just as Signora Delmata reached her famous "high G," "that girl should be taught a lesson. Because grandmamma is half-cracked, her companion has no business to behave like a lunatic. You really business to behave like a lunatic. You really must speak to her."

Mrs. Vaillant shook her head. "I don't dare to, Hilary," she murmured. "You know very

Mrs. Valuant shook her head. "I don't dare to, Hilary," she murmured. "You know very well that your grandmother will take no hints from me. Hush! People are looking at us." So it happened that Flossie, coming quietly down to breakfast next day with Mrs. Towers, received none of the rod that Hilary had in pickle for her, but she could not but observe that young lady's coldness toward her.

pickle for her, but she could not but observe that young lady's coldness toward her.
"But I can't help it," thought Flossie, her soft eyes filling with tears. "I will never speak to that man again if I can help it."
Flossie Field, however, was yet to learn that in Fate's web the silken threads overlap one in Fate's web the silken threads overlap one another in constantly recurring patterns. That very day she was sitting in the boudoir arranging some fresh violets in a cut glass vase during the temporary siesta of Mrs. Towers, who had dropped to sleep in the very midst of a long description of some young poet who had sought her love before she met the late Mr. Tressilian Towers, when Morris, the maid, put her head in at the door. in at the door.

in at the door.

"Please walk in, sir," she said to some one behind her. "Miss Hilary's out driving with her ma, and the old madam's asleep, but here's her companion."

"Mrs. Towers is asleep?" said a low, pleasant voice. "Then don't disturb her, pray. I can amuse myself here for the present."

As he lifted his hat courteously to the girl who sat blushing amoug the violets, her face suddenly brightened. "Why!" she exclaimed, "you are the gentleman whose picture I was so "you are the gentleman whose picture I was so stupid as to upset at the Exchange, are you not?"

"My name is Geoffry Marchlands," he said,

"My name is Geoffry Marchlands," he said, scarcely at first recognizing her in the semilight. "And you are—"
"I am Florence Field," she confessed, wondering why her heart beat so joyously, as if at the sight of some long-lost friend. "I—I am Mrs. Towers' companion."
"Oh!" said he, half smiling. "Then she has changed companions again? And so you are the young lady I met at the Exchange? Perhaps I shall not inconvenience you if I wait here

haps I shall not inconvenience you if I wait here

naps I shall not inconvenience you if I wait here for a few minutes?"

"Not at all," assented Flossie, moving her vases. "Did—did you sell your picture that day?"

A puzzled expression crossed his face. "What picture? Oh, I beg your pardon. No. I did not."

Flossic locked at him with soft wietful ever

not."
Flossie looked at him with soft, wistful eyes.
"I am so sorry," said she. "Neither have I heard
anything from my table-scarf. Rich people
don't seem to have any consideration for us
poor workers. But, Mr. Marchlands, please
don't think I'm interfering, but—but—Mrs.
Towers is very rich——"
"Yes, I know that," he said.
"And very generous," Flossie added.
"I believe I may be sure of that."
"So—perhaps—I don't know—she might buy
it."

Did that glance of his mean surprise? Or was it annoyance? No, Flossie was sure there was nothing but kindness in the calm dark eyes

that regarded her so curiously.
"I would not have mentioned it," said she, "only that I am poor myself, and know how difficult it is to live."

"Pray don't apologize," said he, sincerely.
"I shall not forget your kindness."—(And even at the same moment Flossie marvelled how she had dared to volunteer these unconsidered

had dared to volunteer these unconsidered words.)—"But I assure you I know all about Mrs Towers; she is a very old friend of my father's. We are both English, you know." "I didn't know," said she, secretly wondering how he had lost his money, for Mrs. Towers did not seem to her like the sort of person to have friends who sold nictures.

did not seem to her like the sort of person to have friends who sold pictures.
"But I'm glad I told him," she thought, as she bent over the violets. "It is so very, very hard to need money."
"And how do you like your situation?" he asked, watching the flying fingers with the calm serious eyes that seemed to see so much.
"Very much!" cried Flossie. "Only—Mrs. Towers is so visionary, you know, and sometimes she fancies I am a girl who died long ago, and again she thinks I am old like herself, and it really seems as if I were always walking in a it really seems as if I were always walking in a

it really seems as it is well as a dream."

"But she likes you?"

"Oh, yes, she likes me."

"And you?"

"I love her!" exclaimed Flossie, earnestly.

"But all the same, I am so very, very sorry for her. It is as if she were dead and buried, and had come back to life, like a ghost."

"Ah!" commented Marchlands. "But Mrs.

Towers was always a good judge of character."
"Here she is now," said Flossie, with smiling eyes, but as the portiere was lifted she shrank back. It was Hilary Vaillant, who entered with blooming cheeks and eyes like deep blue

here? When did you come? Miss Field," turning with a darkened brow to Flossie, "my grandmother wants you at once. We will excuse you."

Flossie rose with the vase of violets in her hand and left the room. But when she reached Mrs. Towers' luxuriant apartment, the old lady was still asleep, with Morris nodding over her knitting beside her.

"Mrs. Towers has not asked for me?" she whispered.

"No, miss," said Morris, laboring to pick up a dropped stitch. "She's sleeping like a baby."

Flossie sat down by the window and looked out toward the west, where the lace-like towers of the cathedral were outlined against the crimson sky.

the crimson sky.

"Why did Miss Vaillant send me away?" she asked herself. "Did I do anything wrong? I am sometimes careless and impulsive, I know, but what have I done that she should look so

angry?"
Alas, poor Flossie, there were many of the world's hard lessons for her still to learn.

world's nard lessons for her still to learn.

Nor was this the last rebuff she was compelled
to endure. Apparently Hilary Vaillant had
taken a dislike to her, nor was her mother much
kinder. Mrs. Towers alone was her steady
and constant friend, but in that family Mrs. and constant friend, but in that family Mrs. Towers was the stronger element. It was her money that supplied the golden oil to lubricate the wheels of wealth, her will that dominated everything. But in spite of all her efforts, her young protege was continually made to feel herself an intruder.

The next day Mr. Marchlands met her in the hall as she came in with some rare white roses, looking, as he thought, like a rose herself.

"I have been up to see Mrs. Towers," said he. "She is very dreamy today."

"Oh, is it not a pity!" cried Flossie.
"I am not so sure of that. If we could all live in a world of our own creation, would it be

live in a world of our own creation, would it be so very bad?"

He bowed and passed through the door that

He bowed and passed through the door that Collins was holding open. Flossie ran upstairs. "Oh, Mrs. Towers!" cried she. "They say you are so rich. I wish you would buy a picture from Mr. Marchlands."
"Why?" asked the old lady, sharply.
"To encourage him. To help him live."
Mrs. Towers lifted her brows. "Because, you know," supplemented Flossie, "I have been so poor myself, and indeed, madame, you don't know how cruel it is."
"Of course," said Mrs. Towers, "we can't know anything of other people's lives. But, my child," suddenly drifting to a new subject, "I wish you would get that poem of Macaulay's about—about Henry of Navarre and his white plumes, and read it to me. What a thing it would be to have lived in those days!"
So the weeks went on. Flossie and her mistress lived their curious double lives. Clement Mayne and Mr. Marchlands both came often to the house, and still Flossie's gentle heart ached on—for no one said a word about buying the poor artist's work.
"Oh, how I wish I were rich," Flossie thought. The continuation of this interesting serial will be published in the September number of COMFORT, and that you may not miss any chapters you should send in your subscription at once. 25c. for one full year, or 10c. for a special six months' subscription. See Special Coupon Subscription Offer on another page, this issue.



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eyes, but as the portiere was lifted she shrank back. It was Hilary Vaillant, who entered with blooming cheeks and eyes like deep blue stars.

"Why, Mr. Marchlands!" she cried. "You WESTERN UNIFORM CO., 216 S. Clark St., CHICAGO.



Summer Out-Door Life.



AMERICAN people do not live out of doors half so much as they should. Sum-mer as well as Spring and Fall, they stay closely in their houses and miss the good they might have from good they might have from the fresh air and the beauty of the earth. That is one reason the American wom-

en lose their good complexions at so early an age. They begin life as fresh colored girls, but by the time they have had two or three children and have kept house, cooked, washed and ironed for a few years, whatever bloom they once had is gone.

Of course, I do not mean to suggest that it is possible for a busy woman to turn her back on her work and wander the meadows and woods

Of course, I do not mean to suggest that it is possible for a busy woman to turn her back on her work and wander the meadows and woods just because it happens to be beautiful weather. But I do believe that there are few women who could not once in a while make time to go out of doors for a day. I am very sure they would be the better for it. The American woman is altogether too unselfish. She is more than ready to give up her own pleasure for the sake of making the members of her family happy. She herself may not be able to find the time for an outing, but she will do extra work that her daughters may have the fun they wish.

While it is right that young things should have their time of play, there are some rights on the other side. The mother has no right to wear herself out in sacrifices for others. She owes it to them as well as to herself to keep young and strong as long as she can.

In order to bring about this state of affairs she should, as I have said, indulge herself occasionally in an outing. To do this the more satisfactorily, with no thought of undone work haunting her, it is well for her to take as many of the family as possible with her. In other words, to get up a family picnic.

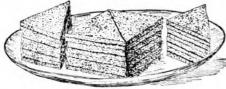
I do not believe there was ever a family in which such festivities as this have been in order where they have not left a very happy memory. I recollect my own childish associations with such outings. One that was held every year took the shape of a blackberrying expedition to a certain plot of ground known as the "Big Piece." To get there was a good deal of an undertaking, for it was along drive, but every year in blackberry time we went there, a big family party. We were supplied with pails and baskets in abundance, for one of the objects of the expedition was to gather enough berries to insure a Winter supply of jam and jelly and canned berries for pie. We children worked hard and the grown-ups worked harder. But it was the sort of thing that did us all good. The hours in the free out doors, the change from the every-d

be spent with pleasure. And if a day is too much for the busy housekeeper to spare, an afternoon may be given from work and the family supper eaten out of doors for a change.

The thought of a picnic suggests extra and unusual toil to some people. Naturally, it means a little more work in one or two ways but it also means less in another. After any home party there is always the work of dish washing. There is none of this after a picnic. The little wooden plates in which butter is sent from the grocer's are better than any china for a picnic and the Japanese paper napkins that may be bought for almost nothing are cheaper than the napkins that must be washed after using.

using.

The preparations for the picnic need not be very heavy. A picnic is one of the affairs to



BEEF SANDWICHES.

which people bring their appetites and there is not much trouble in coaxing them to eat. So the housekeeper need not put in much time worrying lest she may not have dainties that will tempt the members of the party.

There are many good things to eat to take to a picnic and they need be neither expensive nor fussy. Sandwiches, of course, are the great standby and they may be made of a variety of things. The good old ham sandwich has such a place in the affections of most people that it is not easy to supersede. If a little variety is desired it may be made by chopping the ham fine, softening it with a little butter, adding to it a suspicion of mustard and pepper and spreading this on slices of bread. Out of consideration for the tender tongues of the younger members of the party it is well to have some of the sandwiches without the mustard.

Sandwiches are good with the bread divided by a slice of the a la mode beef for which a recipe was given in the last number of "Comfort". Cold roast beef or cold lamb or veal makes good sandwiches.

makes good sandwiches.

If one does not wish to rely wholly upon sandwiches for solids there are other things to take. Cold roast chicken, cut into joints that it may be more easily handled, is always popular at a picnic. Beef loaf is cheaper and very good. So is veal loaf. Hard boiled eggs come in well and if one is willing to take a little more trouble in the preparation, stuffed eggs may be made ready and are pretty sure to be liked by every one.

When it comes to sweets there is no difficulty in deciding upon what to take. Cake, of course.

when it comes to sweets there is no dimenty in deciding upon what to take. Cake, of course, of any kind. Small saucer pies, doughnuts, turn-overs and the like suggest themselves at once. If fruit is needed there should be harvest apples and early pears, as well as the always useful bananas, of which one grows a little tired after a while.

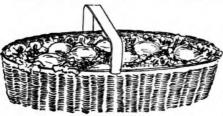
One must not forcet the things to drink

tired after a while.

One must not forget the things to drink.
Lemonade, lemon and sugar mixed in jars before leaving home and the water added from a
convenient well or spring; cold tea, for which
it is better to take the sugar separately, since
there are those who prefer it unsweetened, cold
coffee, to which the cream or milk has been
added while it was hot before it was boiled, are
all welcome after a thirst-provoking walk or
climb.

It is a great addition to the enjoyment of any

It is a great addition to the enjoyment of any picnic if it can be held in a place where it is possible to make a fire. That opens the way to a host of delightful things. Then it is possible



to roast potatoes, sweet or white, in the ashes,

to roast potatoes, sweet or white, in the ashes, to roast ears of corn impaled on the points of long rods, to heat the coffee that has been made at home, or even to have the joy of boiling a gypsy kettle and making the coffee or tea fresh on the spot.

As a matter of course, it is delightful if the picnic may be made to some place where there is something especial to do. It need not be berry picking necessarily, or anything else that is useful. As I said before, it is once in a while an excellent thing to go off with nothing on hand but the business of enjoyment. But this is heightened if there is the possibility of fishing or of crabbing or of crab hunting, or anything else of the kind. Nothing else ever tastes as good as the fruits of one's own efforts in the shape of the fish fresh from the water cooked over the out-door fire and eaten straight from the coals.

I have spoken in large general terms of the number of theirs toget the teaton of the number of the property of th

from the coals.

I have spoken in large general terms of the number of things to eat that could be taken on a picnic but it is wise to exercise a little wisdom in choosing the various things that go to make up the bill of fare. It is true that one can eat out of doors without distress things that in doors at the regular table would provoke an indigestion, and even so it is not wise to tempt Providence too far. When simple sandwiches are taken and plain cake one may indulge in a few dainties that are less easy of digestion. But when rich cakes are taken one should be a little careful about pies and other items of the feast, and the things that are to be cooked at the picnic place should determine to a certain extent the nature of the other items of the bill of fare.

mine to a certain extent the nature of the other items of the bill of fare.

Not very much will be needed for the picnic basket in the way of table furniture besides the wooden plates and paper napkins of which mention has already been made. Drinking cups of some sort will be required and it is a pity there is no equivalent in this line to the light wooden plates. Tumblers are heavy to carry and it is perhaps better if one or two of the party have the collapsible traveling cups, to provide cups of agate ironware or even of tin for the rest of the number. A tablecloth to spread on the ground is desirable, and if there are elderly persons in the party there should be a shawl or two to spread on the ground for seats.

seats.

BEEF LOAF.

Chop coarsely a pound and a half of lean beef from the round and a couple of slices of fat salt pork. Add to this half a cupful of crushed cracker crumbs, an egg and a tablespoonful of butter. Season the mixture well with a teaspoonful each of salt and pepper and with parsley, sweet marjoram, thyme and a dash of celery salt. Work all well together and pack into a mould that has been well buttered. A brown bread mould will answer very well. Cover the mould closely, put it in the oven in a pan of boiling water and cook an hour and a half. If the water boils away, fill it up. When done, put something flat on top of the meat in the mould, place a heavy weight on it and let the loaf get cold after this. It should stand overnight before-turning out and should be sliced with a sharp knife.

should be sliced with a sharp knife.

STUFFED EGGS.

Boil eggs hard and cut them in two crosswise. Take out the yolks and work them to a paste with melted butter and onion juice or a little chopped ham or tongue. Season to taste with pepper and salt. Put the yolks back into the halved whites, lay the two sides together and twist tissue paper about them, to keep the eggs in shape. In serving lay them in a basket on a bed of lettuce or cress.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

AN OLD BACHELOR.—I think it is very hard upon you to have to depend upon your own exertions

for bread and I am very glad to give you one of the simplest and surest recipes I know for "plain, common, ordinary, white, light, bread," such as you wish to know how to make.

Sift two quarts of good flour into a bowl with a teaspoonful of white sugar and half a teaspoonful of salt. Heat a pint of milk almost to scalding, stir into it a heaping tablespoon of butter and a pint of boiling water. When the mixture is lukewarm put in it four tablespoonfuls of yeast and stir into a hole made in the centre of the flour. Work this to a soft dough with a wooden spoon, then turn it on a bread board and knead it hard for ten minutes. Put it to rise in a warm corner for six hours. When it has risen enough it should be twice as large in bulk as it was when it was put to rise. Divide it into three equal parts, knead each for five minutes, put each portion into a bread pan and let them stand for an hour before baking. Try the oven by putting in a tiny ball of the dough. If it turns a pale yellow in from seven to ten minutes the oven is ready for baking. Do not open the oven door for fifteen minutes after the bread goes in. A good sized loaf should bake in about three quarters of an hour. The loaves should not be made too large.

For yeast, peel, quarter and boil six medium sized potatoes in two quarts of water. With them put a

quarters of an hour. The loaves should hot be made too large.

For yeast, peel, quarter and boil six medium sized potatoes in two quarts of water. With them put a handful of dried hops tied up in a bit of mosquito netting. The water should be cold when they go in and come quickly to a boil. When the potatoes are cooked soft and begin to break, drain them in a colander, putting the hops and water back over the fire. Rub the potatoes through a colander and while they are still hot work into them two tablespoonfuls of while they are still hot work into them two tablespoonfuls of flour, moistening them with the hop water left on the fire. Squeeze the hop bag over the mixture so as to get out all the strength of the hops. Let all become about blood warm and add to it four tablespoonfuls of good yeast or a yeast cake dissolved in warm water. Put all into an open lar with a wide mouth and leave it in a warm place to work. As soon as the bubbles cease to rise to the surface put it in bottles, cork tightly and keep in a cool place.

surface put it in bottles, cork tightly and keep in a cool place.

Mrs. G. H. H., Toledo, Ohio.—I am very sorry that it is too late for a recipe for canning asparagus to be of any service to you this season. You must recollect that the paper goes to press some time before it is published. If you would like me to give you a recipe you can keep for next year, let me know and I will publish it later.

A. W. Z., Munson, Pa.—We do not publish recipes or other matter in German in the columns of Comfort. I am sorry we cannot oblige you, but most of our readers are English speaking people and it would hardly be worth while to answer questions in another language.

ELLIE L. R., Gala, Va.—It gives me pleasure to publish for your benefit a good old Virginia recipe for tomato soy, made of green tomatoes. Virginia is the country of good cookery and I feel flattered that any one from there should ask me for a recipe.

cipe.

TOMATO SOY.

Slice four quarts of green tomatoes and six good sized onions. Put with them a pound of sugar, a quart of vinegar, half a tablespoonful each of allspice and cloves, and a tablespoonful each of ground black pepper, ground mustard and salt and place all on the fire in a preserving kettle. Stew until tender, stirring it often, take from the fire, put in jars and seal. Keep a month before using. You ask also for a recipe for tomato catsup. The

You ask also for a recipe for tomato catsup. The following is good:

following is good:

TOMATO CATSUP.

Boil together a peck of ripe tomatoes and four large onions, slicing these. When they are soft put them through a colander, strain the liquid through a fine sieve and put it back on the fire with half a tablespoonful of grated garlic, two bay leaves, a dozen sprigs of parsley, a tablespoonful each of salt, sugar, ground cloves, black pepper and mustard, a scant teaspoonful of red pepper, and a tablespoonful of celery seed, tied up in a muslin bag. Boil five hours, stirring from the bottom often. By the end of this time the liquid should be reduced one half and be quite thick. Take out the celery seed and add a pint of vinegar. Bottle when cold.

One more recipe you ask for, that for

CORN PUDDING.
Shave the kernels from six good sized ears of boiled green corn. Rub together a tablespoonful each of butter and sugar, add a beaten egg and two cupfuls of milk. Stir into this the shaved corn, add a scant teaspoonful of salt, and turn into a buttered pudding dish and bake to a light brown.

MRS. M. J. N., Norcross, Ga.—You ask about dried mushrooms. They must be picked over very carefully, to see that there are no worm eaten or decayed parts about them. Then put them in soak. Overnight is none too long for some of them. They should be laid in cold water. When they have plumped they may be dried on a cloth and used for stewing or sauce or seasoning. They cannot be broiled like fresh mushrooms.

MRS. J. A., Kansas City, sends so nice a letter that I wish I had room to put it all in. But the table for the use of those canning fruit is too useful to be left out. She gives it as follows:

In canning cherries allow 5 minutes to the quart and 8 ounces sugar. For raspberries allow 6 minutes to the quart and

8 ounces sugar.
For blackberries allow 8 minutes to the quart and

8 ounces sugar. For strawberries allow 8 minutes to the quart and

8 ounces sugar.
For strawberries allow 8 minutes to the quart and 8 ounces sugar.
For plums allow 10 minutes to the quart and 8 ounces sugar.
For sliced pie plant allow 10 minutes to the quart and 10 ounces sugar.
For small pears, whole, allow 30 minutes to the quart and 6 ounces sugar.
For large pears, halved, allow 20 minutes to the quart and 8 ounces sugar.
For peaches, whole, allow 15 minutes to the quart and 6 ounces sugar.
For ounces sugar.
For sounces sugar.
For sour apples, whole, allow 25 minutes to the quart and 10 ounces sugar.
For row apples, quartered, allow 10 minutes to the quart and 8 ounces sugar.
For sour grapes allow 10 minutes to the quart and 10 ounces sugar.
For sweet grapes allow 10 minutes to the quart and 8 ounces sugar.
The same writer asks for directions for preparing water cress. This is served as a salad with a French dressing of salt, pepper, oil and vinegar. It is water cress. This is served as a salad with a French dressing of salt, pepper, oil and vinegar. It is much used as a garnish for hot roast or cold meats

The queries of A. E. L., Covelo, California, are too numerous to be answered this month. I will reply to some of them in next month's Comfort.

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Josephine, Harps, Pa.—We have no book on etiquette. Prices for these books, of which there are many, vary, and you had best consult some one in your town who sells books. Or write to the Penn Publishing Co., Philadelphia.

Publishing Co., Philadelphia.

Reader, Primus, S. C.—Write to Miss Dorothy Simonson, 254 West 24th Street, New York City, enclosing postage for reply. All the schools are closed now until September.

Sweet Violet, Pella, Iowa.—It is the gentleman's place to carry the lady's wrap, and help her to put it on, either at church or elsewhere. She should take it herself when they sit down, unless he finds a place for it. The gentleman should be able to put on his own overcoat without the lady's assistance.

Green Horn, Blackstone, Va.—It is not the custom in this country to ask the parents' privilege to call on a young lady, she being supposed to exercise her own judgment. But it is customary to ask her parents, or one of them, or her guardian, for her in marriage. Usually her consent is gained first, though it is not so in France, England and other foreign countries.

other foreign countries.

Bell, Green Fields, Ont.—The best occupation for a lady is that for which she is best adapted by ability and taste. (2) Answers to congratulations of any kind are not arbitrary. Thank those congratulating you, in any words you think appropriate. (3) A teacher might without impropriety "escort one of his scholars around during term time," but it would be better for all concerned if he did not.

Violet Coling Va.—A girl should not receive to

he did not.

Violet, Colina, Va.—A girl should not receive the regular attention of men before she is twenty, but most of them do. There is no fixed time for such attention. (2) If the man does not ask you for your love do not, under any circumstances, offer it to him. (3) Since you obey your parents in refusing the attention of a man you like, you might disobey them in accepting those of a man you dislike. If you refuse one, refuse both.

Marguerite, Presque Isle, Me.—It is best at the

If you refuse one, refuse both.

Marguerite, Presque Isle, Me.—It is best not to have too great a difference in the ages of man and wife, but very many happy marriages are known where there was a great difference. Many young men have happily married women much older than themselves. (2) A girl might wear a button picture of the man to whom she was engaged, but she would not be talked about. I fancy, if she did not. It is largely a matter of taste, and too much publicity is bad taste.

Gladys Kinmundy Ille—As your etablicity.

Gladys, Kinmundy, Ills.—As your step brother is not a blood kinsman it is just as well not to permit his kissing you, except of course, you are separated for some time, or returning after a long absence. Kiss him only as you would your own brother. (2) A girl of fourteen may accept an escort when it is necessary, not as a young lady would, however. (3) No.

No.

Blue Eyes, Pleasant Hills, Ohio.—It is not "mannerly to ask a fellow to take a buggy-ride with him." You should be able to answer your other questions yourself. Ask your teacher.

Flossie, Salem, S. D.—Girls of sixteen should wear their hair up, though they do not always. Some begin at fourteen, if they want to. (2) Evening party dresses are usually of some light color, although any color may be worn. (3) It depends upon what the young lady says as to how often a young man living thirty-five miles away may call. There is no rule in the books for that.

Holly Oaks, Sims, Ills.—Determine for yourself

Holly Oaks, Sims, Ills.—Determine for yourself how you should wear your hair most becomingly, whether just the style or not. You are not compelled to follow the fashion in all things. (2) Never. (3) A girl of fifteen who is five feet ten inches tall, should wear her dresses full length, or ery nearly so.

very nearly so.

Twin Sisters, Pellican Landing, Minn.—A lady may take the gentleman's arm without asking for it. He should offer it, however, if there is need. The taking of arms is not as frequent now as it once was. (2) Yes, if he is a nice young man, (3) No. (4) If the young man is inattentive during the dance, to which he has taken you, you should ask him to apologize, and then not give him another opportunity to treat you so.

Lucy P., Petersburg, Ind.—We do not know the recipe for elderblossoms and cucumbers, for freckles. If any Comfort reader knows it, we should be glad to have it.

R. E., Peru, Ia.—The gentleman should tie his

R. E., Peru, Ia.—The gentleman should tie his team and escort the young lady to the front door, unless she insists he should not go to the trouble.

(2) The gentleman should be as politie to his sister at a party as he would be to any other lady. A man who treats his sister rudely will treat his wife likewise.

Constant Reader, Farmer City, Ills.—Make any reply you think fit and which shows your appreciation. There is no form for that. (2) The man usually asks the blessing, but some women do. There are no particular words to be said. It should be brief and comprehensive. (3) The custom is not to fold your napkin when you are a guest. At your own table you may, as rings are usually previded, and fresh napkins are not furnished with every meal.

Della, Elverton, Pa.—You are a brunette. (2) You can wear any color, if you choose the less pronounced kinds. Light blue, pink, light green, in fact any tints.

in fact any tints.

Tipsy, Malvern, Iowa.—The prevailing color in parasols this season is green, though white parasols are much in evidence. (2) Begin the letter to the young man: "My dear Mr.—", and end it "Most Cordially", or "Most Sincerely." (3) Talking over a telephone to a young man would hardly be considered an introduction. Something more formal is required. (4) A girl of fifteen may go to a girls' party. (5) Young ladies of seventeen in long dresses should wear their hair up. (6) When dressed kid gloves become dry and hard it is a sign of bad material, and the best thing to do is to get a new pair of better.

Girl Graduate, Bangor, Wis.—We do not know

of bad material, and the best thing to do is to get a new pair of better.

Girl Graduate, Bangor, Wis.—We do not know any recipe to remove "grasshopper stains" from white silk. We do not know what "grasshopper stains" are. (2) A good and simple remedy for blackheads is to press them out and bathethe spots with cologne water. Eat less rich food and take plenty of exercise in the open air as a preventive.

White Rose, Central, N. M.—The rules of ciquette do not prescribe what a lady should say when she receives an engagement ring. She certainly should not say she did not want it. (2) Introduce your "fellow" to your visitor, Miss Jones, saying: "Miss Jones, this is Mr. B.", or: "Miss Jones, let me introduce Mr. B.". In passing let me say, dear cousin, that you should not call the young man your "fellow," when referring to him as you did in your question to me, or otherwise. You might say your friend, but a better way is to mention him by name. (3) Engaged couples may sit in each other's laps if they please, but not if unengaged.

Peggy, Middle Inlet, Wis.—"R. S. V. P." or a better form: "R. s. v. p.", means on a note of invitation, "Please answer." It is an abbreviation of the French "Respondez s'il yous plait." "Reply if you please." (2) Girls of fifteen should not enter society.

E. D. Lester, Ohio.—Your letter was received too late for reply. We cannot, however, undertake to

E. D. Lester, Ohio.—Your letter was received too late for reply. We cannot, however, undertake to answer letters by mail, as a rule.

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Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher. The opening chapter of this intensely interesting story appeared in May Compour. Back numbers may be obtained by enclosing two cents to Comport, Augusta, Maine, for each number desired.

SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.
Caleb Brett, an aged and prominent citizen of Mansfield village, drew a considerable sum of money from the local savings bank on a certain forenoon and was seen to enter Purinton's mill located near the edge of the village. He did not reappear and later a searching party found his old beaver hat on a slab pile at the foot of a sluice leading from the upper part of the mill. It was considered probable that the old man had come to his death by falling down the sluice. The strange part of the affair was that his body had been removed by parties unknown—admitting the premise that he was really dead. Several persons, his nephew, George Brett, with whom he had been having trouble about the young man's proposed marriage, Arthur Wing, he village printer and an obnoxious suitor for the old man's grand-daughter, Daniel Purinton, owner of the mill and an intending borrower from Brett, were known to have been in or about the mill at the time of the old man's disappearance. After some weeks the sheriff of the county, angered by George Brett's stubbernness and influenced by certain suspicious circumstances in his statements, arrested the young man. At about the same time state detectives, rivals of the county officers, arrested Arthur Wing.) SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS

#### CHAPTER IV.

"I AM ALIVE. Y'RS RESPT'Y-CALEB BRETT." HE arrest of George Brett, charged with the killing of his uncle, had attained an element of grim humor due to the ex-citement under which the sheriff was laboring. But the arrest of Arthur Wing for the same crime was cruelly serious. It came about under the following circumstances:

On the afternoon that Detective Ordwell and the sheriff had paid their visit to George Brett with the result that has been related, the two state detectives who had been working on the Brett case were holding a conference in their room at the boarding-house in Mansfield village. With them was a powerper reporter. lage. With them was a newspaper reporter who during his stay in town had been able to form a close intimacy with George Brett by catering to the latter's convivial tastes.

"I believe that George Brett has told me as much as he has told anyone," the reporter was telling the detectives. "He's a fellow that you much as he has told anyone," the reporter was telling the detectives. "He's a fellow that you can get near to when you tackle his whiskey streak. I told him long ago that I was in with you fellows against the county officers and Ordwell. And lately he has been loosening up. He swears that he didn't hurt the old man, himself, though when he gets well edged up he admits that the fact that old Brett has slid out has been a wonderful help. George owns up that he must have been in the mill when the Sanire came in But he says he must have been that he must have been in the mill when the Squire came in. But he says he must have been down stairs looking for him—that is, he supposes he was at the time. He heard a noise that he couldn't understand very well at the moment and when he came up, he says, there was Arthur Wing on the top floor. George says Wing sort of jumped and looked surprised to see him coming up from down below. He hints to me that the queer noise he heard was probably his uncle's body sliding down the sluice."

"You can't build much of a case on guess-"You can't build much of a case on guess-work," said the shorter of the two detectives. "Young Brett may be telling the truth, but considering the position he holds in the case his testimony won't go very far with a jury. We need something clinching before we shall even dare to make an arrest."

even dare to make an arrest."

Deputy Sheriff Jason Dustin who came pudging up the walk just then didn't look very clinching and the detectives who saw him from

their window didn't welcome his arrival.

"Here comes that old fool of a Dustin again," said one of the officers. "He wants to tell us how much he hates Sheriff Pettingill and to ask us how much we've found out."

us how much we've found out."
But when Jason burst in on the frigid group it was plain to be seen that something out of the ordinary had come his way.
"Are you fellows still buckin' Hi. Pettin-

"Mostly," admitted one of the detectives un-

graciously.

"Then ye sort of figger it's Wing. hey?"

"Uh!" granted the tall detective.

"What if I kin help ye!" Jason leaned forward and his jaws worked excitedly.

"Donno as I'd put myself out if I were you," said the tall detective dryly. "Guess we're gettin' most of the juice out of the case on our hook."

"You don't know that

"You don't know what I mean, gents. What if I've dockyments?" Jason's little eyes gleamed with excitement.
"Open up and tell us what you are drivin' at," snapped the short detective. "It's too hot today to guess conundrums."
"I'll tell ye right straight out that I don't propose to give ye this thing for nothin'. It's got to be a fair divide on the reward."
"We don't propose to buy anything till we

got to be a fair divide on the reward."

"We don't propose to buy anything till we see what we're buyin'," declared the officer.

"I could scoop this case and the reward myself with the thing I've got," said Jason. "but there's reasons why I don't want to."

"Now look here, Dustin," said one of the detectives, "we don't care to hear over again the story about how Sheriff Pettingill has been rubbin' it into you."

"Wal, ye know he and the county attorney."

"Wal, ye know he and the county attorney have been doin' it ever since this case started," protested Dustin. "I wouldn't give 'em a piece of testimony to save their souls from tophet. But if I don't give this to them, Hi. Pettingill won't reappoint me deputy after his re-election. He's bound to be next sheriff. I'd rather be deputy for another tew years than get the reward. But I want to share with ye."

"If you've got anything worth payin' for you'll find us acrease." said the common terms of the result.

ward. But I want to share with ye."

"If you've got anything worth payin' for you'll find us square," said the officer impatiently. "Hurry up and get it out of you."

"Ye all understand that ye hain't to tell that I found it," said Dustin. "Ye're to make believe ye found it yourselves and then Pettingill won't lay it up ag'in me because I didn't turn it over to him."

GREAT PURINTON MILL MYSTERY

"Yes, that's all right, but what in the name of blazes have you got?" Dustin slowly drew a big flat wallet from his

inside pocket and from a compartment took a folded paper. "Found that on the floor of the Mirror office not an hour ago," he said. "I Mirror office not an hour ago," he said. "I was in there waitin' for a paper to be struck off and Arthur Wing was workin' at the desk. He pushed some papers around and several things dropped on the floor. I reached over and picked 'em up 'cause he was busy and of course I looked to see if they were important enough for him to save 'em. I wasn't pryin', ye understand. Wal, this 'ere paper was one of 'em."

Dustin passed it over to the tall detective who studied it with deen interest dawning in his

studied it with deep interest dawning in his

"You say that dropped from among Arthur Wing's papers on his desk?" demanded the

officer.
"That's what it did." The detective arose quickly, slapped on his hat and said to the group, "Come with me." At the door of the Mansfield bank he halted his retinue a moment while he paid a hurried visit to the treasurer. Then he led the party to the office of the Mansfield Mirror.

"Are the papers out yet, Mr. Wing?" asked the tall detective as the arrivals ranged them-

selves around the room.

the tall detective as the arrivals ranged themselves around the room.

"I am just reading the last proofs," said the young man. "If you will wait a few minutes the papers will be ready."

"We'll wait," said the detective. Then after after a pause he stooped forward suddenly and pretended to pick up a paper from the floor. "Excuse me, Mr. Wing," he said, "but here seems to be something worth saving." As if by accident he unfolded the paper. Then he started back and began to examine it. All those in the room looked at him intently. Then clinching the paper in his hand he said, "All of you stay just where you are." He hastened from the office and disappeared in the doorway of the bank. He remained out of sight on the stairs a moment and then returned. Now he walked straight up to Arthur Wing and held the paper so the young man might regard it.

"Mr. Wing." said he, "the fact that you were."

Wing and held the paper so the young man might regard it.

"Mr. Wing," said he, "the fact that you were in the mill when Mr. Brett disappeared may not be evidence that you were concerned in his taking off. The fact that you have recently paid off the mortgage on this newspaper plant and refuse to tell where you got the money may be your own business. But how do you account for the fact that I have just picked up from the floor of your office a note running to Caleb Brett from John Bates—a note that the treasurer of the bank says he saw the Squire take away in his wallet the day he disappeared?"

Young Wing's face was white but he said quite steadily, "I certainly cannot account for the paper being found here. I never saw it before."

the paper being found here. I never saw it before."

"As to that, Mr. Wing, we have simply your word against the fact that the paper has been found practically in your possession. Under the circumstances I feel it my duty to arrest you as one having guilty knowledge of the death of Caleb Brett and holding possession of property known to have been on the body of the deceased."

The detective had raised his voice and at the

The detective had raised his voice and at the sound old Meander Wing had shambled in his slapping slippers from the inner room. He held a printer's job stick in his hand.
"What are they trying to do to you, bub?"

"What are they trying to do to you, bub?" he stammered.

"They've arrested me, father. They say I killed Caleb Brett." The young man fairly reeled to his father and grasped his hands. And then despite despairing protests Wing was taken away to the village tavern and confined in a room with the detectives standing guard. They told him that he might have a trial before a local trial justice the next day, if he demanded it. manded it.

manded it.

The officers allowed the young man to receive no one except his father. They had not the heart to refuse him admittance. The two talked till late into the night but the son could throw no light on how that fatal paper happened to be found on the floor of the Mirror office. "I realize in what a position this thing puts me," said the young man gloomily. "I paid the mortgage and I have told no one, not even you, where I obtained the money. But I gave my solemn word not to tell. I will not break my promise. And now this matter of the note from the Squire's pocket-book comes up. It looks bad against me, doesn't it, father?"

"You ain't guilty, my boy—nothing could

"You ain't guilty, my boy-nothing could convince me of that," said the old man, "but it's goin' to be hard to make outsiders believe you are all right unless you tell all you know. Hadn't you better say where you got the money to settle the mortgage?"

"I can't break my promise, father," said the young man.

Well, no matter what anyone or everyone

young man.

"Well, no matter what anyone or everyone else may think," said the old man when he parted from his son, "you've got your old dad behind you through it all. I'm not so smart as I used to be and perhaps I'm not much of a match for those shrewd city detectives that are trying to put you behind bars, but if you're innocent, my boy, and before God I believe you are, I'll beat 'em, for an old father's love will dig deeper than the hate of enemies."

And yet another love sought Arthur Wing that night and had been turned away. Grace Erskine, veiled heavily, had come to the hotel and asked to see the prisoner. But the detectives turned her away. The detectives knew that Grace and her mother were deeply hostile to George Brett on account of their money and family disagreements and they feared plots, even from the squire's relatives.

That night the two officers slept on cots in the room that young Wing occupied. Twice they attempted to coax a partial confession from him. They insinuated that perhaps he might have dodged from a blow of the old man's cane and that the Squire had tripped at the edge of the sluice. They urged him to admit that the old man had fallen by accident, assuring him that they would assist him in his story, for they only cared to gain the reward that had

been offered by the town and the family. But Wing indignantly resented their suggestions and went to sleep.

In the morning Wing demanded a prompt hearing and at ten o'clock he was conveyed to the town hall. The local trial justice conducted the hearing, which was admittedly only for the purpose of ascertaining if there were sufficient grounds on which to bind Wing over to await the fall term of the supreme court.

George Brett was in one of the front seats in the hall. He was supercilious and at ease, apparently. The sheriff, after sleeping on the matter, and hearing the nature of the evidence that his rivals had dug up, feared the effect on his candidacy that would be produced should he continue to press the charge of murder against one so prominent in town as George Brett. Brett had therefore been released under nominal bonds to appear as witness.

The local lawyers offered to take Wing's case but he refused counsel. "I am going into that hearing as an innocent man," he declared. "I don't believe any justice can hold me on the evidence that will be presented. I don't want

nearing as an innocent man," he declared. "I don't believe any justice can hold me on the evidence that will be presented. I don't want to complicate my case by legal shifts. I want everything free and open."

And yet, as Wing viewed the crowded hall and gazed into the faces of his townsmen, he knew that he must appear to them in a singu-

knew that he must appear to them in a singular light, as he pondered on that matter of the paper from the Squire's pocket-book. His heart throbbed as his searching eyes sought out Grace Erskine sitting in the space reserved for

The county attorney brought out the fact from his witnesses that Wing and the Squire had had words on the morning of the fatal day, that Wing had been seen to follow the old man to the mill and then returning soon after had stopped and washed his hands at the brook at the brook.

George Brett described how he had arrived at the mill before his uncle and then later had at the mill before his uncle and then later had found Wing standing alone at the head of the sluice. He mentioned the fact that he had heard a strange sound while he had been in the lower part of the mill and attempted to say that he believed that the sound was the fall of his uncle's body in the sluice. But the justice checked that statement, stating that it was his duty to protect the position of the prisoner from insinuations.

"What you know, sir, and that only," he said to Brett.

to Brett.
But as Brett went on with his statements it was evident that his malicious suggestions were having their effect on a considerable portion of the audience.

Then there followed the more sensational Then there followed the more sensational testimony of the finding of the scrap of paper on the floor of the sanctum of the Mirror office. The treasurer of the bank swore that he had seen the Squire place that note in his pocketbook on the day of his disappearance. The treasurer also stated that the mortgage on the newspaper plant had been discharged a few works hefore. Arthur Wing perior the debt in newspaper plant had been discharged a few weeks before, Arthur Wing paying the debt in

After the county attorney had held a whispered conference with the justice the latter looked over his spectacles rather kindly at Wing and told him that he would not be required to take the stand unless be cared to do

"I wish to do as you think best," said the young man.

"I have no suggestions to make," returned the justice. "Of course the entire object of this hearing is to clear up this mystery. If you can shed any light on it or can say anything to clear yourself we shall be glad to hear from

The prisoner arose and declared that he was ready to answer any questions to the best of his ability. "I don't wish to stand behind any quibble of the law, and being an innocent man I don't see how questions can injure my case." His apparent candor was greeted with a murmur of applause. The county attorney eyed him for a moment and then asked bluntly: "In what manner do you think that paper could have come on the floor of your office?" "I don't know sir." "Did Squire Brett open his pocket-book that day in your place?" The prisoner arose and declared that he was

"Did Squire Brett open his pocket-book that day in your place?"
"I think not."
"You are answering my questions to the best of your ability, are you?"
"Yes, sir."
"You are ready to answer all questions?"
"I am."

"Then where did you get that thousand dol-lars, or over, with which you paid the debt on your newspaper plant?"

The query came like a stone from a sling and

The query came like a stone from a sing and the young man grew pale. His lips worked. At last he said slowly and with manifest embarrassment, "I am under a pledge not to tell." "You understand that Squire Brett had a large sum of money on his person when he disappeared, do you not?" "I do." "You see where your refusel to answer a

"You see where your refusal to answer a question of this sort places you in the eyes of the law?"

"I do. But it is a private matter between myself and another and I have no information

to give."
"That is both arrant nonsense and contempt of court, your honor," snapped the county at-

A rustle went over the room and the listeners felt that the young man was seriously prejudicing his case. The justice looked at Wing a moment and then with some impatience said, "You can either answer the question, sir, or go to jail for contempt."

Suddenly there was a stir in the direction of the witness seat and Grace Erskine was seen to rise. Her face was crimson but her voice was

Her face was crimson but her voice was

firm.

"I loaned Mr. Wing that money," she said.

"As I thought my act would be misconstrued by the public under the existing circumstances I asked him to keep the matter quiet. I will say now"—the girl seemed to gain courage and looked around proudly—"that Mr. Wing at first refused to accept the loan, but I insisted because I felt that the foreclosure proceedings were unjustly instituted and ordered by my grandfather and that his family ought to right the wrong."

grandfather and that his family ought to right the wrong."

The faces in the court room expressed astonishment and there were some very significant smirks and winks. That there was an attachment between the young people was well known in the community but no one had supposed that Grace would thus nullify the intent of her grandfather. In the buzz that followed the girl's spirited statement the county attorney asked for a short recess and it was granted. When the session had been resumed the county attorney separated from the treasurer of the savings bank with whom he had been holding a whispered conference. "Your honor,"

said the lawyer, "the state, under the circumstances, will be obliged to put in a little more testimony than it intended. I will now call to the stand once more Treasurer Brackett of the

savings bank. "Mr. Brackett, when Arthur Wing settled the mortgage and paid the interest and charges did you happen to note especially one ten dol-lar bill that he passed to you?"

"I did."

"Why?"
"It had been torn across at one time and had court plaster pasted on it to mend it."
"Why did you especially note this mending?"
"Because I recognized it as some that I had done myself."
"When?"
"On the meaning of the 24th of June legt."

"On the morning of the 24th of June last."

"Relate the circumstances, please."
"Squire Brett pulled the bill out of his pocket and asked me to mend it. Then he put it back into his wallet and started out."

"That was the morning of his disappearance, was it not?"

"It was."

"Have you the bill in your possession?"

"Have you the bill in your possession?"
"I have." The treasurer produced the bank-

"I have." The treasurer produced the banknote.

"You will swear, will you not, that to your best knowledge and belief this bill is the one that you mended?"

"I will. The bill was torn peculiarly and I distinctly recollect it."

The bank note was passed to the justice for inspection and the lawyer arose and made a brief argument. He said that he did not wish to impugn the testimony of Miss Erskine, even though she might possibly be a prejudiced witness. But he delicately hinted at the existence of troubles between George Brett and his female relatives, and that since the marriage of the young man and after his demands for money these troubles had been aggravated. "And you know to what length money matters and family troubles will drive respectable people," he added.

know to what length money matters and family troubles will drive respectable people," he added.

"I will not discuss this phase of the case at length now," he said, "but I simply draw your attention to the fact that there may be reasons why Miss Erskine's statements are not to be considered as conclusive. Affairs of the heart, you know, prey upon the motives of the heart, you know, prey upon the motives of the best of us." The girl's face was crimson and Arthur Wing seemed about to rise and make indignant protest. But the sheriff waved a monitory finger. "And here is this evidence of the treasurer of the savings bank—a bit of evidence that I did not at first intend to produce at this preliminary hearing. Now, your honor, under the circumstances, I can do nothing else than ask that the respondent be committed without bail to await the action of the grand jury at the September term of court."

While the county attorney had been talking, a ragged and small boy had been edging his way up the crowded aisle toward the table of the justice. In spite of muttered protests and of frowns he kept on till he had laid a folded paper in the hand of the judge. An exclamation from the magistrate interrupted the attorney. His honor had opened the paper and scrutinized it. The boy was about to hasten away but the justice put out a detaining hand.

"Where did you get that paper, bub?" he

"Where did you get that paper, bub?" he asked.

"Up in the woods."

"Up in the woods?"
"A man."
"Who was he?"
"I don't know."

"I don't know."

"Did you ever see him before?"

"I don't know. I didn't look at him very hard. He had false whiskers on and I was scared. He said a feller was bein' tried down here for suthin' he hadn't done and told me to give that paper to the judge."

All this conversation was carried on in low tones and the secretary and ittle idea of what

tones and the spectators got little idea of what

was going on.

The justice beckoned the county attorney to his table. "Look at this," said the magistrate. "What in time does it mean?"

On the paper, scrawled in an irregular hand, were these words:—

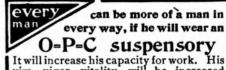
"Mr. J. Benson, Justice:—I am alive and you will hear from me later. No need to make talk about this. Nobody killed me. Make no more trouble for anybody. This was written for me by a friend but I sign my name so that you can see that it is all right.

Yrs respt'y, Caleb Brett."

"That signature is Caleb's all right," allowed the attorney, as soon as he had recovered his breath. "But what——"

breath. "But what—"

He looked at the justice with bewildered stare and the justice stared back at him. The spectators in the court room stared at the two. The matter was too big to keep silent. In five minutes the report had buzzed all over the court room that Caleb Brett had written a letter to say that he was still alive. The intensely interesting solution of this fascinating story can only be solved by at once sending your subscription to Comfort, Augusta, Maine, or renewing your subscription now either for six or twelve months, you can keep in touch with all of the good things being added to Comfort from month to month. Don't fail to at least take advantage of the special six months' coutake advantage of the special six months' cou-pon offer on another page, as all old subscrip-tions are now promptly removed on expiration.



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## The Driggston Tragedy.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY C. E. BARNS.

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ENTLEMEN, have you agreed on a verdict?"

The silence of the Court-room on that closing hour of the day was intense. It was as if the whole world had stopped moving in suspense, listening to the lanky miner, the foreman of the jury, who strained up from his chair, his face drawn and the red shock of hair gleaming above a brow of ashen pallor. "We have," he said solemnly. The silence of the

"Guilty or not guilty, according to the evi-

"Guilty or not guilty, according to the evidence?"

"Guilty of murder in the first degree."

The effect of this announcement was electric. A suppressed murmur ran around the courtroom, accentuated by a sob. The prisoner at the bar—a young man of two and twenty, with a straight figure and head thrown back in an attitude of almost challenging defiance, sank into his chair in a state of collapse, covered his face in his hands for a single instant, then threw himself into a stolid pose, clenching his hands and gazing blankly into the faces of the half-pitying, half-accusing spectators.

The strain was broken by the voice of the grave magistrate. "The prisoner will please rise," he said without harshness.

The convicted man worried his way out of his seat with difficulty, trembling. "Judson Peck," said his Honor, his voice gathering solemnity as it proceeded, "you have been accused of murder, been tried by a jury of your peers, and found guilty of the hideous crime with which you were charged. In cold blood you foully murdered the father of the young woman whose hand you had asked in marriage, and all because he did not find in you an acceptable son-in-law. On the twenty-fourth of May last you visited Israel Bent in his own home for the purpose of pleading for the last time for the hand of his daughter. You found the old man lying upon the couch. Your coming roused him. A violent quarrel ensued. You went away dejected, only to return. You found your victim asleen. Taking the old flintlock from the pegs over the fireplace, you deliberately shot through the heart the man who refused you the hand of his daughter, his only child. Then with deliberation that equalled your cunning, you replaced the weapon the wall and sauntered away to await the discovery of your crime.

"Upon the evidence submitted, sir, I do not see how a fair and impartial jury could bring in any other verdict. The motive for the crime was fully established. While the actual shot.

on the wall and sauntered away to await the discovery of your crime.

"Upon the evidence submitted, sir, I do not see how a fair and impartial jury could bring in any other verdict. The motive for the crime was fully established. While the actual shot was not heard nor the actual deed witnessed, your coming and going were accurately noted, and your return to the house of your victim the second time has not been explained. You have been tried and convicted, and it remains for me to do my duty as administrator of the law. What have you to say why sentence should not be passed upon you?"

The prisoner parted his lips as if to speak, his hands thrown wide as in act of resignation. "What can I say that I have not already said?" he faltered at last. "I swear before Heaven that I was not even in the house of Israel Bent when he was killed. I did not fire the shot. I did not hear the shot fired, and I know of no human being who could have committed the crime. At the hour that Israel Bent was killed I was miles away."

"We have gone all through that evidence long since," said his Honor with a wave of the hand. You have been tried, convicted and are now to be condemned. In order to give you time to meet your Maker, I will not be in any undue haste. By virtue of the authority vested in me as chief magistrate of this court, I hereby sentence you to be put to death in a manner prescribed by law, on the morning of the ninth of October next, and may God have mercy on your soul—"

"Stop—wait! One moment, Judge!"

It was a woman's cry in the solemn silence as a frail figure with eyes burning bright and white hands waving frantically, struggled through the breakers. A discordant buzz ran through the plan as a swimmer plunges through the preakers. A discordant buzz ran through the plan as a swimmer plunges through the preakers. A discordant buzz ran through

is."

"What do you mean?"

"I mean that Judson did not kill my father.

It was a celestial homicide."

"A what?" The magistrate looked dumbfounded. The jury winced.

"Celestial homicide, your honor. Suspend sentence, your honor, I pray you. I will prove it all—believe me—"

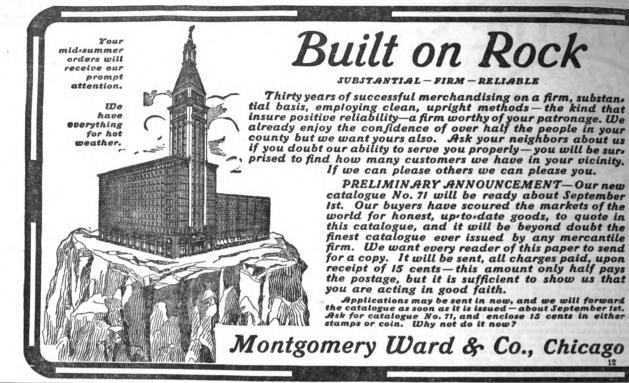
The judge sat dumbfounded.

"I cannot do it here, nor today, your honor. Tomorrow, at two o'clock, in the very spot

"To annot do it here, nor today, your honor. Tomorrow, at two o'clock, in the very spot where my father was found dead, with a bullet through his heart, I will prove to you and to the jury that Judson Peck did not kill him. I have spent night and day over the problem. Only believe me, and I will make it all clear to you. Will you not suspend sentence, Judge to when the life of an innocent man depends upon it?" The words were now melting with pity and pleading.

"It is most extraordinary," answered the magistrate after a deep pause during which he seemed hesitating between fining the interruptor of the court proceedings for contempt, and acceding to her wishes. "But in order that there might not be the slightest danger of hanging an innocent man, in spite of the fact that an intelligent jury has rendered an adverse verdict on the evidence presented, I am constrained to suspend sentence until tomorrow that the Court may give the daughter of the late Israel Bent an opportunity to prove her astounding theory. The Court will now adjourn, the jury to convene promptly at the hour of two p. m., tomorrow, at the house of the late Israel Bent."

"Your honor, I thank you!" The words were cried out in an agony of gratitude, but they were scarcely heard in the uproar that followed the raling of the magistrate who gathered up his documents and hurriedly left minutes with a verdict of "Not guilty." "Mr.



the chamber by a rear exit as one who had

the chamber by a rear exit as one who had completed a miserable piece of business.

The prisoner sat rigid and very pale, following with his blinking eyes the lithe figure waving toward him a triumphant gesture of renewing hope and comfort as she disappeared through the applauding crowds. Then he sank back in a state of semi collapse, murmuring not so softly that his nearer jailers did not hear, "She is mad—on my life Margie Bent has gone stark mad!" Then he relapsed into his usual stolid reserve.

As ordered by the court, the honorable jury, the counsel for both prosecution and defence,

As ordered by the court, the honorable jury, the counsel for both prosecution and defence, together with the stern judge himself, gathered at the appointed time in the little chamber on the first floor of the Bent homestead, semicircled about the very couch where the late Israel Bent breathed his last. Margie too was there, and there was a look of unspeakable confidence in the maidenly face which shone indeed like something fairly inspired. Court being formally opened in this most informal courtroom, the young lady was sworn and asked to give her testimony which she did after the manner of Portia of old.

"Your honor, and gentlemen of the jury," she began in a voice somewhat faltering from emotion rather than fear for her cause, "you have tried and found guilty one Judson Peck for the murder of my father. You have heard witnesses swear that Judson Peck was the last man to see my father alive, that he left the house in great anger, returning again, only to leave the second time a little before the discovery of the crime. You also see hanging over the chimney place yonder the very old fintlock with which the alleged crime was committed, and yonder the couch upon which my father was sleeping, as was his usual wont at that hour of the day, when the fatal bullet entered his heart. "Now, gentlemen of the jury, I beg you to step forward here and draw bead across the sights of that old flintlock as it hangs there and tell me if it is not true that a bullet fired from the weapon in its present position would penetrate the couch on the opposite side of the room at a point about the region of a man's heart were he lying there on the pillows at this very moment."

One after another the jurymen filed up, and with a squint of the eye along the long barrel, admitted the allegation. The judge nodded. "Proceed," he commanded.

"Now, gentlemen," contended the pleader, "having seen that the old colonial relic might have committed murder had it been fired by spontaneous combustion or from any other cause, let me proceed to call yo

Warden," said the judge, "you are commanded to return to the jail and release the prisoner charged with the murder of Israel Bent—the man who owes his life to one of the most remarkable refutations of the theory of circumstantial evidence ever presented to a jury. Miss Margie, I congratulate you. You have won the admiration of the Court, and as a reward I trust that you will win back to your heart the man you have so ably defended." Then the solemn magistrate took the fluttering creature in his arms and kissed her, whereupon, releasing her, she fled with eyes tearful with joy like a spirit through the open door, pushing through the cheering crowd and making her way on toward the jail where she could be the first to greet her lover set free by her own ingenuity and labor.

But she was doomed to disappointment. Another strange episode capped the climax of that day of surprises when Judson Peck, the instant the great black doors were closed behind him, struck out across the field and into the wood to the by-path which led to the railway station. There, before he could address or be addressed by a single person, he managed to leap aboard the flying express to New York as it slowed up before a crossing, and was never seen again.

Overwhelmed at this unaccountable act, the fair Portia of Driggston locked herself in the old home where she speedily grew gray and listless to all pleading and applause, and where she is to this day, the woman with a secret. For not one soul on earth other than herself ever knew that a letter in a strange handwriting came from over the sea some ten months after the strange disappearance of Judson Peck on the day of his miraculous deliverance from

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jail and from death, and that it was from Jud-son. Today that letter is a little lump of ashes which hangs suspended about a penitent mar-

son. Today that letter is a little lump of ashes which hangs suspended about a penitent martyr's neck.

It is not necessary to quote it at length, but the closing paragraph is significant:

"Of course my heart is all gratitude, my dear Margie, for your deed of heroism in my behalf, and it was certainly worthy of a greater reward than a coward's flight. But, dear one, how could Iremain there, possibly to become your husband, when I knew in my heart that I was a guilty man?

"You shudder, and no wonder, Margie. It is true that I was miles away when the fatal shot was fred, as I swore on the stand. But had it not been for me your father would be alive today. I was a fool—I was led away between my anger and my love for you, but I have lived to repent—Indeed, I shall spend the rest of my life in atonement, even though I never see your face again. Margie, in the name of heaven, keep my secret and pray for me. It was I who first discovered the strange fact that the concentrated rays of the sun passed over the flashpan of the old flintlock. It was I who, returning to your father's house after the quarrel, found him asleep, and with my own hand moved the weapon along the pegs so that a few minutes later the hot rays should fall upon the fatal spot. Sprinkling there a few grains of fresh powder, I stole away, leaving to the powers of heaven the fulfillment of the terrible deed. And so, good byforever, Margie. Keep my secret for the love which you bore one so unworthy of you, and may heaven bless you. Farewell!"

And even to this day the secret is well kept in that little chamols bag of ashes which hang

And even to this day the secret is well kept in that little chamois bag of ashes which hand day and night upon the throbbing breast like the fateful albatross of old, a sign of explation for another's wrong.

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Veracious Records of the Doin's in the Cobb's Corner Postoffice, "Writ out" by the Boy Behind the Counter.

Roy Behind the Counter.

[EDITOR'S NOTE. The quaint philosophers, the dry wags, the shrewd dickerers and the eminent yarn-spinners of the countryside make a forum of the country postoffice when there is room at the rear around the big stove. The stories and incidents on which some of the most successful human interest novels of the day are constructed come from the quaint loungers around the stores in Yankee communities. These official records of "Jeth's Crowd" are to be taken down month by month for the readers of "Comfort," and we hope that as you become acquainted with the members of the "Congress" your interest in their discourse and stories will deepen.

In the September number of "Comfort" the "Cobb's Corner Congress" will continue sessions.]

NCLE Wack Spofford and Teed Strout of Cobb's Corner Cracker Barrel Congress found Cap'n Jote Bailey comfortably en-sconced in the shade behind the postoffice, in the summer quarbehind the postoffice, in the summer quarters of the Congress. The plantain leaves grow rank here and are cool to the old men's feet. When they start for home through the August sun they put some of the leaves in their hat crowns, and Sol's glory is tempered to the bald skull. "Cap'n got his singthe bald skull.

"Cap'n got his singin' streak on today,"
said Uncle Wack as he
and his companion
pudged around the
Cap'n Jote was teeterhis knees and was

"Phin Fyleses' fool heerde his grand-pop say Old Scratch was a-fishing for Skinch Gray. For to catch Skinch Gray did he lay in wait With an old bunged cent hitched on for bait. —Hitched on for bait an' a good staout string Goin' jigger-jigger-jigser just to flop the thing. 'Canse Old Scratch knowed that Skinch Gray Grabs evy ny nimble conner that comes his way. Grabs ev'ry nimble copper that comes his way.

Hi-diddy-di, as sure as Fate Ye can't get fishes 'less ye use right bait!"

"Wonder where Cap heerd that song?"
mumbled Teed as the two old men hung up at
the corner and listened for a moment.
"Guess it must be one that he has made up
about old Gray," said Wack. "Cap's quite a
rhymester, and I heered tell that old Gray stuck
him on a shote trade last week and made Cap
hoppin'. Reckon he's gettin' back at Skinch."
Cap'n Jote pronged his chew farther back in
his jaw with his tongue and then went on with
his lyric.

"Phin Fyleses' fool got a bung-down cent
An' off to old Skinch Gray's he went.
Fust up then daown past Gray's he shined
An' the bung-down cent bobbed on behind.
—Bobbed on behind till old Skinch Gray
Came aout to spy what the deuce was to pay.
Chased Phinses' fool an' stepped on the string,
An' the string bruk off an' he got the thing.

Hi-diddy-di, ye can cal-ker-late That it's allus the suckers that will scoop your bait."

"To jedge from that song that ye're singin' 'bout old Gray ye don't think that he will be givin' any public lib'ries to Cobb's Corner right away, Cap, hey?" chuckled Uncle Wack as the two new arrivals eased themselves down on a laddler canted up against the side of the

on a ladder canted up agams.

building"Lib'ries!" snorted Cap'n Jote. "Lib'ries!"
Skinch Gray! Why, if granite lib'ries were
goin' three for a quarter Skinch Gray wouldn't
give a scantling pig pen."

"Well, he is rayther near, for a fact," acquiesced Teed Strout.

"Near!" echoed Cap'n Jote. "Clus! He's so
tight-skinned that he don't dast to wink reel
hard for fear of stretching the skin on his feet
and hurting his corns. He's bald-headed because he begretches juice enough to feed his
hair."

"Yes, I did heer tell that the shote he sold ye wasn't up to snuff," said Uncle Wack signifi-

The Cap'n bridled. "'Tain't that," he snorted. "I tell ye right now there can't a man in this town screw me on a trade. I knowed what the shote was before I bought it.

I jest wanted to see how mean Skinch Gray was and I let him git the shote off on me." "Coor'osity satisfied, I hope," said Wack, dryly. It was evident that neither he nor Teed dryly. It was evident that neither he nor Teed accepted the explanation of the shote trade. Cap'n Jote understood that his excuse was a lame one and he hastily went on. "'Tain't on account of myself that I felt like dippin' into old Gray. But he abuses ev'ry one that has anything to do with him. Can't nobody work for him to save their lives from tophet. The last hired man he had has ran away, or suthin'. He left all of a sudden and didn't even take his clothes. Reckin he felt as though he couldn't get away quick enough. Prob'ly he got so thin on the grub that Skinch has been givin' him that he stubbed his toe and fell into a crack in the barn floor and is layin' there like a knittin' needle, waiting to be pried up."

"That hain't the way of it," declared Uncle Wack. "I s'pose I'm the only one in the place that reelly knows jest what become of that hired man. It's a master cur'is case."

His face was so solemn that the two looked

"Dew tell!" they ejaculated. "Ye're hec-

torin', hain't ye?"
"Naws'r," snap snapped Uncle Wack with emphasis. He reached down into his trousers' pocket, stretching his leg like a huge rooster coming out of a dust-heap. He drew out a coming out of a dust-heap. He drew out a black and thick plug of tobacco and labori-ously gnawed off a good-sized chew. Then he settled himself to narration.

settled himself to narration.

"I had noticed for quite a while," he said, 
"that Gray's hired man was gettin' more 
peaked and more caved in, but I didn't think it 
would get to the pass in which I see'd him." 
Uncle Wack paused impressively.

"Nothin' 'specially wrong, was there?" Teed 
inquired apprehensively.

"Jest ye wait till I tell ye," continued Uncle 
Wack. "Ye'll never see that hired man on 
earth no more. Hain't that

ver see that hired man on earth no more. Hain't that wrong enough?"

"Sho!" murmured the two listeners in subdued and awestruck chorus.

"No, ye won't," said the narrator. "The day before that hired man disappeared that hired man in Erskine's and the man and the same that hired man in Erskine's and the same that hired man disappeared that hire I was down in Erskine's field gettin' some live bait out of the brook. All to once I looked up and that hired man was comin' 'cross lots from old Gray's tenger wiese. When he got to

acre piece. When he got to that silver popple that marks the line fence he stops and gin a look up into the tree. Then he commenced to climb up. I walked over to see what in sanup he was goin' to do. Wals'r, as soon as he got up to the next to the highest limb he straddled it and took a piece of mutton taller out of his pocket. He greased his boots. limb he straddled it and took a piece of mutton taller out of his pocket. He greased his boots all up nice and slick. Then he greased his fingers and the bootstraps. After that he sort of sighed and took a look around. And then gettin' a good, tight grip on the straps he commenced to h'ist. Swan to man if he didn't rise right off that limb and go sailin' up."

"Didn't know he was so staout," said Teed.
"Staout nothing!"
yapped Uncle Wack, "that wan't the idea at all.
Soon's he started I up and yells at him.
""Thunder C'ris'mus, Jim,' says I, 'ye hain't goin' to take a trip to the moon be ye?"
""Don't know jest

goin' to take a trip to the moon be ye?'
"'Don't know jest where I'll fetch up,' says he lookin' down at me.
"'What in tophet does all this mean?' says I.
"'Ye know about what kind of grub I've been gettin' down to old Skinch Gray's?' says he.
"'Reckon I do,' says I.
"'Well,' says he, 'for the last tew weeks I've been so thin and so light that I've had hard work to hold myself on the groun

to hold myself on the ground. I've come to the conclusion that it will be easier to h'ist myself up and have done with it 'cause I sha'n't have strength to hold to the ground much long-er.' And off he went till he growed to just a little speck and then he disappeared. Talk about flying machines that this 'ere Santy Doodle has been gettin' up! They hai'n't in it with that hired man." Uncle Wack paused and chewed a moment

reflectively.
"Where d'ye s'pose he went to?" asked Cap'n

Jote

"Reckin the critter went right up to Paradise jest's he was," said Wack. "A man that could live tew months on the kind of feed that Skinch



jest's he was," said Wack. "A man that could live tew months on the kind of feed that Skinch Gray sets out is near enough to an angel for all practical purposes."

The meditative silence of the little group was broken by the explosive clearing of a throat. The postmaster stood in the back door.

"Bror-hum-m!" said he, "was that Skinch Gray's hired man ye was talkin' about?"

"That's the feller," said Wack.

"You say he has gone for good?"

"As Artemas Ward would remark, 'He has wentedest from these 'ere parts.'"

"Well, ye hain't posted on the latest news," said the Postmaster. "I see him and talked with him only yesterday."

Uncle Wack, who saw his lie called in this surprising fashion, had no word to say. "Yes, I saw him," continued the Postmaster. "He was jest comin' back on his way from Paradise, and called here to see if any mail had arriv' for nim. He was on his way to tophet to get a writin' from the Old Boy. arriv' for him. He was on his way to tophet to get a writin' from the Old Boy. He said, Jim did, that if he could show that he had spent tew months at Skinch Gray's he wouldn't have to go through Purgatory. And he told me one mighty surprisin' bit of news." The crowd looked interested. "He said," continued the Postmaster, "that he got into

Paradise for about tew hours and was allowed to look around a leetle. An angel took him in tow and around a leetle. An angel took him in tow and showed him the soul room. I didn't know it before, but the hired man tells me that they have a different way of arrangin' matters up there from what I had supposed. Every soul on earth has a duplicate soul stored in Paradise, and the duplicate soul grows smaller or larger jest as the man conducts himself on earth. If he does good to his feller men the soul up there grows, and so the angels in charge are able to keep tabs on each critter. Now, Jim says to me that when he was showed around, the angel took him into the storeroom where all the souls are kett. After he had exwhere all the souls are kept. After he had ex-plained to Jim about how the system was run Jim asked for a look at the soul of Skinch Gray. Skinch was pretty much in Jim's mind at the time. The angel called up an attendant and asked to look at the records. After he had run down the index he turned to a page in the book and asked to look at Soul Number Umpty Trillion, Dickety Three, or suthin' of the sort.

"After a little time a box was handed to him. "After a little time a box was handed to him. The angel opened it and inside was nested another box. The angel opened that and another box still was nested inside. The angel kept openin' and openin' and still the boxes grew smaller till at last he came to a box that Jim said was sartin the smallest box he ever see. Nothin' could be smaller and have a cover. The angel opened it and giv' Jim a spyglass arrangement. Jim looked in and see a little LONG DISTANCE SINGLE BARREL SHOTGUN \$435

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speck in the bottom of the box. "'Is that the soul of old Skinch Gray?' Jim

"'Is that the soul of old Skinch Gray?' Jim asks.
"'Oh, no,' said the angel, 'that's the seventeen millionth part of the eyebrow of a moskeeter. It's put in there for comparison. You can't see the soul of Skinch Gray at all. It is only one hundredth part as large as that little speck you see there.'"
Cap'n Jote Bailey got

you see there.'"

Cap'n Jote Bailey got
up and stumped away and
Teed Strout followed him.
Uncle Wack was about to
go along with them but
Teed waved him back.

"You stay right back
there an' lie it out on that
line with Jeth." he said.

line with Jeth," he said. "We hain't in your class and we don't want to muddy the track."

## What the Color of the Hair Means.

Coarse black hair indicates power of character with a tendency to sensuality.

Straight stiff black hair indicates coarse, strong, rigid and straightforward personality. Fine hair generally denotes exquisite sensibilities. Flat, clinging straight hair, a melancholy, but constant habit.

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Coarse red hair is accompanied by strong animal passions, but considerable force of

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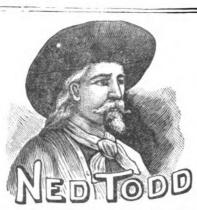
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## The Oklahoma Detective,

## The Strange Cabin in the Wilderness.

BY HENRY DALE.

Author of "Boomers and Cattle Kings," "The Cheyenne Outbreak," "Shadowing a Shadow," "Chepita," "Mormonism Unveiled," Etc.

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The opening chapters of this intensely interesting story appeared in February Comfort. Back numbers may be obtained by enclosing three cents to Comfort, Augusta, Maine, for each number

During the past year portions of Indian Territory were opened to settlement by the Government allotment of lots by chance, and the scenes that were enacted in the years gone by when Oklahoma was the objective point of settlers from east and west, north and south, were again presented in a much more axciting manner. A Kansas telephone girl luckity secured a lot valued at \$11,000, and others were nearly as fortunate.

fortunate.

Because of the exciting events that have transpired in Oklahoma and Indian Territory, events that have attracted the attention of the whole country, the story of "Ned Todd" is presented to our readers in the hope that instruction and entertainment may be derived from its perusal.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### A TOILSOME JOURNEY.

HERE is trouble at the cabin, come on."

HERE is trouble at the cabin, come on."

This voice one of the fugitives recognized as belonging to a man who had always been his enemy.

"There, do yo hear that?"cried a voice not over fifty paces in his rear.

In a moment the youth was upon his feet, running for life. But he could still hear the loud angry tones of the road agents in the rear. When they came to the cabin, and found the two guards slain and the prisoners gone, their rage knew no bounds. The woods rang with wild whoops that would have done credit to a band of Apache Indians.

Hurriedly as they had taken their flight, the youth had not neglected to possess himself of the rifle and pistols of one of the fallen road agents, and Ned Todd the border detective had seized the other.

Archie Holland had also taken the precaution to possess himself of one of the deadly bowie largers which ene of the slein guards had care.

to possess himself of one of the deadly bowie knives which one of the slain guards had carried in his belt.

ried in his belt.

It was very dark, and the fugitives despite all their caution were continually running against trees, or stumbling over sticks, and doing a hundred different things that were likely to bring them to the notice of their pursuers.

"Let me walk, I can walk now," said Daisy.

"Hush, not yet, you are too weak," whispered Todd, who was nobly and bravely making his way through the almost impenetrable darkness, carrying the girl in his strong arms.

Ned knew that she was weaker than she herself supposed, and that having been bound so tightly she would find her ankles stiff and sore.

After they had gone at least a nile, it was thought safe to halt a few moments to regain their breath.

thought safe to hait a few moments to regain their breath.

"You need not carry me any further," whispered Daisy again. "I assure you that I am perfectly able to walk."

"We will rest a moment," Todd answered, "and then you may try. But you will find your ankles weaker than you think them. I have been in similar circumstances."

Their purposers could be heard not half a mile.

been in similar circumstances."

Their pursuers could be heard not half a mile away, and the fugitives knew by their manner that they were mad and furious.

"It was well that I came when I did, or you would have been taken away from the hut, and then it would have been more difficult to rescue you. Captain Snell had just gone after the horses and was coming back."

Ned Todd spoke in an undertone, for he knew not how near the road agents might be. His companions made no answer. Every

His companions made no answer. Every tongue now became still, and every ear was strained to catch some sound of their pursuers. At last the tramping of feet could be heard on

At last the tramping of feet could be neard on their right, and our party made a complete change in their course. The cardinal points of the compass were lost to them, owing to the darkness of the night.

They turned to the left, and had followed this new course for about two miles, when they again became alarmed by the sound of voices directly before them.

It looked to Archie as if after all they would

have to fight. They were both armed, and he believed that they would have a fair show of

victory.

"How many are they in number?" he whispered to Ned Todd.

pered to Ned Todd.

"I do not know, but I believe that they are at least a dozen. Perhaps more. We can do nothing with them in a fight."

Archie heaved a sigh. Would they never get beyond the clutches of these villains?

They were again forced to change their course, and in the darkness became so confused that even Ned Todd with all his skill in wood-craft was not certain that they were not going in a was not certain that they were not going in a

was not certain that they were not going in a circuit.

For an hour the trio had silently groped their way along in darkness, and through what would seem to be an almost impenetrable jungle. At last Todd, who was in the advance, halted them by his hand.

All stopped and listened.

A horse could be heard champing his bit, and restlessly pawing the earth. A moment later and they could hear some one yawn, and then a voice spoke in the Creek language.

There was no answer. No one but Todd understood the Creek tongue. It was fortunate for them that he did, for by listening to what the guard said, he learned that he was alone.

Putting his lips close to Archie's ear, he whispered:

"Stay here for a moment. There is a chance

for us to get horses."

The youth understood him, and pressed the hand of the girl, which he had all the time held

hand of the girl, which he had all the time held in his own.

Then they became silent, and Todd disappeared as noiselessly as if he had melted into air. He had been so long on the frontier that he was thoroughly educated in wood-craft.

Several moments elapsed, and then those who were waiting heard a sound of scuffling. It was not a very loud noise, and it was soon over and all became silent. Moments dragged slowly by, and Archie and his fair companion were growing a little uneasy, when they heard a voice near them say:

"All right. This way."

Both moved in the direction of the sound, and pressing their way forward through bushes and darkness, at last ran against a man. "Here we are," whispered Todd. "Horses plenty for all and to spare."

They did not ask him what had been done with the Creek guard, for they knew too well that the darkness was a screen to a scene of horror.

Groning his way forward, and feeling about.

that the darkness was a screen to a scene of horror.

Groping his way forward, and feeling about with his hands Archie found a horse, and he proceeded to shorten the stirrup on the left side so as to make it tolerably comfortable for a lady. Fortunately Daisy Miller had been long accustomed to riding on horseback, and was no novice, or she might not have been able to maintain her seat on this spirited little

mustang.

Archie Holland then found another horse for

Archie Holland then found another horse for himself, and mounting, rode to the side of the trembling girl.

"Wait a moment for me," said Ned Todd. "I have another little job of liberating to do. Unless we cut these horses loose, we will have the road agents like a pack of sleuth hounds on our trail."

He went about among the horses, cutting the

our trail."

He went about among the horses, cutting the halters of all that he could find, and then did his best to stampede them.

They turned in the opposite direction from which they supposed that the cabin was, and galloped away through the woods. Trees grew scarcer, and after a few moments' ride the underbrush almost allogether disappeared.

scarcer, and after a few moments' ride the underbrush almost altogether disappeared.

Another hour passed and nothing was heard of their pursuers. Then Ned Todd drew rein and said they would take a rest.

"We must have some sleep, you two especially. You are not made of iron, and unless you get a little rest you will break down. It still lacks several hours till daylight, and we can do no good travelling tonight. Better rest."

Daisy was sure that she could not go much

Archie assisted her to alight. The moon had by this time risen, and the forest was growing lighter. The youth cut some leafy boughs and made her a neat little bed, on which the tired girl threw herself and was soon buried in deep

slumber.

"Now make another, and go and do likewise," said Todd, who had taken up his place by the side of one of the horses.

"And leave you to do all the guarding."

"I got a fair night's sleep while a prisoner last night" he answered. "That will do me."

Archie was so exhausted that he only threw down a few boughs and then lying down upon

down a few boughs and then lying down upon them fell asleep.

When he awoke he found it daylight. He started to his feet and gazed about upon the forest. About ten paces away was Ned Todd, his eyes fixed upon some object that was moving about in the woods. He had his thumb on the lock of his rifle, as if he was half inclined to send a shot at the object.

"What is it Ned? Why did you not waken mo?"

"It's not necessary," he answered. "I don't think it's anything but Oklahoma Peg.".

As he spoke the form of that mysterious woman could be seen coming out of the woods

"Does she see us?" Archie asked.
"Yes, she has been signaling me for the last ten minutes."
"And see she is coming this way."
"So she is."

wants to speak with us?"

"Of course.

"Of course."

Peg came up at a rapid walk. Despite the fact that she was dressed in a half-civilized costume, and that her dark face was made rough and darker from long exposure to weather, Peg still retained some of her remarkable beauty, which a few years ago had made her the belle of the plains. Her face was sad and had a haggard expression upon it. She occasionally east an uneasy glance about her. her the belle of the plains. Her face was sad and had a haggard expression upon it. She occasionally cast an uneasy glance about her, as if she was not sure that she was not being watched by some one in the thicket.

"What do you want?" demanded Ned Todd, as she came where they stood.

"I came to talk with you," she answered.

"Well, what is it you have to say?"

"Why don't you leave the country?"

"That is just what we are trying to do, Peg. We would have been out of it several days ago if we could have gotten out. Can you give us any points that will enable us to leave here?"

"Go to the boomers' camp, they are fully two hundred strong, and Snell and his cut-throat road agents will not dare harm you there."

"Where is the boomers' camp?"

"On the Canadian. All you have to do is to follow the river and you will find it. The way is long and very rough, but you can find it."

"Where is Snell?"

"He is ten miles north of here. You com-

"We nere is Shell?"
"He is ten miles north of here. You completely bewildered him last night. He supposed that you was dead, and the rescue was a mystery to him."

Peg having given them the information which

she had come so far to impart, urged them once more to leave the neighborhood, and turned

more to leave the neighborhood, and turned about to go away.

"Wait one moment, Peg, allow me to ask you a question," said Todd, laying his hand upon her arm to detain her.

"What is it?" she asked.

"You know what we came here for?"

"I have heard it said, that it was probably your object to find a man that was missing."

"It was."

"Well, my advice to you would be, to let that

"Well, my advice to you would be, to let that man alone and go away without him. You don't need to be risking your lives to find a

"But the missing man is the father of this man. Would you have him neglect his father just because there is some danger attached to

Peg bowed her head. Her Indian blood gave her strong prejudices. She would have been a Corsican herself, in avenging the death of a father, and she could not at heart blame the youth for risking his live to find his father. Daisy, who had been awakened by the sound of presence of mind. His rifle was slung over his day before.

The sky was cloudy, and in the distant was there awas an occasional rumble of thunder. "We are going to have a storm," said Ned. "I hope that we will reach the camp before it comes on us."

The sky was cloudy, and in the distant was there was an occasional rumble of thunder. "We are going to have a storm," said Ned. "I hope that we will reach the camp before it comes on us."

The sky was cloudy, and in the distant was there was an occasional rumble of thunder. "We are going to have a storm," said Ned. "Hope that we will reach the camp before it comes on us."

He glanced at Daisy, and saw that her patient face had grown a shade paler than it was the day before.

voices came to where they were talking. At sight of her Oklahoma Peg's eyes flashed fire, and with teeth grating she expressed a wish to tear her eyes out.

"Why do you want to harm the poor girl, she has never harmed you?" said Ned Todd.

"But for her he would have still been mine," cried Peg

"But for her he would have still been mine," cried Peg.
"What, what do you mean?" asked Todd, on whose mind a new truth began to dawn.
"He was mine before he saw her, and her face stole his heart from me, and now I have to wander alone in the forest. He saw her, and he killed and stole for her."
"It was not her fault, Peg," Todd replied. "She hates him, and would go away and never see him again if she could."
"But if you linger here he will find her, and then I shall lose him." Her great black eyes flashed with a strange fire. Todd knew just how to manage her and said:

flashed with a strange fire. Todd knew just how to manage her and said:
"Peg, we are going to take her away where he will never see her again. But we are coming back to find the father of this man, when that is done then we shall leave this country never to return, and you may have Snell all to yourself again. Can't you tell us something about the white man who is a prisoner in the forest of Oklahoma?"
She howed her head a few minutes in silence.

She bowed her head a few minutes in silence. Evidently there was a struggle going on in her heart. After a full minute she answered:

heart. After a full minute she answered:
"If you will see a man who is an idiot and a
cripple at the cabin, he will tell you. He is not
such an idiot as he pretends, although they
think he is. I overheard him once when he did
not think I was around. Go to him and he will
tell you all, I won't;" and without another word
she turned about and strode away into the

Fortunately for the half-famished fugitives they found saddle-pockets on the horses, in which was some cold venison and dried bread.

which was some cold venison and dried bread. On this they made a feast. Archie Holland and poor Daisy though they had never eaten such a breakfast as they made of this food.

When breakfast was over they once more mounted and started on the long tedious journey down the river. It proved to be a longer journey than they had supposed.

The sun rose over the river bank and filled the valley with floods of golden light. Here and there a timid deer or antelope could be seen out on the prairies, or valleys, nipping the grass, and halting to sniff the air at their approach.

Daisy was sick and weak, the long strain upon

Daisy wassick and weak, the long strain upon her nerves had been exhausting, and she was certain that she must soon succumb. The youth rode at her side and whispered words of encouragement in her ear.

Noon came and they halted for another rest. Nothing had been seen of their pursuers this morning, and the fugitives began to breathe easier. But as they got farther away from danger, and as there was less cause for effort, the reaction began to set in, and Daisy was scarcely able to ride.

While they were allowing their horses to rest at noon, she lay almost helpless upon the grass.

at noon, she lay almost helpless upon the grass.
"I am afraid I cannot go any farther," she said to Archie Holland when he brought her

some broiled venison. some broiled venison.

"Oh no, no, don't give up now," he said.

"I find that 1 am growing weaker all the time," she answered. "I really do not think that I can sit on my horse."

"Then I will carry you."

"No, no, it will be too much for you."

"Then what would you have me do? Goaway and abandon you?"

"Then what would you have me do? Goaway and abandon you?"
"Yes. I will only be an incumbrance to you," she answered.
"Never! When you are abandoned, it will be after we have yielded up our lives."
She fixed her large beautiful eyes upon him with a look of gratitude, and said:
"It is no use for you to lose your lives on my account. If I must die, why need you? I can last but a very short time anyway. Helpless women have been abandoned before in this wilderness and allowed to perish, and why should not I?"
"If they were abandoned it was because there were not men with them, only creatures calling themselves men. We will never abandon you."

She sighed, but there was a grateful look in her eyes. Raising her head she gazed over that boundless plain, and groaned: "Oh, will this long tedious journey ever come to an end?"

## CHAPTER XVIII.

A RACE FOR LIFE. Ned Todd waited as long as he dared, and then the horses were brought around and sad-

Daisy was asked if she thought she could ride

Daisy was asked it she thought she could ride alone.

"I will try," she answered cheerfully. "The rest and food have greatly strengthened me." Archie lifted her to the back of the easiest going pony, and leaping upon another started away, following the great winding river. All that day they continued their flight. It was just growing dusk, and they had entered a thick wood that grew along the banks of the stream, when Ned Todd, who was lingering in the rear, discovered a dozen horsemen coming over the hill toward them. It needed only a glance to tell him that it was the road agents under their determined leader.

"He is like a sleuth hound on our trail," the borderer thought. "Well, there must be no rest until midnight, at least. They will not

rest until midnight, at least. They will not stop sooner, and if we should they will be on

When he announced that they must push on without any stop, the tired girl only sighed.
The sky was clear and the stars shone brightly,

but the moon would not be up before midnight

but the moon would not be up before midnight. Their horses went clattering along on the wooded ridge, about two miles from the river. All along the ridge was a dense wood.

Suddenly, from the side of the road, there came one of the most unearthly piercing screams that had ever fallen on their ears. Daisy uttered a shriek and her horse, frightened, leaped forward and went thundering along the road at a break-neck speed.

Archie Holland knew that scream. It was like the one they had heard but a few nights before. His own horse kept pace with the girl's, and a moment later he was alongside of her. There was a rush of air, a heavy swishing sound and a thud, as a body struck the horse on which Daisy was riding. Daisy was riding.

Another unearthly scream, and a pair of flery

shoulder by the strap, and he did not make any attempt to draw it, but snatching his pistol, leaned forward, thrusting it past Daisy's breast and almost against the head of the monster, that was clinging to the rearing, plunging horse, and fired.

The strupping report so clear to the strupping strupping to the strupping strupp

horse, and fired.

The stunning report, so close to the head of the frightened girl was too much for her, and she swooned.

The panther lost his hold and fell to the ground, and Archie Holland drew the insensible girl forward upon his own horse.

His bullet, more by luck than marksmanship, had gone to the brain of the revenous beast

His bullet, more by luck than marksmanship, had gone to the brain of the ravenous beast. Ned Todd, who was just behind him, had drawn his own pistol, and as his horse leaped over the writhing and struggling animal, he sent another bullet into its body. Though Daisy's horse was fearfully lacerated by the beast, it still continued to run along by the side of the other horses. other horses. "Is she hurt?" asked Ned Todd.

"I don't know, I hope not. I can see no place where the beast's claws have torn her."

"Then she is very lucky. I never knew a narrower escape."
"Won't those shots bring the road agents this way?"

"Won't those shots bring the road agents this way?"

"It may; we will change our course."

Taking the lead, Ned Todd turned off at right angles from the ridge path, and again entered a pathless forest. The night was too dark, he knew, for them to follow them.

"We will throw them off the trail, and then get a night's rest," he said to himself. "When morning comes we will be prepared for another day's journey."

Ned knew that they were not many miles from the camp of the boomers, and if they could only get one more day's travel they would make their escape certain.

It was many minutes before Daisy began to show any signs of recovering. Archie Holland was growing uneasy about her, when she heaved a sigh and began to move. It was too dark in those woods for him to see her face. He at last spoke to her, and asked if she had been hurt by the panther's claws. The answer was very feeble, but it was satisfactory. She had received no injury save the shock.

"We will have to halt here and wait until morning," said Ned Todd. "I think that we will gain nothing by going on tonight, for we have been driven out of our course."

The youth never questioned the judgment of the brave ranger, whose years of experience on

The youth never questioned the judgment of the brave ranger, whose years of experience on the border entitled his opinions to great

The claws of the beast had stuck into the saddle and torn it quite severely, but had given the horse only one or two slight scratches.

With the saddle blankets he made a bed for the exhausted girl, and then covered her with

his own coat.
"Now sleep till morning," he said. "I will guard you.

"Thank you, you have been very kind to me," the poor girl sobbed. "If Heaven had not sent such friends as you, I never could have survived these great trials."

"Don't talk about it now," he replied. "Go

"I will, good-night."
Drawing the coat over her face, for the dew
was falling and she was growing cold, she was
soon asleep. Going to Ned Todd, that man
who seemed never to tire, the youth bade him go to bed.

go to bed.

"You should remember that you are human.
and require some rest as well as the others."

"But this is no time to think of sleep," the ranger answered. "The road agents are not a mile away."

"How do you know?"

"I have heard them."

"Then these shots were heard by them?"

"Yes,"
"Well, Major Todd, further travel tonight is

wholly out of the question. We will have to make a fight to the death if they should find "That is about the size of it," returned Todd.

The hours wore slowly on. Frequently during that trying night, the road agents were so near that they could be plainly heard. Archie kept close to the sleeping girl, his rifle in his hands and his revolvers at his side. At one moment their pursuers seemed coming directly toward them, and then they turned and went in some other direction. other direction.
"Ten to one they stumble on us before morning," whispered Todd, to his younger com-

"They seem never to tired. But it will be an unlucky day for them if they run across us."

Archie wondered that their horses did not make some poise that would then the test.

Archie wondered that their horses did not make some noise that would betray them. It was doubtless owing to their state of almost complete exhaustion, that they did not.

Long and dreary was the night, but morning dawned at last. The sky had become overcast with clouds during the night, and again they were threatened with a drenching rain.

Daisy awoke considerably refreshed and strengthened by her sleep. A breakfast, of all

that remained of the cold provision, greatly added to her returning strength.

"Have you heard anything of the road agents in the last hour?" Archie asked.
"No, I think they are entirely at fault. They lost the trail in the night and it is no easy matter to find it now."

"How far do you suppose we are from the boomers' camp?" "It cannot be far. We will mount and push on without delay, I know that it cannot be over ten miles, and we must reach it before noon, or

we will all be at the mercy of this gang of ras They mounted their horses, and once more started on their way toward the camp. Having wandered some distance from the river during the night, it became necessary to take a south-

eastern course.

Daisy's horse was slightly lamed, doubtless having hurt its foot, or sprained itself, in its struggle with the panther. They were compelled to go slower on that account.

The sky was cloudy, and in the distant west there was an occasional rumble of thunder. "We are going to have a storm," said Ned. "I hope that we will reach the camp before it

They halted in the thickest, deepest part of the grand old wood, and Archie lifted Daisy to the ground. Her horse had kept alongside of the others, and when he came to examine its injuries, he was glad to discover that they were not so great as he had at first supposed. The claws of the beast had stuck into the sad-

to sleep."
"I will, good-night."

"Then those shots were heard by them?"

"I think when we reach the top of this hill we can see the boomers' camp," the border detective said.

They were even then ascending the slope, and in twenty minutes were on the top, where they could overlook a long stretch of valley before

could overlook a long stretch of valley before them.

"There it is, there it is!" cried Ned Todd, pointing toward a snow bank of tents and wagon covers, about six miles up the valley. At this moment the sun peeped through a rift in the clouds, and fell in all its glory and splendor upon the valley below. Oh! how peaceful, how like a haven of rest and safety seemed that camp. From their elevated position they could see men, women and children moving about. They could see the framework of two or three houses, for the boomers had determined to build themselves a town. Men were busily engaged everywhere about the camp.

camp.
Poor, tired Daisy, how she longed for that

peaceful camp.
"How long will it take us to go there?" asked

"How long will it take us to go there?" asked Archie.
"With our tired horses, it will take almost an hour," answered Todd.
Another hour in the saddle, another hour of toil, and then they would find rest. Archie turned in his saddle and gazed at the clouds gathering in the west, and wondered if the storm would stay away until they had reached shelter. Turning to Daisy, he asked:
"Do you think that you can stand another hour in the saddle?"
"I will try," she replied.
But now as they look again along the narrow path they will have to travel they see a sight that fills their breasts with alarm. Three or four white men are seen to ride out from a

sight that his their breasts with alarm. Three or four white men are seen to ride out from a clump of trees about half way between them and the camp, and then they discover fully half a hundred Indians riding not over a fourth of a mile west of them.

"The infamous scamps!" hissed Ned Todd through his cleanched teeth

"The infamous scamps!" hissed Ned Todd through his clenched teeth.
"Do you understand that? What does it mean?" Archie asked.
"They have secured the aid of those Cheyennes to help them, and they either intend to attack the boomers or cut off our retreat. We've got to make a bold dash for it, or we will never make it, and there must be no delay."

delay."

Fortunately they had not been discovered, and Ned wheeling his horse back, galloped down the hill, the others following.

The youth looked to the great scout for advice in this trying ordeal. That personage reined in his horse as soon as they were out of sight and said.

reined in his horse as soon as they were out of sight, and said:

"We're in a desperate strait, and it will take desperate means to save us. Are you willing to run a hazardous risk?"

"I don't think that we can take any greater chances than we have," Archie responded.

"But this is such a dash as we have never had. We will literally have to cut our way through the enemy, or we shall be lost."

"We can but die, and death is preferable to captivity with such a gang of villains."

Daisy nodded assent.

"Come on then, right down this ravine," cried

"We can but die, and death is preferable to captivity with such a gang of villains."

Daisy nodded assent.

"Come on then, right down this ravine," cried the borderer, and wheeling his horse about, he went thundering down the ravine with the others close at their heels. By keeping down in the ravine they were enabled to get within two or three hundred paces of the nearest Indians and road agents. Here he halted, and turning in the saddle, said:

"It is not more than three miles and a half from here to the boomers' camp; I will ride out upon the hill, fire at the Indians and road agents and draw them on after me, and then you and Daisy make for the camp just as fast as your horses can go."

"And you, what will become of you?"

"Oh, never mind me," returned Todd. "I shall be able to get away from them."

With a cheerful smile he wheeled his horse about and went skimming up the hill, until the top was gained. He had got within two hundred paces of the group of agents and Indians, who were waiting for them, before he was seen. The sharp report of his rifie cut the air, and away he went with the howling, yelling monsters after him.

"Now is our time," cried the youth, and he and Daisy made a bold dash toward the camp. The boomers see them, so do the road agents. A dozen men cease to chase the borderer to follow them.

It is still a mile to the camp, and the Indians

It is still a mile to the camp, and the Indians and road agents are pressing close. Bang! goes

and road agents are pressing close. Bang! goes a shot.

"Oh, my horse is falling," screams Daisy. Archie stoops in his saddle to save her from a fall, but too late; the horse and his fair rider go down in the dust. Subscribe to COMFORT at once and get the next installment of this fascinating story in the next issue. If your subscription is about to expire or you are anxious to become a reader of COMFORT now is the best time as these interesting serial detective stories will be a distinct feature in addition the best time as these interesting serial detective stories will be a distinct feature in addition to all the many interesting departments, and you will not want to miss a single copy. But all subscriptions must be paid in advance, so we call your attention to the opportunity of obtaining a renewal at the present 25c. rate by paying 10c. in advance for a six months' subscription. We shall add other features to Comfort, continue serials after the ending of the "Ned Todd" story, and give you the biggest and best home monthly that is published. Fill out and send 10c. coupon now (see coupon on this page.) so you will not (see coupon on this page,) so you will not miss a single chapter. All expiring subscriptions are now being promptly removed, so unless you renew or subscribe at once the September coup mill not reach your ber copy will not reach you.



of the characteristic scenes in the streets of Constantinople is a man who carries on his back a cask filled with water or lemonade for sale. All intoxicating drinks are forbidden by the Koran, and whatever failings the and whatever failings the Turk may possess to earn for himself the epithet "unspeakable," drunkenness is not one of them. For over 1300 years one hundred and eighty million have obeyed the law as laid down in the Koran and intoxication is practically unknown. tically unknown.

## Through the Lens.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HERE have been wonderful improvements during the past twenty years in all science and arts. Probbably nothing has advanced more rapidly however, than photography. And even an amateur in this art

even an amateur in this art in this day has to be very proficient to claim even that title.

Constantly discoveries are being made with regard to the camera itself as well as in the methods and materials employed in printing the pictures.

Not so very long ago artists in this line depended wholly on the sun's light, and a cloudy day to a photographer brought an added reason for melancholia. But now, some of the best prints and the prettiest effects are obtained from the arc light, or gas or even ordinary lamp-light. lamp-light.

To look back into medieval times.-the very To look back into medieval times,—the very first camera was in the form of a small dark room where an early philosopher allowed the light to enter through a very tiny circular opening, throwing the exact but reversed appearance of the objects without on a white screen within.

Then a Neapolitan philosopher placed in this opening a convexleus, below which he fixed a mirror, making a camera obscura. Following this was an experimental period, and it was recalled that the ancients found certain chemicals. this was an experimental period, and it was recalled that the ancients found certain chemicals the sun would work upon and create a change. A man by the name of Priestley got the first sun print of any value by coating a glass bottle with chloride of silver on which he marked letters. But the photographic image was captured by Taguerre and Niepee who together experimented and finally got results on a polished plate coated with iodized silver. This was gradually developed by fumes of vaporized mercury and finally arrested (or fixed) by a bath of hypo sul. of soda. The daguerreotype as we have come to call it, was the original plate converted into the picture; of course this made photography more of a luxury than it has been since pictures have been produced from the original plate.

But all this was too inanimate to satisfy. Pictures are well enough, but the call was to make them live and move. And from toy land came the first suggestion in the little "wheel of life" which was a cylinder in whose sides were cut verticle slits through which could be seen pictures of figures on a sheet of paper in various stages of motion. By rotating this cylinder the objects appeared to move. But these pictures were from wood cuts and were too crude to be used outside the nursery. Experts worked on gelatine plates to get the movements smooth, but not until 1887 in Edison's

these pictures were from wood clus and were too crude to be used outside the nursery. Experts worked on gelatine plates to get the movements smooth, but not until 1887 in Edison's Laboratory at Orange, N. J., was this perfected.
W. K. L. Dickson arranged a band of sensitized film connected at each end which is propelled inside a camera by an electric motor from without, while a shutter opens and closes emitting a ray of light at the rate of forty-six times a second. Subjects, exposed to either the glare of sunlight or twenty arc lamps with reflectors (amounting to fifty thousand candle power) go through their motions while the camera is storing up impressions. This film is then developed and fixed and is then ready for public use.

One M. Plateau, a blind man, was the first to exhibit "living pictures" through a magic lan-

exhibit "living pictures" through a magic lan-tern though his were not taken from life, being tern though his were not taken from life, being merely hand painted on plates. Later an Englishman was quite successful in getting pictures of animals moving. He had a number of cameras connecting with threads which crossed (at different points) a race track toward which the cameras pointed. And as the animals would race by, the threads would jerk open one shutter after another, thereby getting the different attitudes of the animal. But this was difficult as glass plates were all that was was difficult as glass plates were all that was then known. With celluloid all those difficul-

was difficult as glass plates were all that was then known. With celluloid all those difficulties vanished.

The Edison arrangement previously mentioned composes the camera and the projecting lantern. Both are similar. The former takes in daylight on a rapidly revolving celluloid ribbon. The latter transmits artificial, electric light.

electric light.

The camera has two spools; on one is wound some fifty feet of celluloid ribbon sensitive to light. By turning a crank the operator causes this film to travel on to the other spool, having stopped fifteen times per second between exposures. And thus results a series of pictures each a trifle different in appearance. After developing (by rotating wound film in bath) any number of positives may be made and precisely the same means are employed for projecting the pictures on screen or sheet. Were the negative the picture it would be too great an expense. The film costs originally thirty shillings and developing three pounds more. However, since many rolls are reproduced and (if taken of a celebrity in a parade for example) may be easily sold to be exhibited in different parts of the country—this of course defrays the heavy expense.

The American Biograph is the finest yet produced and is considered so the world over. Still another method has been devised by electric light.

produced and is considered so the world over. Still another method has been devised by which we are to be entertained, and more picturesque results accomplished, in colored mov-

ing pictures.

The means adopted are surprisingly simple, The means adopted are surprisingly simple, the original photograph being taken in much the same way as for ordinary biograph reproduction in black and white. But there is one essential modification. A regulation biograph camera is provided with a shutter that has one opening. As the shutter revolves, a snap-shot is taken every time the opening comes in front of the lens. In the modified instrument the revolving shutter has three openings, so arranged as to meet the lens at equal intervals of time, and these openings hold tiny panes of glass—one red, another green, and a third blue-violet.

These, of course, are the three primary colors which together make white, and upon this fact the theory of the instrument is based. When the biograph camera is in operation, in obedi-

the theory of the instrument is based. When the biograph camera is in operation, in obedience to a well-known law, the exposure through the red glass "takes" only those parts of the objects in view that happen to be of a red color; likewise, the green glass only takes green, and the blue-violet glass only the portions of corresponding hue. Obviously, then, all three exposures are required to compose a complete photograph. photograph.

Accordingly, the result of the process is a film-strip consisting of partial photographs in sets of three, each trial making a whole one.

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hopeless cases have been permanently cured. and express address in full. For reproduction before an audience, the strip is run through a machine in the ordinary way, but with the interposition of a revolving shutter just like the one already described, with three openings containing red, green and blueviolet glass. So rapid is the passage of the strip that the eye of the observer does not have time to get rid of the red sensation before the green and blue-violet ones come along, and the three together "justify" optically in such a manner as to reproduce all the color effects of the original scene photographed. Even the most brilliant street-views, with bright costumes of women; or grass, flowers, and sky in country scenes are perfectly represented.

The inventors of this process are two Englishmen named Lee and Turner, who have also patented it in this country. For reproduction before an audience, the strip

ZOIEAT

NTIL the year 1799 scientists had tried in vain to decipher the meaning of the Egyptian hieroglyph-ics. The discovery of the Rosetta stone in that year made the whole subject clear, thanks to the scholarly work of a distin-guished Frenchman, Champollion by name.

The Rosetta stone was covered with an inscription in three languages, rόξιος

Fόξιος

one Greek and the others in Egyptian hieroglyphics. By comparing the Greek with the hieroglyphics a translation was obtained, and with this for a basis it has been possible for a representation.

been possible for archæologists, to decipher the inscriptions on Egyptian monuments and clear up many dark places in Egyptian history. The Rosetta Stone at present is in the British Museum, where it is one of the most valued

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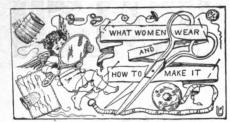
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Taste in Dressing.



EAUTIFUL clothes do not spring into existence by magic. They are the production of not only physical labor, but mental effort, a bit of ingenuity, and a large quantity of taste in combining colors and shades, to be in harmony with the figure, complexion and hair. A girl of the blonde type should study well what color of material blends with the fair complexion. The

well what color of material blends with the fair complexion. The new blues and pale greens would be more becoming. The dark coffee-colored hue of the Arabian laces is certainly stylish and attracts, but should not be worn by the pronounced brunette. As in every new fad there is a rise and fall, and those who have noticed it know that the dark lace will in time give place to the white, which is always the safer and more becoming to every type.

Many there are who have the opportunity to dress well, but are entirely ignorant of the subtle art of dressing in taste. Clothes are, to a certain extent, expressions of character. Trimming and its arrangement add an attraction to any gown; then why not combine harmony in color? Let each note of apparel send out a tuneful melody, so to speak. Arrange the coloring and shading to combine in sweet accord. The summer gowns, which are overburdened with inappropriate and unwashable trimming, and a quiet and diligent study of them should be made, removing all such obstacles as impede the good taste which should be displayed.

While a combination of soft and harmonious shades would fill the heart of every true lover of pretty garments with admiration for the wearer, whose mind could so easily conceive of

wearer, whose mind could so easily conceive of such a genuine satisfaction in the form of a gown of blended shades and suitable trimming.
The vivid hues of

able trimming.
The vivid hues of the rainbow, in all the soft, thin fabrics of the present day, should be handed over by the "young" old ladies to the daughters and granddaughters and black and white, can be made so daintily and in so many becoming ways, with laces and insertings. The bodice, also, may be trimmed the same way, with a few additions of fine tucks and rows of inserting. The thin, gauzy materials, as a rule, are exceedingly becoming to older women, but not the brilliant colors.

A great deal of "worldly" happiness depends

coming to older women, but not the brilliant colors.

A great deal of "worldly" happiness depends on the wise expenditure of money for dressing. The mysterious art of taste in gowns and their adaptation to hats and gloves and wraps, should be cultivated by every young miss, as well as the more elderly matron. The fair, auburn-haired girl, should pass on to her brunette sisters the reds and pinks, all shades of yellow and brown, gowning herself in the daintier colors: blue of every hue; purple, from the darkest pansy to the lightest lavender of the aster; greens, from the dark bottle green to the Nile tints; and always white, and black, or any shades of gray. All these shades can be combined in different costumes to blend in the most perfect harmony with the complexion and hair. Shaded lavender flowers may combine with cream lace on a cream-white hat. This must be worn with all white, all black, or lavender gowns. Blend on a black hat, with dark velvet ribbon, bunches of shaded green leaves from the very lightest to the darkest shades; or use instead the lovely tints of green shades; or use instead the lovely tints of green chiffon.

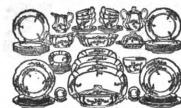
On the other hand, take the brunette of rich, dark complexion. A brown hat trimmed with clusters of shad-



from the darkest to the lightest color. This must not be worn with any shade of red, but with an ecru dress of any kind, or any shade of brown. A white hat with a tasteful arrangement of white, pink, and red roses (or red of the same colors) can be worn with all white and all

ed nasturtiums.

black gowns; also with red or pink gowns.
A perfect and exquisite taste in blending colors and shades can be acquired by close observation, and by study. Nature is a fine teacher; how delicate is every shading of her leaves and flowers, and blending most perfectly one tint



We are never shocked by the into the other. blooming of a rose with its petals of the most brilliant colors, and each petal in a different color. Yet often in dressing colors are com-bined which are positively distasteful and dis-

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mrs. J. K. L., Silverlake, Wis.—Silk is not an absolute necessity for the lining of your thin gown. It is an encouraging fact, that a lining of fine lawn will answer every purpose, whether it be of the same color or in different colors. (2) All the new muslin gowns are fluffy around the feet; frills of all widths and styles finish the bottom of skirts. A pink linen gown can be made a brilliant beauty by an elaborate embroidery done in white linen floss, the embroidered design shaping the circular flounce. The entire front of waist done in the same pattern, and sleeves also. It can be stamped in a graceful design of white morning glories; if desired only the cuffs of the sleeves, and high standing color may be embroidered to match the skirt. White linen waists, every kind of linen for wearing apparel are most desirable. These waists can be embroidered in black rings all over the fronts in black wash silk, or in yoke effect, on rows beginning wide at the shoulder graduating to a point at the belt, collar and cuffs finished in like manner. The bishop sleeve can be used with pointed cuff and embroidered belt in the rings would be a novelty in good taste.

Miss Daisy, Nokesville, Va.—"How can I go to the Springs, without any new clothes?" The outline

at the belt, collar and cuffs finished in like manner. The bishop sleeve can be used with pointed cuff and embroidered belt in the rings would be a novelty in good taste.

Miss Daisy, Nokesville, Va.—"How can I go to the Springs, without any new clothes?" The outing gown of cream white serge of last season may be used by trimming in fancy braids; or in stitched bands of the same covering each seam, and a short jacket could be added with revers of pale blue silk. The very indispensible, and all important white linen must be made over, with bands of blue linen, embroidered in white half circles; a blue sailor collar can be added with scattering half circles; a tre of blue and white silk is a smart finish. The skirt must have a circular flounce of blue, with embroidered half circles in white also, or a flounce of the white linen, with the embroidered bands of blue. This unique and quite dainty gown can be worn with the white rolled rim sailor hat. The green straw hat can be made quite becoming by removing all trimmings, wipe it carefully with a damp cloth to remove all the dust; trim with a bunch of green shaded ribbons; to be worn with all black foulard gown, that must be made over also; freshen it by removing trimming, and wipe off gently with alcohol; alter by the latest patterns, immerse all the chiffon frills in gasoline and press; do not use any chiffon on the skirt. You will have sufficient goods to use tiny ruffles of the foulard on the skirt, as many as the goods will allow. The waist may be elaborately trimmed with the chiffon in any becoming manner; real simplicity in gowns is no more. The chiffon forming the full puffs of the sleeves, below the elbow. Remove the white silk braid from the nun's veiling; clean with gasoline, stitch on a cluster of five rows forming a pointed design all around the bottom of the circular skirt. The waist is in one broad box plait back and front; rows of braid trim down either side, decorate the bishop sleeve in the pointed design of silk braid. A girl of skilful needle han

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MICROBES HAVE JUST AT TACKED THIS HAIR

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Upon receipt of this FORM carefully filled out and enclosing a few hairs, or a sample from the daily combings, we will send you a sample of the Cranitonic products and a 48-page illustrated book, "Hair Care," with testimonials, by mail prepaid, together with a diagnosis and complete REPORT upon the condition of your hair after scientific microscopical examination by our Physicians and Bacteriologists, absolutely FREE. Applicant's Name in full\_

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Is your hair falling out?\_ Losing color ?\_ Any scaly eruption ?\_ Does your scalp itch ?

Any eczema on scalp or body?\_\_\_ Occupation\_ CRANITONIC HAIR FOOD CO., 526 West Broadway, NEW YORK. were discovered, many of them HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS AND ALL FATAL TO THE LIFE OF THE HAIR.

Hair needs food to keep it alive.

If the roots have been weakened by the attacks of the scalp microbe your hair falls sick, falls out, turns gray.

A sure sign of "hair disease" is tiching and dandruff.

Heretofore the treatment of diseases of the Hair and Scalp has been a matter of guesswork, without regard to the cause.

In the laboratories of the Cranitonic Hair and Scalp, Food Co., of New York, the only Institute in America devoted to diseases of the hair and scalp, the cause of the disease is learned by means of a Microscopic Examination of the hair and a cure effected by exact and scientific methods.

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methods.

The Cranitonic Hair Food and Shampoo Scalp Soap were formulated for the exact purpose of preventing and curing all hair and scalp diseases, and are sold by druggists.

For purposes of scientific research and investigation, and in the perfection of its formulaethe Cranitonic Hair Food Co. has already expended more than \$200,000.

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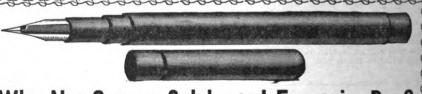
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tion of 1,000 different samples of human hair, made in the Cranicus and Institute (incorporated under the laws of the State of New York) 24 different diseases of the hair and scalp

which causes Itching and Dandruff, followed by Falling Hair and Finally Baldness. From Micro-Photograph by Dr. E. Fabrig, Chief Cranitonic Laboratories.

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## A Great Chance for Bright, Smart People.

How many times do you suppose during the year you have needed a pen and ink and have searched high and low when all you could find was a little old stubby pencil? When you wish to write a postal or letter you may be obliged to jump up and go into the next room after pen and ink or if in the street have to go in a man's store and borrow pen and ink to sign a check, deed, mortgage or any paper where law is the question. Why not be up to date and own one of the Celebrated Fountain Pens which are always ready at a moment's notice? They are conveniently carried in the pocket at all times, are ready at a second's notice, and safely hold about two weeks' supply of ink. Our Celebrated Fountain Pen is made of hard rubber with cap to prevent leaking and the latest principle of self-feeding. The price is always from \$1.00 to \$3.00 for first-class fountain pens but you can today have one without cost.

We are anxious to advertise our Celebrated Oxien Nazone Salve, the only perfect cure for Asthma, Hay Fever, Deafness, Catarrh of the Head, Eczema, Itching, Salt Rheum, Bites from Poisonous Insects, etc. We will send three large boxes to the address of any responsible person who will sell them for 25c. a box and return us the money, 75c. Upon receipt of the same we will forward absolutely free of cost one Celebrated Fountain Pen. This is a valuable proposition to any one who may be fortunate enough in reading this advertisement as all that is required is a few moments' work with honest intentions. Address your letters to

THE GIANT OXIE CO., Box 968, Augusta, Maine.

10

## MORE THAN A BILLION **DOLLARS AWAITING OWNERS**

Most of It is English Money, and Many of the Heirs are in America.

OU could do almost anything with the amount of money that is lying about unclaimed in England, says the London correspondent of the New York Press in a recent issue. There is more than a billion dollars' worth of it deposited in all sorts of places: in the British Treasury, in the Chancery vaults, in hundreds of banks and in the coffers of countless private companies. There it is, waiting for its owner, or his heirs, growing greater all the time—and in almost every case its custodians are making periodic attempts to discover the persons whose property it is.

The names of such unwittingly lucky people, advertised for in 1900, when collected and printed in small type, filled a straight column in the Times the other day, and many of the advertisements of that year have a distinct American interest. Here, for instance, is \$30,000 held for James E. Higgins, who was last heard of in New York; here, too, is "a large sum of money," waiting for the heirs of Joseph Sullivan, formerly of Cork, and later of San Francisco. One John Scott, who fought in the Rebellion, is entitled to money in trust here, and so are J. H. Cock, who left England for America in 1873, and Mary Wriggley, who got married and then went to live in "the States."

QUARTER OF A BILLION IN BANKS ALONE.

went to live in "the States."

QUARTER OF A BILLION IN BANKS ALONE. The fact that the unclaimed millions in Great Britain are distributed among so many different departments of the Government and of the business world probably explains why no real estimate of their total amount has ever been made. How staggering such a figure would be can be guessed when it is said that a reasonably sane calculation of the unclaimed funds lying in banks alone is somewhat over \$250,000,000. Of course this estimate takes no account at all of the money in Chancery and those sums of which the government takes charge—the property of those who have died intestate—to say nothing of all the unclaimed dividends on Government and company bonds, unclaimed soldiers' and sailors' prize money, and so on.

The extent of the treasure lying in banks is easily explained. Strangers call and make one casual deposit, never to be seen or heard of again, having, perhaps, been killed or obliged to make tracks out of the country without losing any time. Some banks, after making continued attempts to find these missing depositors, calmly add the sum to their assets, but most houses keep the accounts open and the money waiting year after year.

In Chancery there is now over \$400,000,000 in cash and property, of which some \$5,000,000 is awaiting claimants. A part of the simple surplus interest on this huge amount in Chancery was used in building the stately Royal Courts of Justice, on the Strand, in which the Chancery Court now holds forth. In 1831, too, Mr. Gladstone borrowed no less than \$200,000,000 to apply to the national debt, but it isn't always safe to do this on the ground that the unclaimed money included in the amount borrowed is never going to be demanded anyway, for in 1891, the Chancellor of the Exchequer remarked in his financial statement that he had been called upon "quite unexpectedly" to provide \$500,000 to satisfy the demands of heirs and other claimants who had suddenly popped up.

It is true, too, that the next of kin to the owners o QUARTER OF A BILLION IN BANKS ALONE.

## THE NEXT-OF-KIN AGENT.

THE NEXT-OF-KIN AGENT.

It is just possible that the appearance of these heirs may have been due to the efforts of the alert next-of-kin agent. He spends his time in hunting up the heirs of property that really exists, and sometimes succeds in unearthing them after years of work, during which he has performed prodigies of shrewdness. His library helps him a lot, and an odd mass that library is, for it comprises hundreds of old directories, domestic and foreign, old court guides, peerages, long records of births, marriages and deaths, school and college lists, etc., etc. One next-of-kin agent has also a wonderful series of cards, millions of them, arranged in alphabetical order, so skillfully and comprehensively that it is hardly possible to name any man of the slightest consequence, providing he lived since 1750, about whom this remarkable reference library will not reveal something.

A FORGOTTEN AMERICAN FORTUNE.

A FORGOTTEN AMERICAN FORTUNE.

A FORGOTTEN AMERICAN FORTUNE.

Oftentimes this class of agent makes it his business to hunt up the heirs to unclaimed dividends in old, old companies that were worse than failures for years, but which finally yielded up small fortunes in returns. One of these was a company formed to operate in the Thirteen American Colonies in 1741, called the West New Jersey Society. A London goldsmith had ten shares in this company, and the subsequent history of these shares looked upon as worthless at the time, was a thing to wonder at. In 1756, when the company was dissolved, there was a dividend on those shares, but their owner was dead and there was no one to claim them. So the money, which amounted to \$625, was invested in Consols, and after a century had passed it had grown to \$35,000. Not long after, one of the goldsmith's descendants, spied out by the active next-of-kin man, put in a claim and got the money. Another next-of-kin agent discovered, a while ago, that there were funds unclaimed since 1722 in a London company. Thirty-five shares stood in a woman's name, and the sleuth determined to find her "heirs and assigns." First he found a record of her marriage, then of her death; and then got track of the relatives who had survived her, finally working down to her living "next-of-kin," who proved to be a Magistrate, and some poor workmen living in Wales, who finally divided the inheritance, some \$40,000.—New York Press.

## The Family Doctor.

O many inquiries are received by Comfort concerning the health of the family that a column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be referred to physicians, not to us. Address The Family Doctor, Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

Annie G. Harris, Santa Rosa, Fla., wants to know where Hunt's Corn Cure is sold or manufactured. Can anybody tell her?

School Girl, Grayson, Ky.—Eat less greasy food if your skin is oily, and use warm applications of borate of soda morning and night.

G. T. Mac., Desmoines, Iowa—An excellent and simple wash for the eyes may be made by putting two drops of essence of peppermint in an ounce of water. Apply whenever the eyes feel uncomfortable.

M. H. R., Columbia, S. C.—Your symptoms would indicate that you are threatened with diabetes, and you should consult a physician without delay. And what he tells you to do, do faithfully, or you will not remain above ground for many years.

Miss McF., Homer, Mich.—A good local applica-tion for fever blisters is made as follows: Salicy-lic acid, 25 centigrams; oxide of zinc, 50 centi-grams; nutmeg butter, 30 grams; tincture of ben-zoin, 10 grams. Apply the pomade three times a day. A dose of epsom salts in the morning before breakfast will prove cooling to the blood.

W. F. S., Dayton, Va.—Consult a physician about your eyes. They are too delicate to trust to newspaper advice. (2) Use a wash on your hair made of one ounce of borax and half an ounce of camphor gum; powder these and dissolve in a quart of boiling water. When cool, dampen the hair with this, rubbing it into the scalp gently.

Orange Lily cures Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacement, Painful Periods. For a free trial address, Mrs. H. L. Fretter, Detroit, Mich.

LEARN SIGN PAINTING in 2 BOURS and make \$3 a day. Patherns and full puricelars FREE. UNION SIGN CO., WATERTOWN, N. X. WRITERS WANTED to do copying at home.

DETECTIVE Shrewd, reliable man wanted in every longer to the cality. Act under orders, No experience needed. American Detective Ass'n, Indianapolis, Ind.

CHILD LOST for 18 years. Stolen from the cradle. She was to ld who and by ZEMINDAR, Great Hindu Seer, who foretells Send stamp for particulars. Box C, 245, Saratoga, N. Y.

If ruptured write to Dr.W. S. Rice, 1019 Main St., Adams, N. Y., and he will send free a trial of his wonderful method. Whether skeptical or not get this free method and try the remarkable invention that cures without pain, danger, operation or detention from work. Write to-day. Don't wait.

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The worst possible spavin can be cured in 45 minutes. Ringbones, Curbs and Splints just as quick. Not painful and never has failed. Detailed information about this new method sent free to horse owners. Write today. Ask for pamphlet No. 63. Fleming Bros., Chemists, Union Stock Yds., Chicago.

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Control whom you wish. Make others love and obey you.

Cures diseases. Makes fun by the hour. Now and instantaneous method. Quick as a fash. You can learn

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for the Drink Habit, and willess you nothing to try lt. Good for both sexes.

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SELF-HYPNOTIC HEALING.

I have made a late discovery that enables all to induce the hypnotic sleep in themselves instantly, awaken at any desired time and thereby cure all known diseases and bad habits. Anyone can induce this sleep in themselves instantly at first trial, control their dreams, read the minds of friends and enemies, visit any part of the earth, solve hard questions and problems in this sleep and remember all when awake. This so-called Mental-Vision Lesson will be sent to anyone ABSOLUTELY FREE, actually enabling him to do the above without charge whatever.

Prof. R. E. Dutton, Lincoln, Neb., U. S. A.

You can obtain one of our hand, some Snake Kings absolutely free. We are giving away these rings to simply advertise our business. There is no misrepresentation or humbug about this—so if you wish to secure one of our SNAKE RINGS, all we ask is that when you receive it you will show same to your friends. Thousands have received rings from us and are more than delighted with them. This is a grand chance to get a HANDSOME RING, without paying one cent for it and you should write at once, stating street and number of your residence, or P. O. Box if you have one. Send and be surprised. Address, THE SIX GIRL CO., Bent. 180, N. Y. CITY.

\$8.65 buys a high-grade Arop-SEWING MACHINE with 3 drawers (\$9.95 illustrated) complete with accessing the complete with a construction of the SEWING MACHINE OATALOG illustrates and describes the above machines and the biggest assortment in the world of pivot and ball-bearing drophead, upright and automatic sewing machines, among them our famous \$40 or Faultless" Model B Drophead at \$11.95; \$55 "Happy Hearth" Model B Drop Desk at \$15.95; \$55 "Imported Faultless" Ball-bearing Brophead at \$14.55. All light running, noiseless, portect sewers, guaranteed 20 years. Shipped anywhere C. O. D., on easy terms. Send lor the catalog to-day.

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COMFORT'S AT HOME LAWYER, wherein will be carefully and correctly solved any legal problem which may be
submitted. All opinions given herein, will be prepared at
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can only be done by one who is fully conversant with his or
her legal rights and privileges. This department will also
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FORT to aid in inputitionally have been allowed to the home, no advice will be given on matters pertaining to divorce.

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Should any subscriber desire an immediate, special opinion on any legal question, privately mailed, it may be had by sending one dollar with a letter asking such advice, addressing the same to "THE EDITOR, COMFORTS ATHOME LAWYER," Augusta, Maine, and in reply a carefully prepared opinion will be sent in an early mail.

Full names and addresses must be signed by all persons seeking advice in this column but not necessarily for publication. Unless otherwise requested, initials only will be published.

M. A. D.—Even though a son should claim a homestead in the property purchased with the father's pension money, it would not avail the son as a means of defeating the father's right to recover his money, as explained in this column in the June number of Comport. The fund—no matter how it be expended or what be done with it, belongs equitably to the father and the son will, as a matter of law, be regarded simply as a trustee and compelled to render a full and true accounting of the fund in question. Even though the son "secure the homestead"—as you put it—the money or the avails thereof, can be followed and be subjected to the father's claim.

L. L. R.—The fact that the original deed to the property was lost does not deprive the rightful owner of the title thereto. A deed is simply evidence of title, and not the title tiself. I would advise you to record the deed at once; then clear the title by buying up outstanding tax titles, of which there are probably some, and bring an action against the present occupants, if any, for possession of the land.

action against the present occupants, if any, for possession of the land.

C. G. H.—The fact that you had a book of formulas copyrighted does not deprive you of the right to sell them singly or in any other way you may wish to handle them. The copyright protects you in the ownership of the book and the contents and you can use such ownership in any way you may choose.

M. T. B.—I assume that a homestead entry is the subject of this inquiry. When a lady has made such an entry there is no law preventing her marriage and if she continue to comply with the law as to residence and cultivation, she may perfect the entry and receive patent in her married name. If, however, her husband has also an unperfected entry, both cannot be perfected, as but one residence can be maintained.

M. O. H.—You are not entitled to a pension under the forms which you state. You rendered your country no service, except by way of good example and precept by your enlistment. You have neither morally nor legally any right to pension money.

H. A. L.—I. There is no law to prevent a person from staking out a mineral claim on his homestead. It would seem useless however to do so, as the land already belongs to you in any event, provided you have fully proven your homestead by compliance with the legal requirements in that behalf.

2. You cannot be prosecuted in law for taking an assumed name provided, of course, that you are doing nothing unlawful. A man has a right to call himself by any name he chooses, an assumed name however may cause great complication and litigation in case any property rights are involved. Such a course is very unadvisable.

C. R.—The term "fully pald stock" signifies that no assessment may be levied on it by the Company; that is, if

advisable.

C. R.—The term "fully paid stock" signifies that no assessment may be levied on it by the Company; that is, if the Company sells the stock for 30 cents—or any other price less than the par value—it cannot subsequently call on the purchaser for the difference between the price paid and the par value. However, under the laws of many of the States the difference can be collected by creditors of the Company in case the Company becomes insolvent or for any other reason fails to fully pay its debts.

insolvent or for any other reason fails to fully pay its debts.

Miss E. V. H.—If you have any rights in the farm concerning which you write, you ought to have a guardian appointed by the Court in your County having jurisdiction over the property and estate of minors. Under the facts as you relate them, your claim to the property is extremely doubtful. No land can be tied by will for more than three lives; as the property originally belonged to your grandfather, you cannot claim under his will. If you have any legal interest in it whatever, it must rest on your grandmother's title.

Mrs. A. W. N.—It would be a very difficult matter to run down the title to the property in question, unless you can give either the legal description of the land or locate it with some degree of certainty. The editor of this column happens to be somewhat acquainted in the locality where the land is situated and will take pleasure in writing to a lawyer at Russhville—the County seat of Schuyler County—with a view of enlisting his aid in recovering the property for you.

R. K.—A discharge in bankruptcy will relieve you from all debts that existed at the time the bankruptcy proceedings were instituted. Subsequently acquired property cannot be taken by creditors who had notice of your petition in bankruptcy.

WE are giving away Life Size Dolls for a little work.
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Having a lirge stock we
will reduce our price to
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bright pieces, corners
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Most beautiful designs,
15 choice pieces in each
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satin squares extra,
1 packages 2 cents; 3 packages for 5 cents; 12 packages for 15 c; 10 packages for 15 c; 10, postpaid.

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\$5.80 Bays this HIGH GRADE ACME OUTEN COUN STOYE.

\$11.38 with reservoir, 89.85 to 81.38 with reservoir, according to size, we sell this high grade combination coal or wood burning cook stove, the equal of each stoves, and Heating Stoves at asion-ishingly low prices, Kery and Realings, took Stoves, the expension of shipment, and practice are store made in our foundry, for hig complete free Stoves and out and mall to us. Address, SFAND SOCIETIES.

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The above picture illustrates a well-known saying. If you can send us a correct solution of the above picture puzzle YOU MAY SHARE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1.000.00 up a little of your spars tim AY for doing a little work for us. This you can do by giving up a little of your spars tim AY for doing a little work for us. This you can do by giving of the very best New York magazines into every home in the United States and Canada WE DO NOT WANT ONE CENT OF YOUR MONEY. When you have made out the picture of the your your property of the Young the THE ROBINSON PUBLISHING CO., 24 North William St., N. Y. City



In order that each cousin may be answered this column, no cousin must ask more than aree questions in one month.

The last month of summer, and not such a long, hot season as we have had in other years, for which we should be thankful, even if we have not been Summer Girls at Summer Hotels with nothing to do but have a good time. How do you do, all? but let us get to our Talk.

do you do, all? but let us get to our Talk.

The first in the letter list, as it lies before me, is from Flossie, Cherry Hill, Md., who wants to know the address of Mr. Andrew Carnegie. Does Cherry Hill want a library, dear? All it has to do, if it does, is to ask Mr. Carnegie for one. His address is New York City, or Pittsburg, Pa.

Pansy, Campbellsville, Ky.—Let him get mad and stay mad forever, if you do not kiss him. Either do that, or become engaged to marry him. His kind are the kind girls should avoid. (2) It is both wrong and vulgar. (3) Handkerchief flirtations are silly and common, and if I knew the signs I would not tell you.

N. C., Cedar Bluff, Tenn.—No kissing until you.

would not tell you.

N. C., Cedar Bluff, Tenn.—No kissing until you are engaged. (2) An honest girl can no more become engaged to marry more than one man than she could marry more than one. And when she is engaged to one she has no right to flirt with others.

Dreamy Isaura, St. Mary's, Ohio.—Some men are not given to much love-making and calling of pet names. If your lover is that kind, you will have to make his good qualities count for more. You talk, however, like a girl who is much too young to be engaged.

Nora Bell, Oddessa, Ont.—Take the young man you like best and let the other one go.

Onae, Mattoon, Ills.—Chicago ought to be the nearest place, but I do not know the address of any Missionary School. Ask any of the ministers in your town. That will be the easiest way for you to find out.

Golden Hair, Versailles, Mo.—See articles else-

way for you to find out.

Golden Hair, Versailles, Mo.—See articles elsewhere in Comfort of this issue of the meaning of the color of the hair. It is popularly thought that red-haired people are not bad tempered. (2) Indeed, I cannot tell you how to make ten dollars during the summer. (3) Bashfulness can be overcome by constant association with people, and by forgetting yourself and thinking of others.

Vernice, San Antonia, Texas—Go to any music

Vernice, San Antonia, Texas—Go to any music store in your town and look over the sales there. Then out of the lot of publishers' names you will find on it, choose any one that suits you. One is as good as another. Enclose postage with the music you send, so you will get it again if it is not accepted.

Case, Laurel, Mon.—The years began to number from 1. (2) Yes, you may go horseback riding with another man when your "gentleman friend" is not at home, but he must be told about it. (3) It is the man's place to try to make up a quarrel when both are to blame.

both are to blame.

Green Girl, Emporia, Kans.—One o'clock in the morning is too late to sit in a buggy talking after returning from an entertainment. (2, 3) Yes. (4) Simply ask her if he can go with her and she should answer him with thanks, yes or no, as she is inclined. (5) Yes. (6) If the young man is reputable and desirable as a friend, you may go with him the next evening after meeting him. (7) Three sets is rather often to dance with any man who is not privileged. (8) The man should write first.

Tom Rev. Paring Mr.

write first.

Tom Boy, Parina, Ky.—Young men should go home at 10.30, P. M.. or half an hour later in summer, unless there is a party of them sitting on the front steps. (2) Do as you please about giving your picture, but know the young man very well, before you do. (3) Every Sunday night is usual when the girl likes the young man. (4) It will be all right to let him go to church with you. (5) It certainly is wrong to correspond with strangers. (6) A man who comes to see you without being invited may be told that he is not wanted.

Eiropall, Churchville, Lawa—Not at all. (2) A

Fireball, Churchville, Iowa—Not at all. (2) A girl should not marry before she is 21. (3) There is na may "latest novel," because there is a new one nearly every day. (4) He should not stay later on Sunday night than any other, say, 10:30.

Cape Jasmine, Belleville, Texas.—They should correspond until there is a complete understanding. (2) They can use their own pleasure as to how soon they will marry after becoming engaged. (3) The lady can do as she pleases about beginning a correspondence. There is no rule.

Blue Bell, Coffee, Cal.—Forty is not too old for

a correspondence. There is no rule.

Blue Bell, Coffee, Cal.—Forty is not too old for twenty-two, if they are fully agreed, but a less difference would be better. (2) Kissing is not advisable until he has declared himself. (3) Marriage is a lottery all through, and an Englishman may be a prize. You can only find out by drawing.

may be a property of the property of the control of

30

4

## EVERY LADY READ THIS.

I will send free a positive cure for all female diseases, irregularities, etc. A simple home treatment, a common sense remedy that never fails. FREE with valuable advice. Mrs. L. D. HUDNUT, South Bend, Ind.

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\$8 Paid Per 100 for Distributing Samples of Washing fluid. Send 6c. stamp. A. W. SCOTT, Cohoes, N. Y.

\$300 Genuine Conf. money for \$1. \$100 for 50c.

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Information concerning how I cured myself from pimples, black heads, etc. Enclose \$1. Lock Box 1502, Sterling, Ill.

Marriage PAPER FREE, many very rich.

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Rods For locating gold and silver. Positively guaranteed. From \$5 up. Catalogue and testimonials free. A. L. BRYANT, Box 10, R Dallas, Tex.

MONEY C. S. A. \$5 bill sent to any address for detect it. FRANK O. SHILLING, Navarre, Ohio. Every Lady suffering with Female Trouble should send for a free box of the Famous "Home Treatment Cure." Address Mrs. Harriet Hartman, Box 485, B. A., South Bend, Indiana.

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(So many inquiries are made by "Comfort" readers concerning real estate (country and city) farms and locations for homes that this column has become a necessity and here we shall be glad to answer all questions.)

Paid up subscribers who desire to make a change in their present situation or are in any way uncomfortable in their abode and want information about any particular location in any State in the Union can address "The Comfort Home Finder," Augusta, Maine, and we will try and serve them.

There are letters in this office for Mrs. Margaret W., Rockport, Ind.; G. E. C., Farina, Ills.; Mrs. Nellie B., Flowerfield, Mich., which we are unable to forward, as no record is kept of Home Finder inquirers beyond the initials accompanying answers in this column. We will be glad to forward these letters if inquirers will drop us a postal giving full address.

letters if inquirers will drop us a postal giving full address.

Mrs. Thomas Cook, Macgregor, Manitoba.—We should say that Vermont was not a good place for a farmer, unless it was one that had lived there always and knew all the conditions and was possessed of the true Yankee thrift. In New Hampshire, which is next door, there are any number of abandoned farms which can be had for almost nothing. For particulars of these write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Concord, N. H., for pamphlet. You could find much better fruit-growing land in Michigan, a great peach country, and much nearer to you than Vermont is. Still if you know Vermont at all and like it, you might get a farm there that would be very satisfactory to you. Write to the Postmaster of Hartford, for the address of real estate dealers, or farmers who want to sell, enclosing postage for reply.

W. H. F., Pottstown, Pa.—The address of "M. L. K." has been mislaid and we do not remember it.

E. M., Esterell, Mo.—The price of a nice little

address.

Mrs. Thomas Cook, Macgregor, Manitoba.—We should say that Vermont was not a good place for a farmer, unless it was one that had lived there always and knew all the content had lived there always and knew all the content had lived there always and knew all the content had lived there always and knew all the content had lived there always and knew all the content had lived there are any number of abandoned farms which can be had for almost nothing. For particulars of these write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Concord, N.H., for pamphlet. You could find much better fruit-growing land in Michigan, great peach country, and much were the country of the property of the country of th

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CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.



HIS year the Sun obtains the first point of the celestial Balance or the sign of Libra at about 47 minutes before seven in the evening of the 23rd of September. Aries ascending gives Mars as ruler of the scheme. He is found in the 5th house of the figure opposed by Jupiter in the 11th house. Saturn is unfavorably placed and nearly stationary in the 10th house, or the house of honor and executive authority. The Moon is on the cusp of the 3rd house just past the opposition of Herschel from the 9th and square of Venus in the 6th house. The Ingress occurs in the 6th house in square with Neptune in the 3rd but applying to a favorable aspect of the great benefic Jupiter and the warlike Mars.

The indication of the figure could not be more favorable for the peace and welfare of the nation than it is, but Jupiter's oriental position, notwithstanding the detriment he suffers from Mars, gives confidence that the right will prevail and the Nation as a whole continue its onward march of progress and command the respect of all nations. The significators of the people, under excitement, indicates a restlessness and some degree of turbulence among the people, especially those whose avocations take them under ground or into the manufacturing and mechanical trades. Some element of disorder will be apparent among fireworkers and employees of great corporations. The opposing rays of Mars are some drawback to commercial morality. Banking and manufacturing affairs are not in as satisfactory a state as could be wished, especially through September and November. Some financial bubbles burst during this quarter and the money market will be in an unsettled state. Political excitement will run high and bitter denunciations and dishonest appeals to popular prejudices be unhappily indulged in by party leaders, which may result in some violence and disorder. September is likely to witness some unusual fire losses among schools and places of public entertainment, or public buildings. Herschel on the 9th indicates some changes in clerical ma

## CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER, 1902.

SEPTEMBER I—Monday. An excellent day for mental exercise and for the literary pursuits in all branches, but especially so for all scientific matters and business concerned with metaphysical and religious afairs; have nothing to do with real estate or writings pertaining to the same in the late afternoon.

Pertaining to the same in the late alternoon.
2—Tuesday. The very early and the very late hours are to be preferred over the middle part of the day; have no transactions with railway or steamboat officials nor expect any favor from government employees; use the evening for negotiations relative to houses or lands or for dealings in agricultural products or lumber.

or for dealings in agricultural products or lumber.

3.—Wednesday. This day is peculiarly appropriate for commercial transactions of magnitude, also literary engagements and the initiation of literary and scientific undertakings of magnitude; unusual mathematical work, and trade and traffic of all kinds; push all trades connected with machinery, hardware, chemicals and drugs; make compounds and mixtures of ingredients in which chemical action is an important feature; deal in electrical goods and sharp instruments of all kinds.

4—Thursday. Fully improve this day for thy transactions with banks and monied institutions; open new stores; purchase goods for trade; urge collections and solicit money advantages; the afternoon is best for dealings with organizations of men or corporate bodies and for business pertaining to patents, trade-marks, or copyrights, also for transactions with persons noted for eccentricity of habit or dress.

centricity of habit or dress.

5—Friday. Enter into no contract concerning real estate on this day; avoid thy landlord and postpone thy dealings with the aged; give no offence to thy superior or employer, nor seek advantage from persons in authority; unless on guard during the evening quarrels and contentions are likely; so have care in this respect and be not oversensitive to mental slights or sarcastic utterancés.

6—Saturday. Give preference to the forenoon for the most important ventures of the day, but do not make purchases for trade or have any dealings with banks or persons of wealth, nor expect much success in making collections or obtaining money accommodations; see that losses do not come through thine own neglect or correlesses.

carelessness.

7—Sunday. An excellent Sabbath day in which thine associations with the aged will be specially pleasant.

8—Monday. Be active and diligent in the pursuit of thy business; travel; change residence and make beginnings in ventures concerned with machinery, mechanism and manufacture; deal with cutlers, surgeons, chemists, bakers, barbers, tailors, cattle-traders, tanners, carpenters and military men; consult thy dentist and experiment in chemistry; urge all literary undertakings.

ment in chemistry; urge all literary undertakings.

9—Tuesday. Be early at thy post and push commercial and literary matters to the fullest extent; use the forenoon for speculation in stocks, if thy nativity likewise favor; beware of government officials and expect no favor or advantage from corporations of any kind; strange quarrels are provoked in the evening and night hours when violence of passions are likely to give increase to crime; avoid all chances of harm from fire and crease to crime; avoid all chances of harm from fire and

10—Wednesday. Begin this day early and improve every moment in the pursuit of art, music, and in all the elegant avocations; deal in fancy goods and engage in works of decoration or adornment.

works of decoration or adornment.

11—Thursday, The early morning is the best part of the day, but as the day advances put a bridle upon the tongue; expect but little civility from railway officials or employees, and shun money-lenders and persons who display strange peculiarities of dress or manner; deceptive appearances and baffling hindrances are likely in the transactions of the later hours in all classes of literary engagements or in dealings with persons in such callings. Make no new beginnings or be deceived by flattering promises in schemes offering themselves in this and the following day; do no contract making nor any important correspondence in the afternoon.

12—Friday. The forenoon is fair for general busi-

12—Friday. The forenoon is fair for general business, but the day as a whole is not likely to show much progress in undertakings of consequence; make no beginnings nor have any dealings in lands, houses, mines, or products of the earth.

13—Saturday. Give preference to the forenoon for the major transactions of the day in all general matters, though the day does not offer much encouragement that success will attend thine efforts; have care in the evening in handling all inflammables and explosives and look out for frees, which during the middle days of the month are likely to prove unusually violent and destructive of property.

14-Sunday. The day abounds in benevolence, be-ing especially conducive to religious fervor and partic-ularly inviting religious exercises; efforts of the clergy will be attended with more than ordinary success, and church matters and officials are favored in an eminent degree.

13-Monday. Actively pursue thy several avocations during all this day, giving preference, however, to the forenon for dealings in real estate, boots and shoes, wool, lead, coal and all kinds of building material.

16-Tuesday. Defer matters of much importance in SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago. III.

the artistic and literary pursuits in the forenoon, when also all decorative work pertaining to houses or lands or furnishings of any kind should not be done; make no engagements of a money character during the day.

17—Wedeseday. Conflicting influences prevail on this day and more than ordinary circumspection should be exercised in all thine undertakings of much magnitude; indeed, a little procrastination at this time will prove more salutary than unwise. Reduces particularly charges those who claim this as the anniversary of their birthday, or who were born about the 28th of April, 31st of July, or 31st of October, of past years, to exercise unusual care in all matters of health and finance, especially the latter; such persons should avoid litigation and keep out of controversies of all kinds, where it is possible to do so; many such, who have remarked a tendency to blood troubles and heart afflictions are likely to now experience more than usual annoyances in their hearts' action and should avoid excitement and unwise induigences of the appetites.

18—Thursday. This day encourages the mechanical and the chemical pursuits, also dealers in cutlery, military men and generally those whose avocations are conducted by use of fire, machinery, and sharp instruments; make purchases for trade in the middle hours of the day when also deal with banks, manufacturers, and the wealthy classes.

19—Friday. Use the early morning for dealings with

wealthy classes.

19 Friday. Use the early morning for dealings with corporations and government officials, but beware of any literary work or agreement pertaining to lands or its products; sign no leases, mortgages, deeds, or any writing obligating thyself financially; have no dealings with persons employed as trustees or in a fiduciary capacity; be not deceived by misrepresentations or false appearances.

persons employed as trustees or in a fiduciary capacity; be not deceived by misrepresentations or false appearances.

20—Saturday. Pecuniary losses are among the effects induced by the prevailing conditions of this day; so be thou careful that thy purchases are prompted by necessity rather than for profit or self-gratification, and defer all speculative inclinations until a more propitious time; and continue thy watchfulness against losses by fire in these middle days of the month.

21—Sunday. The conditions of this day are not important, though the afternoon and evening church service will be more interesting and successful than those of the morning.

22—Monday. Begin early and improve every moment of the day particularly for money ventures and money accommodations and obligations; buy goods for trade and deal with officers of monied institutions, judges and those engaged in the ecclesiastical callings; seek favor for advantage from thy employer during the early morning hours.

23—Tuesday. Musical and artistic pursuits and the elegant occupations generally suffer peculiar annoyances and embarrassments for a few days and the gentle sex appear at a disadvantage or suffer in greater proportion than usual; strange matrimonial alliances are probable at this time, particularly between youth and age, and elopements are prompted by prevailing conditions. Be in no haste to effect engagement or marriage on this day; let all persons born about the 9th of March or June, or the 12th of September or December, of past years, be particularly guarded in diet and habits at this time, especially avoiding stimulants and excitements and be cautious in all their social engagements and in their pursuit of pleasure.

24—Wednesday. The middle hours of the day are the poorest for progress in business matters and forbid particularly are the poorest for progress in business matters and forbid particularly are described.

pleasure.

24—Wednesday. The middle hours of the day are the poorest for progress in business matters and forbid the asking of any favor or accommodation; the early hours are good for correspondence and literary and mental works; the afternoon gives improvement in every

hours are good for correspondence and literary and mental works; the afternoon gives improvement in every direction.

25—Thursday. Fair for those employed in the fine arts and in the manufacture of articles which gratify and please mankind; musical, dramatic and social engagements are favored to a limited extent, but in all these matters quite a degree of caution should be exercised for a short season, as indicated; have nothing to do with real estate matters in the afternoon or evening nor make any engagement pertaining to improvements of buildings or furnishings.

26—Friday. Make no contract in the morning and be very careful in the use of the pen and in matters of account and mathematical work; important correspondence and literary work is best postponed for a short season; the evening and night hours are peculiarly vicious for fires and losses from unexpected chemical action or explosions.

27—Saturday. The day is evil in many respects, being promotive of disputes and contentions and exciting evily disposed minds to acts of treachery and violence; it will be well if fires have been guarded against during the preceding 48 hours for the passing days have been peculiarly mischievous in this respect. Merchants and bankers should transact business in the early hours with more than the usual caution and losses of valuables and money looked out for.

28—Sunday. An excellent day for the improvement of the mind and for proper appreciation of merits of literary and scientific productions; pulpit efforts will be eloquent and effective and church matters be favored in an unusual degree.

29—Monday. Drive thy business vigorously on this day, especially if concerned with the mechanical pursuits or manufacture.

30—Tuesday. Thou shouldst rise with the Sun to best improve the benefic influences which prevail on this day for all manner of elegant pursuits; improve every moment with thy painting and all musical matters; the time favors the buying of silks, fancy goods and all articles of adornment; for workers in wax, embroi

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BTANDARD COR. CLUB, SIA. E, Chicago, III.

A PAYING PROFESSION Can be learned in ten days. Become independent. Be your own boss. Particulars free. PROF. S. A. WELTMER, Nevada, Mo.



LADIES!

Our T. V. SANITARY
BELT is made of deodorized silk rubber, glovefitting, soft, pliable, clean,
easy, comfortable, perfect
and strong. If you want one
FREE, cut this out and mail
it to Jules F. Koelling & Co. Clerk 1
1316 Masonic Temple, Chicago.

# HEIRS WANTED For More Than **BILLION DOLLARS**

The London correspondent of a New York daily paper recently called attention to the fact that there is a very large amount of money in England for which no owners have as yet been found. He said:

"You could do almost anything with the amount of money that is lying about unclaimed in England. There is MORE THAN A BILLION DOLLARS worth of it deposited in all sorts of places, in the British Treasury, the Chancery vaults, etc., waiting for its owner or its heirs, growing greater all the time—and in almost every case its custodians are making periodic attempts to discover the persons whose property it is.

"The names of such unwittingly lucky persons advertised for in 1900, when collected and printed in small type, filled a straight column in the TIMES the other day, and many of the names have a distinct American interest. Here, for instance, is \$30,000 held for James E. Higgins, who was last heard of in New York; here, too, is 'a large sum of money' waiting for the heirs of Joseph Sullivan, formerly of Cork, and later of San Francisco. One Joseph Scott, who fought in the Rebellion, is entitled to money in trust here, and so are L. H. Cock, who left England for America in 1873, and Mary Wrigley, who got married and then went to live in the United States."

Through its London office "COMFORT" has for some time been making investigations into this subject, and it has procured from the British Government an official list of the Funds and Estates for which the Heirs or Next-of-Kin are wanted. For the benefit of its subscribers and others "COM-FORT" has had these names arranged in alphabetical order and put into a little book entitled "COMFORT'S LIST OF HEIRS."

In addition to the names of persons to whom funds stand to the credit of in the Court of Chancery as reported to the House of Commons by the Paymaster-General, "COMFORT'S LIST OF HEIRS" contains a list of persons who have been advertised for in the United States, Great Britain and other countries during 1901—2. Thousands of persons living in the United States, and in fact all over the world, have been and are being advertised for to claim money or property, and very large amounts are awaiting the claims of the persons advertised for, or their Next-of-Kin, Heirs and Legal Representatives. As these advertisements in most cases appear but once or twice and in one or two papers only, they are never seen by the persons interested, who are in consequence entirely ignorant that they are entitled to any money or property. "COMFORT" has already on file thousands of these advertisements, and a list of persons advertised for will be found in "COMFORT"S LIST OF HEIRS."

## Is Your Name, or any of Your Relatives, in the Following List?

Below we give a few names taken from "COMFORT'S LIST OF HEIRS." If your name, or that of your family, is not here it is probably in the book, which also contains fuller particulars about all the names here represented. It is possible that relatives of yours may have died, either in this country, in Europe, in Australia or other parts of the world and left money, houses or land to which you may be the legitimate heir. The solicitors of the estate may have advertised for you in a London or New York paper, and of course you never saw it. If there was such an estate and if it was advertised it will probably be in "COMFORT'S LIST OF HEIRS." Campbell. Cannon. Carter.

Johnson.

Abbott.	Campbell.	Ford.	Johnson.	Mulligan.	Rogers.
Adams.	Cannon.	Fox.	Jones.	Murray.	Rose.
Allen.	Carter.	Foy.	Jordan.		Russell.
Anderson.	Clark.				Ryan.
Andrew.	Clarke.	Gardner.	24 1 1 1	Nelson.	Ley and
Andrews.	Collier.	Gibson.	Kay.	Newman.	
Arnold.	Cook.	Goddard.	Kellaher.	Newton.	Sanderson.
Atkinson.	Cooke.	Gordon.	King.	Nicholls.	Scott.
Atwood.	Cooper.	Grant.	Knight.	Micholis.	Scanlon.
	Cross.	Gray.	Knowles.		Sharp.
Bailey.	Cullen.	Green.	Knapp.	O'Connell.	Simpson.
Baker.	Cunningham.	Greenwood.	Kraft.	O'Connor.	Smith.
Barber.		arren nood.		O'Donnell.	Standish.
Barker.	Dale.		Lane.	O'Hara.	Stevens.
Barrett.	Davies.	Hale.	Lawrence.	Osborn.	Stevens.
Baxter.	Davies.	Hall.	Lawson.	Owen.	Manlan
Bell.		Hammond.	Lee.	Owens.	Taylor.
	Dawson.	Harling.	Lewis.	Owens.	Thomas.
Bennett. Birch.	Day.	Hardy.	Lister.		Thecker.
	Dickinson.	Harris.	Lloyd.	Dame	Thompson.
Blackburn.	Dixon.	Harrison.	Long.	Page.	Tracy.
Blake.	Downing.	Haves.	Lynch.	Parker.	Townsend.
Bond.	Drew.	Henderson.	Lyon.	Parsons.	Tucker.
Booth.	Dudley.	Hess.		Payne.	
Bourke.		Hicks.		Pearson.	Underwood.
Bower.	Edmonds.	Hill.	MacKenzie.	Phillips.	
Bowman.	Edmondson.	Hogan.	Malone.	Powell.	Wade.
Briggs.	Edwards.	Holland	Manning.	Price.	Walker.
Brook.	Elliott.	Howe.	Martin.		Ward.
Brooke.	Evans.	Howell.	Matthews.		Watson.
Brown.		Hunt.	McDermott.	Rice.	White.
Browne.		Hubbell.	McNamara.	Richards.	Wilson.
Burt.	Farrell.		Miller.	Richardson.	Williams.
Bush.	Fawcett.	4.4	Moore.	Roberts.	Wright.
Butcher.	Fisher.	Jackson.	Morris.	Robertson.	Wrigley.
sutler.	Fletcher.	Jennings.	Mullany.	Robinson.	Wood.

## How to Get a Copy of This Guide to Fortune.

We will send this valuable List of Heirs only to those who send us two six months' sub-scriptions. That is to say, if you are already a subscriber you can receive this booklet by sending ten cents to renew or extend your subscription and send us a new subscriber for six months for another ten cents—in all sending us 20 cents. If you are not a subscriber then send us 10 cents for a trial subscription for six months and get us another subscriber at the same rate, in all sending us 20 cents.

BE SURE TO FILL OUT AND SEND IN THESE BLANKS WITH 20 CENTS.

a year.	_	
Name		County
Town		State
	0c. for which please enter the follow hs paid in advance with the understan	
may be continued at	25c. a year.	

ort's List of Heirs" will be sent you on receipt of the above blanks and 20 cents for the two subscriptions.

## A Diplomatic Incident.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ALEXANDER MACPHERSON

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.



AUTOMOBILE of the latest pattern, brilliant with varnish and pol-ished metal, rolled swiftly over one of the asphalt avenues in Washington, bound out from the city into

Washington, bo un dout from the city into the country.

The chaffeur who drove the machine was in immaculate livery. The one occupant of the car was a man whose dress and bearing would have led even a stranger in the city to have guessed that he belonged to the circle of foreign diplomats stationed at the capital. A few persons on the sidewalk, who knew the city well, seeing the machine glide past said, as they turned to look at it: "There goes the Auranian minister."

Not far out in the suburbs of Washington is a certain well-known road-house, not only patronized by bicyclers in its public rooms, but so noted for its cooking and drinks, and for the excellence of its little dinners, that it is a favorite place of resort for residents of the capital who affect more pretentious vehicles than a "safety."

The Auranian minister's chaffeur halted his car before the door of this house.

"Return for me in one hour," said the minister.

The man twisted the handles of his machine

The man twisted the handles of his machine

The man twisted the handles of his machine this way and that, until he had guided it around the hotel and had backed it into a broad shed built behind the building. Then, having looked after the motor, and seen to it that the machinery was in shape, he betook himself to a back room of the road-house where, by former experience, he knew that the beverages of his native country were to be procured.

The minister, giving no glance toward the occupants of the public room, walked directly through the hall of the building, up the stairs, and into a private room, which, as he did not stop to announce his entrance by knocking, evidently had been reserved for him. To a servant waiting in the room, after the man had taken his hat and coat, he gave an order for a bottle of wine and cigars.

Then, giving the man a piece of money as he left the room, he said: "I do not wish to be disturbed unless I ring;" adding, "Do you understand?"

"Yes, sir," said the man. "I will see to it." As the waiter's footsteps on the carpet of the

'Yes, sir," said the man. "I will see to it."

"Yes, sir," said the man. "I will see to it."
As the waiter's footsteps on the carpet of the corridor grew faint in the distance, the minister opened the door which the man had closed behind him, and carefully placing it two or three inches ajar, returned to a seat in which he could not be seen by any one who might pass through the hall.

A few minutes later a young man who had been sitting alone at one of the tables in the public room below, with a paper and a glass of beer before him, threw down the paper, drained his glass, and then rising carelessly, sauntered across the room as if to go. Once in the hall, though, when he was sure that he was alone, instead of turning to the street door he went quickly and silently up the stairs and along the hall to the door ajar. Pushing the door open he went into the room.

"Ah!" said the diplomat. "So you have come." Then he closed the door of the room and locked it.

and locked it.

In the early evening of the aday a young woman was bending over a dinner table set for two in the tiny dining room of a cheap city flat in Washington. All that taste and good will could do to make the table and room attractive had been done, and giving a last touch to a handful of daffodils in a glass in the middle of the table, the woman stepped back to inspect her work.

Then, going to the door of the kitchen, she said to a colored woman at work there: "Jane, you may put the soup on now. Mr. Eswald will be home directly."

A few minutes later, just as the young wo-

Mili be home directly."

A few minutes later, just as the young woman was pinning one of the yellow flowers against the dull blue cloth of her gown, a key rattled in the lock of the flat hall door, and the young man who had been locked in the room at the road-house with the Auranian minister came in.

at the road-house with the Auranian minister came in.

He kissed his wife, and then holding her off from him at arms' length, looked long and lovingly at her.

"Bee," he said, "you grow prettier and prettier. You're a hundred times more beautiful today than you were a year ago."

"Oh, you did remember, didn't you?" the woman said. "I didn't believe you would. And," leading the way to the dining room, "I was going to surprise you."

"Well you didn't, you see;" he said. "Perhaps when we have been married ten years I may forget when the day comes round, but not when it's been only one year.

"I've got a surprise for you, too," he said, his eyes shining, but shining—if any one had looked closely enough at him to see—with what were almost tears. "I wasn't going to spring it on you till after dinner, but now you've begun the surprise business, I guess I will."

"What is it?"

"Guess."

"Oh, I can't,"

"Guess."
"Oh, I can't,"

She guessed a dozen things, including a new dress and a French bull dog, but he shook his head at each.

"Well, what is it, then?"
"A new house, all your own, and paid for."
"What!"

"A house of our own, by ourselves; on the

"A house of our own, by ourselves; on the ground, with no elevator and no neighbors below us who cook cabbage."

"Robert Eswald! You don't mean it!"

"Yes I do. Or rather I mean that I've got the money to buy it and pay for it. Of course I wouldn't dare to pick out a house without your help."

He took a roll of bills from his pocket, and smoothing them out on the white table cloth—bills of large denominations, too—counted out \$4.000.

\$4,000.

"Robert! Most wonderful of men! Where and how did you get this?"

The man hesitated a minute. "It was speculation," he said. "I had some stock, and I sold it at a high price."

In their excitement they had not heard the



Swanson's "5-DROPS" is truly the foundation of perfect health. It acts on the blood, purifying it and driving out all poisonous matter. It strengthens the nerves and gives refreshing sleep to the mentally tired and overworked. It builds up the entire system, fortifying tagainst the attack of disease. "5-DROPS" is not only a cure for but also a preventative of disease, and a dose taken occasionally will keep the blood pure and healthy, thus insuring perfect circulation. When the blood is pure disease is almost an impossibility. "5-DROPS" is absolutely harmless, it contains no oplates or injurious drugs and can be taken by a child as well as an adult. It is good for young and old, an unfailing help in the time of sickness. No one can afford to be without it. Get a bottle today and have it on hand ready for use in case of emergency.

Such testimony as we print below from grateful people who have been returned to perfect health by the use of "5-DROPS" is certainly sufficient to convince any one that "5-DROPS" is the most remarkable medical discovery in the world.

most remarkable medical discovery in the world.

MRS. EMMA KEMMERER. Lancaster, Ohio, writes:—"I must say that "5-DROPS" has worked wonders for mey For 25 years I suffered with Sciatic Rheumatism and Sleeplessness. Since using "5-DROPS" my pain is all gone, and I can sleep well all night: something I could not do for the last fifteen years. I must say that "5-DROPS" is the grandest medicine on earth, and I will never cease praising it."

H. F. HAWKINS, Greenville, S. C., writes:—"I take pleasure in stating what "5-DROPS" has done for my grandmother. She was down in bed with Rheumatism in her back and could not turn over by herself. I received a bottle of "5-DROPS" and she took it, according to directions, and she was out of bed by the time she took two-thirds of the bottle, and by the time she took all of the bottle she was able to do some work and has been well ever since."

S. P. ALLEMAN, Dallison, W. Va., writes:—"I feel it my duty to drop you a few lines. We had a little boy five years old, suffering with moving pains all through him. He commenced to get better from the first dose we gave him of your "5-DROPS" and by the time your bottle was used up, the pains were gone also. We recommend it ahead of any medicine we ever saw for which we send our thanks."

MRS. CHAS. T. ELM, Monaca. Pa., writes:—"For several months my limbs were so sore I could hardly move them. I had large red spots wherever I had a pain. The doctor told me I had Infiammatory Rheumatism in a bad stage, and the hives, but his medicine failed. I tried other doctors but none of them done me any good. I saw "5-DROPS" advertised and sent for a sample bottle. The sample gave me instant relief, and I procured a large size bottle at once. I used that one bottle and now I am entirely cured. I cannot say too much in praise of "5-DROPS" is the one."

Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Lumbago, Sciatica, Asthma, Catarrh, Liver and Kidney Troubles, Nervousness, Backache, Dyspepsia, Gout, Indigestion, Croup, Nervous and Neuralgio Headache, Heart Weakness, Paralysis, Creeping Numbness, Sleeplessness and Blood Diseases. A Sure Gure for Goughs, Golds, La Grippe and Bronchial Troubles.

When you are suffering with Rheumatism in any form take "5-DROPS." It does not matter whether you have inflammatory, muscular or articular rheumatism, this remedy if taken as directed will give instant reliet and effect an early and permanent cure. It rids the blood, tissues and joints of the uric acid and other poisonous matter which causes those intense rheumatic pains. This is the only way in which a cure can be effected.

You who suffer with those terrible shooting pains caused by Neuralgia, should use "5-DROPS." It removes all the pains with almost lightning rapidity and Neuralgia becomes only a memory of the past. For all bodily aches and pains "5-DROPS" is the best thing you can use. It acts like magic in all cases of sprains, aches or bruises, removing the inflammation and soreness in a wonderfully short time.

For all Liver Troubles and Kidney Diseases use "5-DROPS." A small dose of this remedy is more effectual and has more curative power than a barrel of other medicines where these diseases are concerned. It is the most successful medicine ever discovered for the Kidneys, Liver and Blood.

For Coughs and Colds, use "5-DROPS." By taking it at bedtime and in the morning before breakfast it will relieve and cure the most severe cough. It will break up a cold quicker than any other medicine, thereby preventing Bronchitis, Pneumonia, etc., which are the result of a cold not properly treated with the right remedy.

Catarrh and Asthma, those most distressing diseases, can be cured if you use "5-DROPS." Unlike almost any other remedy it is used internally and also inhaled, thus giving a thorough systemic treatment which affords early relief and effectually cures.

FREE TO ALL.

Cut out the coupon and send to us with your name and address and a trial bottle of "5-DROPS" will be mailed to you at once, postpaid, free of charge. Here is an opportunity to test the best household remedy in the world without expense to you. Certainly nothing can be fairer than this. Write today.

NOTE.—Large Size Bottle "5-DROPS" (300 Doses) will be sent prepaid to any address for \$1.00. If it is not obtainable in your town, order from us direct. AGENTS WANTED.

THE "SWANSON PILL" CURES CONSTIPATION.

An ideal cathartic pill that cures constipation, stomach troubles, heart-burn, belching, fullness and distress after eating, etc. Causes a natural, healthy action of Bowels, Kidneys and Liver. PRICE OF PILLS, PREPAID BY MAIL, 25 CENTS PER BOX.

Cut this out and send it with your name and address to Swanson Rheumatic Cure Co., Chicago, and you will be sent a bottle of "5-DROPS" free, postpaid.

(TRADE MARK)

COUPON No. 11000

SWANSON'S "FIVE DROP" SALVE.

Best remedy in the world for Piles, Burns, Scalds, Bolls, Running Sores, Abscesses, Ulcers, Wounds, Ring Worm, Eczema, Acne, Scalp Humors, etc. Gives quiek relief in all cases of skin disease. PRICE 25 AND 50 CENTS PER BOX, POSTPAID

SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO., 160-164 Lake St., CHICAGO, ILL. NOTICE—Swanson's "5-DROPS" is a household remedy that every family should have, and we advise our readers to take advantage of the liberal offer made by SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO., and secure A TRIAL BOTTLE FREE OF CHARGE. Cut out the coupon and write them at once,

door bell ring. The colored woman came into

door bell ring. The colored woman came into the room.
"Here's a letter for you, Mrs. Eswald," she said. "A boy brought it. He didn't wait."
"For me?" said the woman. Then, as the maid, eyeing the money curiously, left the room, "Who can it be from? Do you suppose somebody else has sent me a surprise?"
She cut the end of the envelope with a silver fruit knife, one of their year-old presents, and pulled the letter out.
An instant later her face went white to her

An instant later her face went white to her

very lips. "Robert," she gasped. "What is this? Is this

She reached the letter out to him.

She reached the letter out to him.

"Mrs. Eswald:—" it began. The writing was coarse and bold. "You will pardon a stranger writing to you, but this is a matter of business. Your husband has today sold to the Auranian minister a copy of a paper which his work in the State Department made it possible for him to handle. He stole it. He got \$2,000 for it. I want half the money. If I get it no harm will come to him. If I don't get it there will."

Then followed directions hand.

Then followed directions how the money was to be paid over before daylight the next morn-"Is what that letter says true?

"Is what that letter says true?"

"Yes," said the man dully, laying the paper down on the table beside the money.

"I did it for you;" he broke out a little later, as if he could not bear the silence any longer.

"I've known for a month," he went on, without looking up at her, "that I could do this any time I would. Yesterday, when I saw Senator Ellory talking with you, and knew that he had wanted to marry you only a little while ago, and that you chose me—a clerk—instead of him, with all he could give you, I couldn't stand it.

"I thought," he went on bitterly, "that if you wasn't sorry then, you would be pretty soon, if I couldn't do more to make you happy. So I did it. I don't know who got on to it. Somebody has. He's guessed all right except the amount. I'm ruined, fast enough; and I've dragged you into it too."

The color had come back to the woman's face while her husband was speaking. Almost be-

"Robert! Most wonderful of men! Where ind how did you get this?"

The man hesitated a minute. "It was specuation," he said. "I had some stock, and I sold at a high price."

In their excitement they had not heard the

"Get your hat and coat, Robert," she said, turning back to the room, "and come with me. "Take the money, and that letter," she added. She was already putting on her own hat and wren. It was later still when Robert Eswald and wren.

Half an hour later the maid opened the kitchen door softly and peeped into the room. Seeing no one she came in, and went through all the rooms.

all the rooms.

"For the land sake!" she exclaimed. "What funny folks! Here they've run off without eatin'; an' left the dinner a spilin'. I 'spose they've gone to spend all that money;" she reflected aloud.

Shut in a committee room at the Capitol with her husband and Senator Ellory, the year-old wife told their story simply, but clearly. When she had finished she hesitated a moment. Then, raising her head bravely, she went on, "You told me once that in spite of—things—if ever you could do anything to help me, to let you know. I want you to help me now, to save the reputation and happiness of the man I love better than all the rest of the world." better than all the rest of the world.

better than all the rest of the world."

Senator Ellory may have been twice the age of the woman who stood before him, or more, but no one seeing him look at her then, would have doubted the honesty of the love which he had had for her—which he had for her yet. He looked at his watch.

"I will do what I can," he said. He pressed a button. "Get the White House for me on the telephone," he said to the messenger who answered the summons. Then, to the man and woman before him, "Come back here at eleven o'clock."

An hour later the Associated Press in Wash-An hour later the Associated Press in Washington added to its report of the day's news sent out over the country, the item that the Senate had gone into executive session. Later in the night there was a wild scurrying hither and thither of excited newspaper correspondents stationed in Washington, followed by a distracted clicking of telegraph instruments. In the next morning's papers millions of readers all over the country read under flashing headlines the news that a foreign treaty of momentous importance had been acted upon by the Senate the night before. Some comments the Senate the night before. Some comments added that this action had been made possible by a seeming sudden interest taken in the matter by a certain prominent senator.

A package handed in at the Auranian lega-

and marked "personal," contained \$4,000 in bills.

It was later still when Robert Eswald and his wife let themselves into their flat. The maid had gone home long before that.

When the click of the electric switch flooded the place with light, and the woman saw the table on which all her touches of home-love still showed, she, who so far had gone bravely and dry-eyed through it all, broke down.

"Don't! Beatrice!" begged her husband, throwing himself on his knees beside the couch on which she had flung herself. "Don't! Oh, don't!" Drawing her to him, he held her folded in his arms until her sobbing ceased.



OME tribes of South American Indians keep great numbers of domestic fowls, which are kept from straying away by means of a rather large bird called the Anhimia. This faith-ful creature takes the best of care of its charges and brings them safely back to the village encampment at night. It will fight for the welfare of its flock, and is said to be abundantly able to protect them against the ravages of hawks or small beasts of prey.

beasts of prey.



HE island in Boston Harbor now known as "Governor's lsland" was originally called "Conant's Island," from

"Conant's Island," from
Richard Conant, who is said to
have been one of the four men
who first settled Massachusett's
Bay. Early in the history it is
said it was given to Governor
John Winthrop, who paid a bushel of apples to
the General Court for it. It remained in Governor Winthrop's family until the United
States bought it early in the 19th century. On
the island the government established a fort,
which is known as "Fort Winthrop."







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scriptions

(INFORT was started and its subscription price fixed on the basis of an 8 page paper it has been voluntarily enlarged to 12, lit and 24 pages. When more than 12 bages are now given the subscriber can consider it a gift from the publisher.

Entered at the Post Office at Augusta, Maine, as second-class mail matter.

Published Monthly at Augusta, Maine.

Boston Office, Hancock Building. York Office, Temple Court. Chicago Office. Marquette Building

## A Talk With Our Readers.

We intend to get in closer touch with our five million readers, and we shall have something to say to them in this column every month.

The editor of a daily newspaper or a ten or twenty-five cent monthly has a "soft snap" compared with the problem which faces the editor of Comfort. Fancy having to cater to the different tastes and wishes of one-fit-teenth of the whole population of the United

We get far more letters than the average editor, but we want more. We're not editing this paper to suit our own tastes, but to please you. Don't forget that. We are constantly trying new features, besides endeavoring to improve the old ones. But when we start a new department we can't tell whether you like it or not unless you write to us. If there is anything about the paper you don't care for, drop us a line and we'll leave it out. If you like our new continued stories why not say so? If you think we ought to have more pictures why not ask for them? If you don't see what you want ask for it.

COMFORT is growing all the time. We shall soon celebrate our fifteenth birthday. We are doing all we know how to improve the paper and to give you each month a better paper than the last. Our circulation is growing too. We are now aiming for the two million mark. There is no reason why we should not get there, but we can't do it without the help of each one of our present subscribers.

Did it ever occur to you that COMFORT gave you right in your own home all the facilities of a visit to a large city? Look over our advertising columns and you will see how true this is. You will find advertised there almost this is. You will find advertised there almost anything that you could possibly need from youth to old age. If you are out of employment there are people who can give you work to do. If you are young and need education to fit you for work here are schools of instruction where you may learn. If you have recently married and are about to start up housekeeping you will find advertised stoves, tea and dinner sets, organs for the parlor, sewing machines and buggies. If you are sick here are remedies which will make you well. Do you want to sell your farm? Here is a man who says he will buy it. No matter what your condition is in life or what your present needs may be they can be supplied

## In Comfort's Columns.

In Swanson's Drops health may be found And Slocum does you good, While Oxien is a gracious boon That wins your gratitude.

And Ward throws open his big store, And Sears & Roebuck, too. With everything you need at home, Whatever you may do.

There's hair for bald-heads to be found In Tonics and in Food, And eyesight for the blind to see, And ears for bad and good.

There's clothes and things for men and boys, There's dolls for little girls. And gowns for women, and as well, Fine diamonds, rings and pearls.

There's guns and watches, fountain pens, And dinner sets and teas. And pictures, music, books and Art, And plants and flowers and trees.

If one has Fits, they may be cured, Or headaches, or such ills, And all the Fat ones be made lean, And lean ones get their fills.

Read every advertisement through, Give each one its full share; You'll find good things in every one, And Comport everywhere.

When you have read your COMFORT, don't throw it away. Put it aside and keep it for reference. Every number has useful information on all sorts of subjects that you will be needing every day. When anybody asks you any question, field, house, farm, health, where to buy, manners, looks, fashions, cookery, or anything else, get out your COMFORTS and look them over, and you'll be pretty sure to find an answer.

bought from her. Directly she noticed what had happened, the girl returned to the Englishman with 19 marks change. The evidence of honesty excited the visitor's interest in the flower girl, and the end of the story is that he fell in love with her, and has brought her to England as his wife.

What a Bullock Swallowed.

In the storesh of a bullock killed by a Suffind an answer.

Ask your neighbors every now and then if Ask your neighbors every now and then if they have read that interesting story in COMFORT, and if they have not, tell them how much they have missed. They will want to borrow the paper, but tell them you are awfully sorry, but COMFORT is one of the things you cannot possibly let go out of the house. \*

Money doesn't always bring happiness, but twenty-five cents brings COMFORT for a whole

The Editor

## Amusing Instructive.

#### Where Sun Rarely Shines.

The sun never sets on the British Empire—and it very rarely shines on the British Isles. "There has been only three days in this month," says the London Evening News, "on which rain has not fallen." On these three days it may be presumed it was snowing.

## What Half a Cent Cost.

Two printed forms valued at half a cent were lost recently at Baku on the Trans-Caucasian Railway, and the stationmaster had telegrams sent to every station in the Russian Empire to ask if it had been seen anywhere. The company has since had to pay telegraph charges smounting to nearly \$10,000, and the over-zealous official is now out of employment.

## Miles of Streets in New York.

There are 2,507 miles of streets in the City of New York. Macadam leads as paving material, nearly one-third of the total, but asphalted streets are increasing fast, and aggregate 247 miles in length. miles in length.

## No Courting on Sunday.

The authorities of the Bethel Primitive Methodist Chapel, Burnley, England, passed a resolution in 1834, which reads: "That we do resolution in 1834, which reads: "That we do not allow young men and young women of our society to court with each other on Sunday; neither do we allow our singlemen and women to walk in the street together arm in arm at any time; neither do we allow them to stand at street corners chatting together." By another resolution the Chapel authorities forbade girl choristers wearing bows in their bounets.

## Five Days in Prison.

Because he kissed his sweetheart when say ing goodby to herin Auersburg railway station, a German actor has been sentenced to five days' imprisonment for "disorderly conduct."

## A Pretty Kettle of Fish.

The official seal or crest of a certain English town named Kingston is three fishes. Last year's Mayor bore the name of Salmon, the Mayor for the current year is Mr. Finny, while it is confidently expected that the Mayor for next year will be Mr. Smelt. This is a pretty kettle of fish, and we may expect to see Kingston, in its desire to keep the pot boiling, angling for a Sprat, a Roach and a Pike for successive years. cessive years.

## An Armless Marriage.

At Bordeaux, France, an armless athlete, who stands two feet, six inches in his stocking feet, is to wed an armless lady only four inches taller. She is, however, prepossessing, enjoys robust health, is said to be an excellent house-keeper, and can write, sew and knit with her

## We Are Great Theatre-goers.

Who will say that theatre-going is not a tremendous business, when the people of the United States spent \$25,000,000 last year in doing it? Twenty-five millions is quite a tidy sum, but no more than 73,000,000 inhabitants should be able to afford.

## Canada's Great Wheat Crop.

The work of harvesting Canada's record wheat crop has called a good many laborers from England. It is believed that 15,000 or 20,000 men have been induced to cross the sea, and take part in the reaping operations, extending from August to October, and the threshing of grain from October to December. The steamship and Canadian railway lines The steamship and Canadian railway have arranged special passenger fares for harvest men, a large number of whom are expected to settle in the new country. To every such settler half his railway fare will be handed back as a bonus.

## Nineteen Knots an Hour.

At St. Joseph's. Mich, last Sunday, nineteen couples who came by excursion boat from Chicago, were married by one Justice of the peace within fifty-five minutes. This is the first record we have of courtships attaining more than nineteen knots an hour.

## A Governess Wanted.

A New York governess has sued her 9-yearold ward for \$50,000. The dear child knocked her down, jumped on her back and inflicted such injuries that she is now suffering from "hysteria, anastasia, abosia, paraphligia, dizziness, partial paralysis, difficulty in speaking, intense emotion, irritability and general distress." Land sakes!

## Flower Girl's Romance.

According to the Berlin newspapers, an English engineer one evening gave a flower-girl in a well-known cafe a 20-mark piece in mistake for a 1-mark piece for some roses which he had

In the stomach of a bullock killed by a Suffolk (England) butcher, there were found ninety-nine pieces of brick, two nails, and a small piece of iron. One of the nails had pierced the stomach and was partly embedded in the fat. The whole of the brick was quite smooth, and some pieces were as large as a hearly egg. some pieces were as large as a hen's egg.

## Fun and Philosophy

By Comfort's Own Fun-Maker.

## September.

September is a pleasant month, With gentle Autumn skies, And faint and far off we may catch The smell of pumpkin pies.

You may look a gift horse in the mouth, but you shouldn't do so when the giver is looking at you.

## A Careful Husband.

Mrs. Jones—(waking and shaking her husband)
"John, there's a burglar down stairs. I can hear
him moving around."
Mr. Jones—"Well. Maria, you run down and tell
him to go away, and I'll watch from the window up
here and see which way he takes so I can tell the
police."

When a woman gets so mad she can't talk, it is serious case.

## As the Twig is Bent.

A little strapping, now and then In childhood, makes the best of men.

A dollar in the pocket is worth two in the promise.

## A Mercenary Maiden.

There was a young man from Nebraska Who found a gold mine in Alaska. His girl turned him down When he left the old town, But later she wished he would ask her.

A scolding woman is quite as unhappy as she makes everybody else.

## The Boy's Idea.

Teacher—"Johnny, do you know where bad little boys go when they die?" Johnny—"Yes, ma'am, but I ain't going to die till I'm growed up."

If you keep busy trying to do the best you can you won't have much time to do poorly.

## Too High-toned.

Mother—"What do you want to marry him for? He's poorer than Job's turkey!"
Daughter—"But I love him, mamma, with all my heart and soul and mind."
Mother—"Fudge, my child. Don't you know love like that can't possibly live on nine dollars a week?"

## What Women Like.

He—"I love you, darling, more than words can utter."
She—"Utter them just the same, Harry. I like to hear as much as I can."

## By Other Fun Makers.

Dyspeptic Patron—See here! this coffee's cold. Waiter—Sure! This is a quick lunch joint. If the coffee was hot you wouldn't have time to drink it. —Catholic Standard and Times.

Press me closer, closer still,
With what fervor you can master.
All my nerves responsive thrill,
Press me closer, mustard plaster.
—N. Y. Herald.

Reuben—That thar stuck-up new postmaster is ryin' tew make folks believe he has no money.

Hiram—How's that?

Reuben—Why, he sez he don't see no harm in rusts!

—Puck.

He gazed into her azure orbs,
As soft blue as the sky;
He was an oculist, and she
Had cinders in her eye.
—New York Herald.

Smith-Women are rapidly assuming all the pos-

intensitions formerly occupied by men.
Jones—Yes, but there is one vocation in which such anded

Smith—What is that?
Jones—Soliciting life insurance. They invariably talk a man to death before getting him insured.

—Chicago News.

"Ah!" sighed the young widow, "no other man can ever fill poor John's place. I loved him from the bottom of my heart."
"Of course," rejoined the sympathetic friend, "but you know there is always room at the top."
—Saxby's Magazine.

Clara—When George and I are married, I'm to have my own way in everything.
Dora—Guess you won't.
Clara—Indeed I will! That's the bargain. Don't you remember I told you he proposed to me in a rowboat, and asked if I'd float through life with him just that way?
Dora—Ves

Dora—Yes.
Clara—Well, he was rowing, but I was steering.
—New York Weekly.

Lawyer—You say that you were walking behind this woman, could not distinguish her figure because of the cape she wore, saw nothing of her face, and yet knew that she was a very pretty woman. How do you account for that?

The Witness—Well, I could see the faces of the men coming towards me.—Saxby's Magazine.

## Told by the Drummer.

## A Country Dog.

A Country Dog.

HE New York drummer was sitting in front of the hotel in the country town, after his day's work of seeing customers was done, and he was talking to a party of men who were also taking it easy at the close of the day. On the side he was playing with a very lively and impetuous fox terrier belonging to the landlord.

"I like dogs," he said, "just because I like them. They are something on the order of a meal of victualis—very nice when you want it and no use on earth when you don't. All of which reminds me of a dog I met not long ago I had a day off in New York, where I live, and I went over for a ramble among the hills and valleys about Fort Lee, which is on the Jersey shore opposite to the upper part of the city. My wife went along to see that I got home safely, and as we wandered about aimlessly we were joined by a pretty little white dog about three months old, I should say. It was a most friendly dog, and after it had kept with us for quite a while we began to feel an interest in it and keep an eye out that it didn't get lost. It was quite at home along the country roads and in the woods, and only barked ance when a hunter and another dog showed up in the bushes. When we finished our tramp and came back to the top of the hill over-looking the river, we thought it was time for doggie to go home, but doggie wasn't so inclined and followed us to the ferry, by which time my wife had concluded that it would be cruel to turn the poor little thing adrift, and announced that she would take it home with her. It was all right in the ferry house and made friends right and lett, for it was a bright one, and when the gates were opened and the crowd started for the boat, my wife picked it up and hustled with the rest. Then it was that the dog seemed to understand it was no longer in the country, and at sight of the rushing people, the wagons and the ferryboat, it set upa harking that embarrassed my wife so I thought

one, and when the gates were opened and the crowd started for the boat, my wife picked it up and hustled with the rest. Then it was that the dog seemed to understand it was no longer in the country, and at sight of the rushing people, the wagons and the ferryboat, it set ups barking that embarrassed my wife so I thought she would throw it overboard. The dog wasn't angry at all, only excited, and it was content to keep its place in my wife's arms and do its barking from there.

"It became quiet after a few minutes and I took it, when the boat had pulled out into the stream, and went forward with it. Its amazement at the broad stretch of water was most interesting to watch. It forgot all about people, horses and ferryboat arad was intent only upon the water before it. It sniffed the fresh air like a sailor, perked up its cars and trembled all over with excitement, looking up into my face at intervals as if it would be glad for me to tell it what it was all about. It watched our landing curiously, but did not bark at anything. On shore again, I put it down, and it ran along with us to the street car, when my wife took it up and carried it aboard. It reached its nose out to see if I was next to her, and then it proceeded to bark again at every person who came into the car, thimking no doubt that it was in its own house, our house, and thee strangers had no business there. When the car started, it looked sround to me for explantion, and I patted it on the head to reassure it. The first time the conductor rang the bell to stop the car, the dog cocked its ears towerd the bell and barked at it. In the mean time it had stopped barking at people who came into the car, the dog cocked its ears towerd the bell and barked at it. In the mean time it had stopped barking at people who came into the car, the dog cocked its ears towerd the bell and barked at it. In the mean time it had stopped barking at people who came into the car, the dog on the street, and inturter remarks from it. When we left the cr. All this time it lay in

something terrific. It stood up on its hind legs pulling, and shouted and whooped it up for the flying turn-out in a way that would have moved the soul of an old-time volunteer rush. It tugged at the chain and begged me to let it go into the thick of the noise and hurry, but I hung on and only let it enjoy itself under restrictions until the engine went out of sight. Then a whizzing electric car engaged its mind and it wanted to catch the car, but the chain held and the dog pulled so to get away that the collar choked its bark off. Lord knows how I got it home, but I did, and when it was under roof once more, it off. Lord knows how I got it home, but I die, and when it was under roof once more, it quieted down and in a short time it was so sleepy, from reaction, I suppose, that it curled up on a sofa and soon was dreaming, no doubt, of the new world it had come into and what a great old time it would have for the rest of its natural life.

"When I left home it was doing as well as good he expected but it cannot go out unless it.

could be expected, but it cannot go out unless it is chained, for it wants to chase everything on wheels, expecially if the vehicle is going fast. wheels, especially if the vehicle is going An automobile on a spurt sets it on edge in a minute; and a fire-engine well, I guess it will never see one that it won't want togo to the fire. I used to think there wasn't much difference between a country dog and a town dog, so long as the beast had food and shelter, but I have changed my views on the subject."

Portraits and Paragraphs

of People Prominent in the Public Prints.

continues and has not lost prestige since its be-ginning in 1883. The present President of the Commission is Hon. John R. Proctor, a Ken-tucky Democrat.

15. Famous in good works to help the sick and wounded in time of war, and to take the lead in helping the afflicted in time of pestilence and suffering by great disasters, is Clara Barton, head of the Red Cross Society. Miss Barton has been prominent in this work for many years, and she has the prayers of all the world that she may remain as its good angel for many, many years to come.

16. No poet of any people has written verse that comes closer to the human heart of the everyday man and woman than has James Whitcomb Riley of Indians, known as the "Hoosier Poet." Mr. Riley is about fifty years of age and in his youth went about the country as a traveling sign painter. He is one of the few poets whose poetry has made a living for him, and he richly deserves it.

17. In 1904 the Louisiana Purchase Exposition will be held in St. Louis, and a greater exhibition than any the world has ever seen is promised to those who visit the "Future Great" two years hence. Millions of money will be expended and the government as usual is putting up its share, or a little more. The President of the Exposition is ex-Governor David R. Francis of Missouri.

18. Very many readers of Comfort have read

the entertaining novels by Mrs. Alexander, such as "The Wooing O't," "The Crooked Path," and very many more during the past forty years, and they will be sorry to hear of her death. She was Mrs. Alexander Hector, born in Dublin, 1825, and died suddenly in London.

. . .

19, 20. Two American Generals well known

to all since the Spanish war and our Philippine operations are Generals John R. Brooke and Arthur MacArthur. Gen. Brooke has recently retired for age, and he has been succeeded by Gen. MacArthur, who will also retire before a great while. Sixty-two is the age limit, but officers may held over two years.

21, 22. Very much in the public eye of all the world during a portion of the summer was Governor Tatt, representing the American government in its negotiations with the Pope concerning the removal of the friars from their places in the Philippines; and Cardinal Rampolla, the head of the Commission of Cardinals. Although the negotiations were not wholly successful owing to the opposition of the cardinals and others, the Pope favored the opposition made by Governor Tatt. The matter remains unsettled but this government is firm in its determination to remove the friars.

23, 24. The most sensational and wide spread

23, 24. The most sensational and wide spread scandal of recent years was that attending the elopement of Captain P. B. Strong, son of the former Mayor Strong, of New York City, and May Yohe, an actress, and wife of Lord Francis Hope of England. Strong resigned his position in the regular army on his way to the Philippines, and with the woman they left San Francisco for Japan. Here they lived lavishly, and in April last they came back to New York, and recently Strong disappeared with \$150,000 worth of Miss Yohe's jewelry. His mother and family paid the loss on condition that Miss Yohe would not prosecute. In the meantime, Lord Hope secured a divorce.

25. All the world felt a personal loss when the news came that the famous campanile, or bell tower in the plaza of St. Mark's, Venice, had fallen in a heap after standing a thousand years. Everybody who saw Venice saw the famous tower, and nearly all the rest of the world had seen it in pictures. Offers to assist in rebuilding poured in, and among them came an offer of the great sum of \$100,000 from Giovanni Morosini, the New York banker, whose

daughter some years ago acquired a national reputation by eloping with her father's coachman. Mr. Morosini made the offer as a remem-

brance of the fact that he was born in Venice.

vanni Morosini, the New York banker.

officers may hold over two years.

MEN

1, 2. With not so much as a ripple on the surface, the Premiership of Great Britain recently passed from the hands of Lord Salisbury, who has held it since July 2, 1895, to those of his nephew, Arthur J. Balfour, leader of the House of Commons. With the exception of Lord Liverpool, Lord Salisbury had held the office longer than any other Premier for a hundred years. Mr. Balfour is fifty-four years of age, and his uncle is seventy-two.

3. This country, as well as others, was disposed to criticise very severely Gen. Jacob H. Smith of the U. S. Army in the Philippines, for his order to "kill, burn, and destroy" all natives fighting against the United States. His friends made many excuses for the order, which was not official, but he was brought before an examining commission, which recommended a reprimand. The President, however, for political or other reasons, viewed the matter more seriously and retired Gen. Smith.

4. The men who think the air may be navi-

4. The men who think the air may be navigated are never at rest, though none have ever mede any advance of a practical kind in solving the problem. The latest inventor to come forward with an air ship that is "warranted" to sail anywhere and settle the question, is John Schnepf, a New York mechanic, who has constructed an "aerial mobile" which he claims is a new idea and will be a success. In the meantime we should not wait for it if we want to go anywhere this year.

5. Another story has been set afloat that the anarchists of Paterson, N. J., headquarters for the red caps, have sent one of their number over to assassinate King Victor Emanuel of Italy, whose father was killed by Bresci, another of the Paterson gang.

6. One of the great Trust Magnates of this country is Clement A. Griscom of Philadelphia, President of the American Steamship Line, and associated with J. Pierpont Morgan in consolidating the merchant marine of the Atlantic Ocean. It is probable that these rich men will control all the trans-Atlantic business before many months.

7. One of the really great orators of this country, in which oratory is scarcer now than in the days of Webster and Clay, is W. Burke Cochran, of New York, former Congressman. Mr. Cochran has been delivering orations on several occasions lately, after some years of silence, and whenever he speaks thousands turn out to hear him. Mr. Cochran is a Democrat, and he is yet young and active enough to be a power in politics.

8. M. Herve Faye, one of the greatest of astronomers, known as the "Father of Astronomers," and Dean of the French Academy of Sciences, as well as its oldest member, died recently at Paris, at the age of eighty-eight. He was the head of the French Nautical Office and president of the official board of the Paris Observatory.

9. John M. Burke, a merchant of New York City, celebrated his ninetieth birthday recently by giving four millions of dollars to establish a home for persons who had become impoverished by adversity. Mr. Burke had given a great deal to charity in addition, but he had done it all so quietly that it was not known. Even this great gift would have been kept quiet, but the trustees of the fund, named by Mr. Burke, thought best to make it public.

10. Hayti is one of those southern republics known as the "Black Republic," because it is controlled by negroes, who are always ready for a revolution. At last accounts the factions were drawn up in the streets of Port au Prince, prepared for battle. The partisans of Gen. Firmin are attempting to get the government from the provisional president and his party.

11. A famous character in New York City died there recently. He was Christopher Robert Forbes, who for many years had the honor of annually raising the Stars and Stripes at Battery Park on Evacuation Day, Fourth of July and Washington's Birthday. Mr. Forbes was a letter carrier at first, but later became a guard on the Elevated Railway. Mr. Forbes was deprived of the honor of flag raiser in 1896, by the Society of the War of 1812, and the act changed his whole life and he brooded over it until his death.

12, 13. Two very important persons in the politics of this country are Senator James K. Jones of Arkansas, Chairman National Democratic Committee, and Senator Hanna, Chairman of the Republican Committee. Each has made a public statement of political conditions, Chairman Jones saving his party has opportu-

Chairman Jones saying his party has opportunities to make gains in the West, and Chairman Hauna saying that there will be a safe and sure election of a Republican House of Representatives. The fall elections will tell which is the better guesser.

14. Very few people in this country have not heard of the Civil Service Commission and its efforts to take politics out of office holding of the permanent kind. Its object was to do away with the "Spoils system," and it has caused no end of disturbance among politicians, but it

uncle is seventy-two.

to go anywhere this year.

many months.

WOMEN

prosperous days.

spending millions on entertainments and jewels. His fortune goes to his wife and son, Clarence, as he had no other children living. It is said his charities amounted to a quarter of a million dollars yearly. His good luck had not spoiled him, and he was a plain man, never forgetting the friends of his earlier and less

27. A Congressman who has come prominently before the public within a short time is the Hon. Charles E. Littlefield, successor to Mr. Dingley, who became famous for the Dingley Tariff. Mr. Littlefield's latest prominence is his selection by President Roosevelt to represent the administration in its fight against the Trusts. Mr. Littlefield is a lawyer, a man of family does not use liquor or tobacco.

a man of family, does not use liquor or tobacco, and is fifty-four years of age.

28. America is not the only country where poor boys can rise to the highest places, although it may be easier to do so here than elsewhere. Richard J. Seddon, the new Premier of New Zealand, a British colony in the South Pacific, was a poor farmer in England, who went to Australia, working in the mines, thence to New Zealand where he rose to be Premier. He is a strong man of great natural ability, but uneducated and rough in his manners.

29. The successor in the United States Senate to Senator James K. Jones of Arkansas, Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, is James P. Clarke, who is a "fighter from Wayback." Mr. Clarke, though but forty-eight, has been Governor of the state and has held other offices. He is a Democrat and made his fight against the political rings of his state.

30. The new Governor General of Australia is Lord Tennyson, son of the Poet Laureate Tennyson, the greatest of modern English poets. Lord Tennyson succeeded Lord Hopetoun, who resigned because the salary \$50,000 a year was not sufficient to maintain the dignity of such a court as he is compelled to have. Lord Tennyson is no richer than was Lord Hopetoun and he will probably resign after trying it awhile.

31. The military forces of our nearest neighbor on the north, Canada, are not very large, as indeed our own are not, but they have a Commander in Chief, and the latest appointment to the position is Major General the Earl of Dundonald, who comes over from England. General Dundonald is fifty years of age, a soldier of great distinction, and his appointment is a high compliment to the people of Canada, who have long urged their right to have distinguished men appointed to posts in the colony.

32. Japan has a J. Pierpont Morgan, who is almost as rich and as powerful as our American millionaire, who has been buying up nearly all the loose portions of the earth. The Japan millionaire is Baron Shibusawa, who is now paying a visit to the United States to study financial conditions here. His picture shows a strong face, with few of the Japanese characteristics.

33. Bozo Gacina is a Dalmatian boy who ought some day to be a famous American citizen. He was so anxious to come to this country that he stole his way for 12,000 miles, the last three thousand being in an empty boller of a "donkey" engine on the steamship Umbria. As a stowaway the little chap staid in his hiding place for a week, fed by friendly stokers who had found him. He was caught before leaving the ship at New York, however, and would have been sent back, as he had been once before, but some good American heard of his case and went on his bond, he believing that such a boy would make a good citizen.

34,35. King Albert, the old King of Saxony, having died at the age of 78, he is succeeded by his brother Prince George, who is seventy. King Albert had no children. King George's son, Frederick Augustus, will succeed him at his death. King Albert was a fine old gentleman, and a Catholic, while the great majority of his subjects are Protestants, but he was very popular and the greatest harmony between King and people always existed.

36. A very pretty actress known to theatregoers in this country was Miss Irene Perry, but she is no longer Miss Perry, for, much to the surprise of all her acquaintances outside and inside theatre circles, she recently became the wife of Harvey Wilson Bell, son of Bishop Bell of North Carolina. Although Miss Perry was popular as an actress and made a hit in a new play, she will retire from the stage. The wedding took place in Boston.

37. The wife of Hon. William B. Ridgeley, Comptroller of the Currency, died at the Johns-Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, after undergoing an operation for appendicitis. She was supposed to be improving after the operation, but took a sudden turn for the worse and died in a few hours. Mrs. Ridgeley was a daughter of

few hours. Mrs. Ridgeley was a daughter of Senator Cullom of Illinois, and was prominent in social circles in Washington and in her

the colony.



























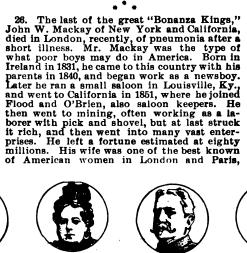


until his death.





























J. P. Clarke.















Miss Irene



# DOMESTIC @ **FANCY COOKING**

## BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK,

NOTE BY THE EDITOR—In conducting this department Mrs. Herrick would be pleased to answer any questions that our readers may ask. It is her desire to please all "COMFORT" readers and in order to find out your likes and dislikes can't you write and ask a few questions. By so doing you may give us some hint or suggestion as to how this Household Department should be conducted to suit the greatest number of our readers. Mrs. Herrick's mother, MAR10N HARLAND, has made herself famous by her rare judgment in household matters, and her daughter is equally gifted in this connection. Address all letters Christine Terhune Herrick, care COMFORT, Augusta Maine.

## Common Sense Preserving.



HEN I use the word preserving, I do not mean to confine myself to the "pound for pound" putting up of our grandmothers. That was the meaning connected with the word once upon a time. I mean it here to include any meth-

time. I mean it here to include any methods of putting up fruits to keep them, whether this be converting them into jams or jellies or pickles or sweet conserves. Each process has its own peculiarities but there are a few general principles that apply to all.

Probably no woman with a true housekeeping spirit and a garden or orchard besides who does not feel a desire to turn the kindly fruits of the earth into some compound that will does not feel a desire to turn the kindly fruits of the earth into some compound that will enable her to keep them through the winter. Many women take it as a matter of course that they should can certain fruits and vegetables for cold weather consumption. Canned goods of all sorts and degrees of excellence are so cheap that it hardly pays to put them up if one has to purchase materials. But when there is a garden at command, it is well worth while to can vegetables of several varieties, and berries, and other fruit for pies and tarts and stewed fruit later on.

ries, and other fruit for pies and tarts and stewed fruit later on.

Even if one questions the wisdom of canning under some circumstances, there can be no debate as to the sense and economy of doing one's own pickling and preserving or of putting up one's own jellies and jams. The thrifty housewife has not waited until now to show her faith by her works but has already a good ner faith by her works but has already a good supply of currant and crab apple jelly as well as of berry jams. Now perhaps she may be hesitating a little as to what she will do about later provisions. Her cucumbers are already in the pickle and it may be she has pickle of melon rind well under way. What else shall she do?

There are several other possibilities ahead of her. One is a conserve of peaches that is less expensive than the old-fashioned preserves, and yet more palatable than the plain canned peaches, which are seldom very good to the taste unless they are doctored a bit after they are taken from the can. She may make a conserve of pears in the same way, and although serve of pears in the same way, and although these may lack the distinctive flavor of the peaches, they may yet, by wise flavoring, be made almost as good.

made almost as good.

Then the housekeeper may use the grapes that are plenty late in the fall, just before frost, in two or three rather unusual ways. Every one likes grape jelly, which is second only to currant in its value for seasoning and as an accompaniment to meats. But every one is not so familiar with spiced grapes and with grape marmalade, although these are well worth knowing.

is not so familiar with spiced grapes and with grape marmalade, although these are well worth knowing.

A use that is none too common may be made of the superabundance of apples that prevails on almost every farm, by canning them. This canning is not done in quite the usual fashion and the product is a delicious sweet that answers for a dessert at dinner or supper.

Before beginning upon her business of putting up, the housekeeper must, of course, be



PEACH CONSERVES.

sure that she has all that she needs in the

sure that she has all that she needs in the house. I ought perhaps to apologize for insulting the intelligence of my readers by intimating the possibility of their neglecting such a measure. But the wisest housekeepers are caught napping sometimes, and I have known even those with a good store of experience to forget until too late to make sure that all the glass jars they counted upon using were furnished with tops and fresh rubber rings, that the sugar barrel was not too low, that the store of spices had been replenished or that the sharp knives to be used in peeling fruit needed a turn on the grindstone or a rub on the whetstone.

None of these precautions should be overlooked. When everything else is in order the housekeeper must resolve that her temper will keep in the same strain. Putting up fruit is never easy or cool work and the person undertaking it should spare herself as much as possible. The fruit should be prepared in the coolest corner attainable and the worker should sit whenever she can. There will be plenty of standing that she will not be able to avoid. Moreover, she should try to choose a day for her putting up when the other work of the house will be comparatively light. This is one of the occasions when there should be cold meat for dinner and when all the cookery of any sort except that of the fruit should be put aside as far as can be. any sort except that of the fruit should be put

lie in the sugar



lie in the sugar a n u m ber of hours before cooking it may be advisable to be peeled the night before. The peaches must be pared and halved and the stones removed. Then the fruit is put in layers in bowls or dishes and each layer is covered with sugar, to draw out the juice. In this state they should be left from six to eight hours. The shorter period is enough, but the longer time will do no harm. no harm.

no harm.

When the housekeeper is ready to begin the work of cooking she should turn the juice and sugar from the fruit and put both over the fire in a preserving kettle. Here they must come to the boil and simmer for ten minutes afterwards and then she may drop in the fruit. This checks the boil and after this is resumed the peaches may boil ten minutes. Then they are to be taken out with a strainer and put into glass jars set in a pan of scalding water at one side of the stove. They must be kept at this heat while the syrup in the pot is boiled down thick, a process that will require about fifteen minutes. It is then ready to be poured in upon the fruit and the jars are at once sealed.

When pear conserves are made, lemon juice and green ginger must be added to the syrup until the flavor is very perceptible. It will then affect the taste of the fruit on which it is poured.

poured.

Grape jelly is made like any other jelly, the fruit being put into a kettle or stone crock over the fire and cooked until soft, the juice squeezed out and measured and a pound of granulated sugar allowed for each pint of the juice. The juice is then put back on the stove, brought to a quick boil and cooked for twenty minutes, skimmed and the sugar added. After the boil is resumed the jelly need cook but one minute before it is taken off and put into the glasses.

minutes, skimmed and the sugar added. After the boil is resumed the jelly need cook but one minute before it is taken off and put into the glasses.

For the spiced grapes there is very little more work although there are more ingredients. The grapes must be weighed and it is well to stem them. Three quarters of a pound of sugar must be allowed for every pound of grapes. To every five pounds of the fruit must be allotted a pint of vinegar and two tablespoonfuls each of ground cloves and cinnamon. The grapes should be pulped before cooking. Some persons seed them as well, but this is not necessary if the fruit is rubbed through the colander afterwards. Put all the ingredients over the fire together, bring to a boil, cook half an hour, rub through the colander or through a vegetable press and put into jelly glasses with tightly fitting tops.

To make grape marmalade, the grapes must be picked over and stemmed. They must be put over the fire and cooked for half an hour after they reach the boil and the fruit then put through the vegetable press. There will be a good deal more juice than is needed and this may be made into jelly. The pulp should be weighed and if the grapes are not very sweet, sugar may be added in proportion of three quarters of a pound of this to every pound of the fruit. Fruit and sugar should boil together for half an hour before taking the marmalade from the fire and putting it into pint jars with air tight tops.

Juicy, well-flavored apples, a little tart, should be used for the canned apples. They must be peeled, cored and quartered and each piece must be dropped into cold water at once. When all is prepared, they should be drained, weighed and put over the fire in a preserving kettle. Half a pound of sugar should be allowed for each pound of the fruit and this should be added after the fruit has been boiled slowly for half an hour. It is wise to dip out a part of the juice before putting in the sugar. This juice, like that from the grapes, may be made into jelly. The fruit should boil ten mi

## nswers to Correspondents.

Answers to Correspondents.

J. H. Gravenhurst.—Utensils made of aluminum are lighter and cleaner than those of any other metal. Their contents heat more quickly than those of other vessels and on this account there is sometimes risk of burning. Aluminum is generally highly esteemed by domestic specialists.

To make bouillon, cover three pounds of chopped, lean beaf with three pints of cold water. Put in with it an onion, a stalk of celery and a bay leaf, reduce to one quart of liquid by boiling. Add two teaspoonfuls of salt and set aside to cool. When cold, strain and clear with crushed shell and white of egg. Bring the bouillon to a boil with this in it, skim and strain. When needed, add pepper as desired. A recipe for home made bread was given in the August number.

S. S., Thurman, Col.—To can corn, remove the husks and silk, cut the kernels from the cob and pack in glass jars. Press the corn down tightly, using a potato-beetle to cram the corn into the jar. Fill these nearly to the brim. Have ready a large kettle in which you have laid a rack across the bottom. Place a folded cloth on this and on this cloth set the filled jars, uncovered. Pour warm water about them and bring it to a boil. Cook two hours. Fill one jar from another as the corn shrinks. Put the covers on the jars and tighten them again after the corn is cold. Your trouble with both the corn and the tomatoes is due either to your not having cooked them long enough or to the jars having been imperfectly sealed. Defective rubbers may be at fault. These rubbers should never be used a second year. If these directions fail, let me hear from you again.

Mrs. A. C., Carbon, Ind.—The recipe for canning corn has been given above to S. S.

Mrs. A. C., Carbon, Ind.—The recipe for canning forn has been given above to S. S. Mrs. C. S., Dahomey, Miss.—Recipes for preserving were given in the August issue of Comfort.

Three dollars a day sure. Without a doubt a great op-ortunity. For particulars see last page of this paper.

The Cascade Grade Problem.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY F. E. BURNHAM.

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HE engineer of the HE engineer of the
Eastern freight exceeded the fifteenmile-an-hour limit
which the Company
had set for the down freight over the twelve mile grade between Cascade and Leadville, and the result was a call over the carpet before the superintendent.

ent.
"Do not let it occur again," said the official, decidedly, "the speed indicator must speed indicator must not show a higher rate than fifteen miles an hour on the down trip; this regulation must be lived up to, or you will have to step out." The Cascade Grade was the longest and heaviest on the road, and fearing lest an accident occur and the

cident occur and the

cident occur and the train hands lose control of the freight, the engineer had been restricted to the above running time, though lighter trains were exempt from the regulation. John Webber, the engineer of the freight, was in a quandary; to hold the train down to the four minute rate was next thing to an impossibility, and to fail to do so meant discharge. The night following his reprimand from the superintendent, however, an inspiration came to Webber, he immediately carried it out.

Within the caboose at the rear end of the train was a contrivance called a speed indicator; this was connected with the rear wheels of the caboose in such a way as to punch a hole in a long tape with each revolution, and the faster the wheels turned, the closer were these holes

cator; this was connected with the rear wheels of the caboose in such a way as to punch a hole in a long tape with each revolution, and the faster the wheels turned, the closer were these holes punched in the tape, and so perfectly was the machine adjusted that the speed of the car could be told almost to a second.

Engineer Webber's plan was to cut the caboose loose from the rest of the train when the long freight reached the summit of the grade, and flying down the incline at a forty or fifty mile an hour rate, stop at the foot of the grade for the caboose to catch up, a brakeman managing the brake, easily holding the car down to the regulation speed of one mile in four minutes. This might go on for years and no word reach the superintendent's ears, and as there was everything to gain and nothing to lose, for he was sure to lose his place if he attempted to hold the entire train, an impossibility except under the most favorable circumstances, the engineer did not hesitate to carry out this daring solution of the problem, which half a dozen engineers had failed to see, and failing to hold the train, had lost their positions.

Weeks passed and all ran smoothly no accident occurred and the train crew congratulated each other over the easy disposal of that which had been the most arduous of the day's work. As for the superintendent, he smiled as he examined the tape from time to time, pleased that his decisive words with the engineer had sufficed to bring about the desired effect.

In the employ of the road, however, was an engineer, Henderson by name, who ran the night mail, one of the best equipped trains on the road. Between Webber and this man there was some misunderstanding, and Henderson, learning of the manner in which the Cascade Grade was being disposed of, thought to throw down Webber by reporting it to the superintendent. This, no doubt, would have worked very satisfactorily, had the superintendent been less keenly alive to the humorous side of the situation; as it was, the whole affair turned out in a

guess," said the superintendent, looking sharply at the engineer,
"No, I'm afraid it isn't," replied the engineer,
a ghost of a smile playing about his lips, "she
does it occasionally."
"A habit, eh?" queried the superintendent.
Suddenly the official caught hold of Webber's arm and pointed up the track to a dark
object more than a mile away.
"There's your caboose," he said, "coming at
regulation speed—fifteen miles an hour."
That night Webber of the freight and Henderson of the mail were summoned to the superin-

son of the mail were summoned to the superin-tendent's office, the former expecting dis-charge, the latter chuckling over the prospective downfall of Webber.

The superintendent looked up from his writing as the men entered, both coming precisely the time set by the official, and requested

cisely the time set by the official, and requested them to be seated.

"The Company appreciates employees of ready wit," said the superintendent, coming to the point at once, and is always ready to recognize such, be the man wiper or engineer. I have seen fit to make a change in two instances. Mr. Webber, consider yourself engineer of the night mail, going on duty tonight." night.

Henderson was on his feet in an instant, turning fairly black in the face. He attempted to protest, but his words choked him.

to protest, but his words choked him.

"We desire careful men, those willing to work hard to obey the Company's regulations," continued the superintendent, turning to Henderson, "consider yourself engineer of the Eastern freight; your duties will commence with the morrow. Do not forget this point, however, "the caboose must not be detached from the rest of the train."



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# EYESIGHT RESTORED

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## Love, the Sleuth.

## Hearts vs. Detectives in the "Great Purinton Mill Mystery."

BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

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SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

[Caleb Brett, an aged and prominent citizen of Mansfield village, drew a considerable sum of money from the bank on a certain forenoon, and was seen to enter Purinton's mill on the edge of the village. He did not reappear, and later a searching party found his old beaver hat on a slab pile at the foot of a sluice leading from the upper part of the mill, where he had entered. It was considered probable that the old man had come to his death by falling down the sluice. The strange part of the affair was that the body had been removed by persons unknown—admitting the presumption that he was really dead. Several persons were in the mill at or near the time he was seen to enter: his nephew, George Brett, with whom he had been having trouble about the young man's proposed marriage to a girl below him in social standing; Arthur Wing, the village printer and suitor of the squire; Baniel Purinton, owner of the mill, and one who was intending to borrow a large sum from the old man that day. After some weeks both George Brett and Arthur Wing were arrested on suspicion of having been concerned in the old man's taking off. Brett was released on small bonds after certain testimony seemed to throw the burden of the matter upon Wing. At the hearing granted to Wing before a local trial justice, a small boy brought in a message signed by Caleb Brett, apparently, but written by another hand. In the note—admitting that he wrote it—he declared that he was still alive.] SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

## CHAPTER V.

EAVING the audience in the court room to buzz their excitement over the missive so sensationally interjected into this strange case, the justice, the county attorney and the detectives retired to an ante-room to examine the scrap of writ-

ante-room to examine the scrap of writing.

"It's the squire's signature, ain't it?" the justice asked of the treasurer of the savings bank.

"It certainly is," replied that gentleman, who was better qualified than any other in the village to pronounce on such a matter.

"Do you gentlemen have the least idea the squire really is alive?" inquired the justice, pushing up his glasses after a second prolonged scrutiny of the note.

Detective Ordwell held the scrap of paper at the time. He said after a short pause:

"Probably all of you have noted the same things about this paper that I have. Its top is uneven, showing that it has been scissored from the bottom of a larger sheet. The writing is crowded together above the signature showing that the writing has been adjusted to the signature must have been on the paper when the person who penned the note commenced to write. What sort of a paper was that signature affixed to, should you say, Mr. Treasurer?"

"It looks to me as though that was the bottom of a blank lease. I have known that the squire carried several about in his pocket-book. He usually signed them in the bank so that he could use his quill pen on them and left the

He usually signed them in the bank so that he could use his quill pen on them and left the rest to be filled in later."

"Therefore the chances are that the person who got the pocket-book from the body of the squire found this paper and has employed this subterfuge of the note," said Ordwell.

"That's it," replied the justice. "And it must have been some one interested for Arthur Wing."

must have been some one interested for Arthur Wing."

"I would like to suggest that this might not necessarily follow," said Detective Ordwell.

"The guilty man himself probably wrote that note. Most men who are willing to commit murder shrink from seeing an innocent man suffer in their stead."

"It seems to me," broke in one of the state detectives, "that the chances are that the Wing crowd did this trick. Look at the testimony that has been brought out here today! A paper known to have been in old Brett's pocketbook has been found on the floor of Arthur Wing's office. He has passed into the bank a mended bill that the treasurer had patched up a few days before for the squire. And now, here a note comes in, written on another piece of paper that must have been in the squire's possession the day he was killed. I figure that it all points toward Wing."

or paper that must have been in the squire's possession the day he was killed. I figure that it all points toward Wing."

"I shall certainly go back into court," said the county attorney, "and demand that Arthur Wing be held for the grand jury. I think the case demands it."

"I am not here as an advocate of Arthur Wing," said Detective Ordwell, "but I desire to draw the attention of the court to the fact to draw the attention of the court to the fact that all the evidence against the young man to this point is purely circumstantial. To be sure it links together after a fashion, but it is very inconclusive. The Mirror office is a public place and who may say what person dropped the paper there? Bank bills circulate through many hands in a few days. That note there may, of course, have been written on the bottom of one of the blank leases that the squire had on his person that day. But there are numbers of signed leases in various hands about town."

about town."

The weight of numbers, however, was against the detective. Furthermore, it was well understood that being engaged by the Erskine family he might be expected to be interested in their defence of Arthur Wing.

"I'll allow it isn't clear yet, one way or the other," admitted the justice, "but we seem to have hold of one end of the thread, and it's my opinion that we ought to keep pulling on it. It's better for Arthur Wing to have all this threshed out in court than to go along with all these stories and suspicions dogging after him."

these stories and suspicions dogging after him."

He went back into the court room with his little retinue, and after a whispered conference with the county attorney announced his decision, first making an explanation of the motives governing him. He stated to the crowd that the note purporting to come from the squire, was, in the minds of the officers concerned in the case, a rank imposture, but that it perhaps would lead to future developments. He said that he desired to bring no hardship upon anyone, but that after all these weeks of doubt and suspicion it was best to bring matters to a head, and let the law sift the evidence in court and under oath. Therefore he stated that he felt it best to hold Arthur Wing for trial, and he should be obliged to set the bonds at twenty thousand dollars on account of the serious nature of the charge.

Something like a gasp in chorus ran over the audience, and Arthur Wing arose and was about to speak. But the justice not unkindly

advised him to say nothing, telling him that henceforth he must be guarded in his utterances. Court was then adjourned.

Meander Wing, his voice trembling with a father's solicitude and his face drawn with grief, canvassed the town for bondsmen. But the citizens were frightened at recent developments and bluntly or shamefacedly refused to assist.

opments and bluntly or shamefacedly refused to assist.

Sheriff Pettingill obligingly held his prisoner at the village hotel for twenty-four hours, hoping that the father would secure the bonds. But at noon he reluctantly told Meander that he must perform his duty. There was no prospect that bondsmen could be secured.

"I thought we had friends in this town, bub," said the old man as he sat in the bare little room at the hotel and rolled his hat in his hands, "but it don't look like it now. Cheer up, bub. Because you are over there in jail for a while doesn't signify that you belong there. As sure as God is in Heaven I'll find some way to get you out." He pressed Arthur's fingers with a shaking hand and hurried away before his son should see the tears that were running down over his wrinkled cheeks. A half hour before Arthur Wing started with the sheriff for the county jail Grace Erskine

the sheriff for the county jail Grace Erskine called at the hotel. No one knew what passed between them, but the crowd that stood about the door when Wing stepped into the sheriff's team noticed that the young man's face wore

new serenity.

"It's pretty hard work to believe that he done it," commented one of the loungers after the team had rattled away.

"Human physogs are the most deceivin' the most deceiving the most deceiv

the team had rattled away.

"Human physogs are the most deceivin' things in this world," said Jason Dustin, the deputy sheriff. "You jest wait till this thing is all out and then see!"

"But jest notice how the Erskines are standin' behind him," objected the other. "They wouldn't be backin' up a man they thought had murdered their nearest relative, would they?"

had murdered their nearest relative, would they?"

"When ye come to wimmen's notions and prop'ty troubles 'tween the Erskines and George Brett, there hain't no tellin' what wimmen will do," was Jason's pessimistic reply. The two state detectives and their ally the reporter for the Daily Mail had suspiciously noted the fact that the elder Wing was not in the court room at the time of the hearing. In their minds they had promptly connected him with that mysterious missive that had been brought to the justice. As soon as court was adjourned they searched for the boy that had been before them and was leading the urchin down Water street in the direction of the woods in which the boy averred he had received the which the boy averred he had received the

"What's your name?" asked the detective.
"Chester Higgins."
"Where do you live?"
"Down on the bay shore, there beyond Purinton's mill.'

"How did you happen to be in the woods today?"

"How did you happen to be in the woods today?"

"Been clammin' over 'crost the Neck and was comin' home."

"How far is it to the place where the man gave you that paper?"

"Oh, a mile or tew mile or suthin' like that."

"Now I want you to go and show the place."

But the boy hung back rather surlily and looked stubbornly at the ground. "Oh, I'll pay you for the trip," the detective added.

"Wal, that's bus'ness" said the boy. As they walked along, the officer noted that despite his rags and bare feet, the boy had much intelligence in his weazened little face and that his eyes were coldly blue and shrewd.

"Pa lives down there," exclaimed the boy listlessly as they entered the scrubby pines. He pointed to a weather beaten cottage down across the rocky pasture at the edge of the water.

"What does your father do?" the detective

Oh, he lobsters and clams and hand-lines and picks up wood and drinks rum. Mother says if he'd stick to his other jobs as stiddy as he does to drinkin' rum we'd git to be well off in no time. But I like Pa. He uses me well. If I didn't like him he'd lick me till I did."

The two traversed a path leading through scrubby hemlocks until the boy paused and after looking around a little while said:
"I reckin it was about here that I got the let-

"Are you sure it was here?"
"Wal, it was about here somewhere."

"You ought to be able to remember back two hours better than that." The detective's tone was suspicious and the boy appeared to note the fact. He hastened to say. "These places along here look a good deal alike, mister, and I wasn't paying no partic'lar notice. I wasn't reckinin' I'd be yanked up here and asked all kinds of questions."

The detective seated himself and commenced to examine the boy in regard to the personal appearance of the man. But the urchin was vague. He would only say that the man was tallish and wore a false beard that was hitched under his chin by a string that went around his ears.

"What sort of clothes did he wear."

"Don't know

"You bet." said the boy with emphasis.

"You bet," said the boy with emphasis.
"I've read a grist of stories about them fellers."
The officer started back along the wood road in the direction of Purinton's mill. "Come along," he said "and we'll talk it over."
When they crossed the dam the officer felt that he had won the boy's confidence. They paused at the fence opposite the big door of the mill and the detective leaned against it carelessly with his eye on the entrance. But he kept on talking with the boy. Daniel Purinton came to the door at last, tugging a sack of meal that he threw into a farmer's waiting wagon. When Purinton straightened up Ordwell murmured to the boy in low tones, "Take a good look at the man there. Suppose he had those false whiskers on his face. Would he look any like the man that you saw in the woods?"
The boy stole a quick glance at the face of the detective. "Of course you understand, mister, that a feller can't be very sure about a matter of that sort but I really do think that if ye should put whiskers on that man there he'd look jest like the man that passed me that letter to carry."
"You are as sure about that as you can be?" the detective demanded.
"Yes, sir,"and the youth looked with great candor into the eyes of his interrogator.
"Now, bub, other persons will ask you some such questions as that but I want you to promise me that you will bluff them. Remember that you and I are two detectives working on this

ise me that you will bluff them. Remember that you and I are two detectives working on this case together and we don't want to let other

case together and we don't want to let other people in. Do you think you can bluff."

"I hain't tried very much," said the boy with a rather strange expression on his face, "but I reckin I can."

"Here's a dollar for your first fee," said Ordwell "and now look out how you answer questions."

questions."
"Yes sir!" and the boy slipped down over
the bank and hastened off along the shore

the bank and hastened off along the shore towards his home.

"That boy looks to be about forty years old every once in a while," mused the officer as he went on toward the village.

Carter, the shorter of the two state detectives, was posted in the window of Hawkes's store when Ordwell, his rival, parted from the boy. He had been awaiting their return. After Ordwell was safely past the store Carter hurried after the boy. But the youngster was then in an old dory pulling away along the shore toward a house Carter knew through Hawkes to be the domicile of "Rubber-boot" shore toward a house Carter knew through Hawkes to be the domicile of "Rubber-boot"

The detective was obliged to pick his way The detective was coniged to protect through the rock-strewn pasture. He saw Higgins and his son sitting behind the woodpile, deeply engrossed in conversation. "Rubber-boot Higgins," who was called thus on account of the unvarying nature of his foot gear, was a tall shambling man of the general no

"I have called to have a little talk with the boy about that business of the letter," com-

menced Carter.

"Yas, queer thing that," replied Higgins, scraping his rubber boots together to remove some mud. "Boy and I have just been talkin' it over. He don't know northin' but what he has said."

"I'd like to ask him a few questions. I—"
"Boy says he don't know northin' about the hing," persisted the father.

"I'd like to ask him a few questions. I—"
"Boy says he don't know northin' about the thing," persisted the father.
"What did the man look like?"
"Boy says he was tallish but he didn't notice northin' beyond that," broke in Higgins.
"Say, look here," snapped the detective, "I'm asking this boy about the matter. Wouldn't it be just as well to let him answer the questions himself?"
"Wal, he's my boy," growled Higgins.
"Yes, and I'm a state detective and I'll make trouble for you if you interfere with me in my duty," replied Carter. Higgins winced and went to whittling with much vigor. When the detective finally induced the boy to go back to the village with him the father made no protest audibly, though his looks were sufficiently ferocious. He simply threw this comment after the detective:
"Seems's if you are makin' a good deal of touse over ole Cale Brett. Why don't ye let him rest?"
Carter took the youth directly to the sidewalk opposite the Mirror office and waited until Meander Wing came shambling out.
"Look at that man—look hard," murmured the officer.
"Are you reminded of anything?" the detec-

the officer.

"Are you reminded of anything?" the detective asked at last.
"You mean about the letter—the man up in the woods?" the boy inquired.

"Yes, that's it."
"Wal—come to think—ye know a fellow can't be sure—but——"
"If that man had on those false whiskers—now think hard!"

"Wal, I vum, mister, now that you speak of it he seems to be jest about the same kind of

man."
"Do you know who he is?"
"Oh, yes, that's old Wing the printer. Ye reckin he was tryin' to get Arthur out of the scrape, don't ye?" The boy threw a keen look at Carter. The detective held the boy by the arm. "Have you been talking old man Wing over with that detective I saw you with a little while ago?"
"His name was never spoken at all, mister.

"His name was never spoken at all, mister.

Never talked about him."

"Now, bub, if you'll stick it out and bluff that Ordwell—Can you bluff?"

"A little, I reckin," said the youngster moderally.

estly.

"Well, you bluff Ordwell and there'll be a good thing in it for you. Now run home and mind your eye."

mind your eye."

That evening after pondering long as to how much confidence he should place in the identification of the Higgins boy, Detective Ordwell decided to have a talk with Meander Wing.

Rather bluntly the detective asked the father why he had not been present at the hearing in the forence.

why he had not been present at the hearing in the forenoon.

"I did start for the court room" the old man said piteously, "but I didn't have the heart to go in. I knew they would ask the boy where he got that money and if he wouldn't tell me I knew he wouldn't tell them. I couldn't bear to be there and hear them tear at him. I went down in the pasture by the shore and staid till it was over. But now that Grace Erskine has told about the money," he said, regarding the officer wistfully, "I don't see that they have much to hold him on."

"It's the marked money and the paper they found in the office," explained Ordwell.

"Yes, but they might have been through other hands before they got to my son," cried the old man with some display of spirit.

"And there the thing hinges," said the detective quietly. "What sort of a man is Daniel Purinton," he asked with his characteristic bluntness.

Wing didn't seem to grasp the full meaning.

Purinton," he asked with his characteristic bluntness.

Wing didn't seem to grasp the full meaning of the detective's inquiry.

"Daniel is a square man in bus'ness dealin's," said Wing. "He 'tends to his own bus'ness and asks other people to 'tend to theirs."

"For instance, he will not admit where he got the money to pay for the repairs on the mill," suggested the detective.

"That's more or less like Daniel," admitted Wing. "He's sort of bull-headed and set in his ways."

"Has he been in your office since the squire disappeared?"

"Oh, yes; he has more or less business—advertising and job-work."

"He has paid money to you or to Arthur?"

"Yes, I'm quite sure that he has within the last few weeks. The office books will show it, anyway."

"And of course he had his pocket-book out?"

"Yes."

"I don't suppose you or Arthur ever notified that he desagged anything on the service."

"Yes."
"I don't suppose you or Arthur ever noticed that he dropped anything on the floor?"
"No, oh, no." Wing attempted to interject surprised inquiry but the detective kept on.
"Have you got specimens of Daniel Purinton's handwriting at your office?"

ton's handwriting at your office?"

"Yes."

"Well, I'll be around to see you tomorrow morning. In the meantime be very careful about saying anything about what we have been discussing,"

"I'll not say anything—but, Mr. Ordwell, you don't mean to hint that you suspect a man with Daniel Purinton's reputation, do you? Oh, it's impossible!"

"I don't care to assert what I suspect," said the officer, quietly, "but I have found that the detective who lets reputation stand in the way of investigation stops a great way short of knowing his business. The records show that good reputations get dreadfully jarred sometimes in criminal matters, Mr. Wing. Daniel Purinton may be a good man but he must take his raking over along with the rest of the good men of Mansfield village."

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scriptions are now promptly removed on expira-



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## FLOSSIE FIELD'S FORTUNES

## The Story of a Poor Girl.

## By Lucy Randall Comfort.

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CHAPTER VIII.

CAN'T stand this any longer!" exclaimed Miss Vaillant, flinging her hat on the ta-

"Why, what's the matter," asked Mayne, who had just come in with a huge satin box of Easter bon-bons. "The pretty companion

of Easter bon-bons. "The pretty companion again?"

"You are good at guessing," said Hilary.

"Yes—it is that precious Miss Eveleth, as grandmother calls her. Such folly!"

"Well?" Captain Mayne moved forward a chair for Miss Vaillant and took one himself.

"Here I am with cards already out for the most select and exclusive Easter masquerade in New York," frowned Hilary.

"Granted," murmured the Captain. "And I am fortunate enough to have received an invitation."

"And grandmother is determined to appear as Marie Antoinette, and drag that girl along as Princess Lambelle!"
"Ye fates!" commented Mayne, after a low

whistle.

"Clement," said Hilary, after a moment's pause. "I've thought of a plan. You used to be something of an amateur chemist, didn't you?"

"Rather a dabster at the business," he ad-

"Rather a daoster at the business," he admitted.

"Couldn't you prepare me a good strong sleeping draught to settle the dear old lady for an hour or two, just until the ball is over! For then, of course, Princess Lambelle wouldn't have the face to appear alone."

"No, I should say not," spoke Mayne, slowly.
"But I say—why don't you ask Dr. Zellar?"

"Because I hate him," said Hilary, frankly.
"He's always making love to me, and I've refused him twice already!"

Mayne whistled a second time.
"I can't endure those fat, bald-headed men!" flashed Hilary. "I won't ask him anything. If you won't do it for me—"

"But I will," interrupted Mayne. "I dare say I can mix up something. I took a course of medical lectures once, as you know. For tonight?"

"I want her to have it about nine o'clook. I see give it to Mornie myself," will hilary.

"I want her to have it about nine o'clock. I can give it to Morris myself," said Hilary,

can give it to Morris myself," said Hilary, eagerly.

"My lady's mandate is my pleasure," bowed Mayne, and then as Hilary gathered up her wraps, he departed.

"She treats me somewhat like an apothecary's boy," he pondered. "But she is Miss Vaillant, and some day I mean that she shall be my wife!"

And so, about eight that evening, the page brought up a packet containing a small green phial. "From the druggist's, miss," said he. "For Mrs. Towers, care of Miss Hilary."

Hilary was sitting under her hair-dresser's hands. "It's all right," said she, coloring.

As soon as she could escape she went to her grandmother's room, where the old lady and Flossie were turning over a pile of French engravings of the time of Louis XVI, to verify the costumes that Mrs. Towers had just received, and beckoned Morris into the hall.

"Morris," said she, "my grandmother is exciting herself too much, Dr. Zellar says. Here is a strong sleeping draught that you must give her."

is a strong sleeping draught that you must give her."
"But, miss," stammered the maid, "Dr.

"But, miss," stammered the maid, "Dr. Zellar left a powder this morning for the same purpose—a quieting mixture, miss." Hilary winced—she had not anticipated this. She paused a second.
"Never mind," she said, tartly. "Dr. Zellar

"Never mind," she said, tartly. "Dr. Zellar has changed his prescription.
"Half of it nov. The rest at ten!"
"But, miss—the ball! My missis says—"
"Dr. Zellar disapproves of the ball for her.
But, Morris, this is between you and me alone!"
"Certainly miss" cold at a factorial and me alone."

"Certainly, miss," said Morris. She had taken commands from Miss Vaillant before, and knew her imperious nature.

As Hilary ran down the stairs, the old lady's bell tinkled sharply.

"Morris—my tonic! We are half an hour late now!"

"The Lord be provided."

"The Lord be praised for that," said Morris, inwardly, and she hastened to pour half the contents of the phial into an engraved tum-

bler.

Mrs. Towers eyed it sharply. "The color has altered—what is the matter with it?" said she. "The doctor has changed the prescription, ma'am," said Morris, glibly, and Mrs. Towers drank it, unquestioningly.

"Insipid tasting enough," said she. "Is the costume ready, Morris? Did you put on those ribbons?"

"Yes ma'am an hourage Here it is ma'am."

ribbons?"
"Yes, ma'am, an hour ago. Here it is, ma'am."
But in the examination of Marie Antoinette's
exquisite robe, Mrs. Towers grew strangely
sleepy. "It's singular how drowsy I am," said
she. "Ithink it's Flossie's example that has
infected me."
For Flossie had sunk into a brief slumber on
the cushioned sofe where the pink silk dran-

among the lace pillows.

among the lace pillows.

"Be sure to wake me at ten," said the old lady. "Two—hours—to—dress—and——"
"Yes'm—certainly'm' soothed Morris. "Bless me, she's asleep already!"
She dozed over her needlework that evening until it was long past ten, and, waking with a start, she tiptoed to her mistress's room. Mrs. Towers was still asleep, but Flossie sat reading by the shaded lamp.

by the shaded lamp.
"Ought not Mrs. Towers to be roused? Isn't
it time for her to dress?" she asked, glancing

at the clock.

"La, she's dead asleep still," said the maid,
"and I was to give her the second dose at ten."

"Yes," said Flossie, calmly. "I heard Miss Vaillant say so, and I gave it to her myself at ten, though it was almost impossible to arouse

ner."
"Well, miss, she always did sleep sound,"
said Morris, again rubbing her hands. "And
if she can get a quiet night's rest, it is a good
thing, 1'm sure."

"But she told me to call her early," protested Flossie. "She wishes to enter the salon at midnight. There are some carriages driving up already."

"But the doctor was dead against her going to the bull toright," interpretable of the control of th Flossie.

"But the doctor was dead against her going to the ball tonight," interposed Morris, reso-

"He said nothing about it when he was here

this morning."
"I have Miss Vaillant's orders, ma'am," per-

"I have Miss Vaillant's orders, ma'am," persisted Morris, who could be unpleasantly pert when she pleased.

And Flossie said nothing more.

Morris was still plaiting pink satin ribbon for Mrs. Tower's neglige and Flossie sat listening to the strains of the Hungarian band and the soft tumult and rustle below, when the clock struck one.

and the soft tumuit and rustle below, when the clock struck one.

"I guess I'd better undress her for the night," said Morris, putting away her work basket, "if you'd please keep out of sight, miss, for if sees you, she'll want to talk and I'll never get her ready for bed."

"She'll hear the music," said Flossie.

"No abe won't—she get's harder o' hearin'

"She'll hear the music," said Flossie.
"No, she won't—she get's harder o' hearin' every day," asserted Morris. "It's a way old folks has." She nodded authoritatively towards the door

she nodeed authoritatively towards the door and Flossie unwillingly obeyed, for Morris was something of a tyrant in her way.

The band was playing one of Strauss's wild waltzes, and merry voices floated up where Flossie stood opposite her bedroom door. Not that she wished to be one of the dancers—her heart was still sore for her lost mother and she was most retiring in her nature, but Flossie was most retiring in her nature, but Flossie was young and at times very lonely, and a single tear trickled like a stray pearl down her cheek, when suddenly a smothered scream from Mrs. Tower's room rent the air! She

from Mrs. Tower's room rent the air; one rushed back.
"Morris, what is the matter?" she cried.
"I—I can't wake Mrs. Towers up, miss!" stammered the terrified maid with a livid pallor on her cheeks. "I've called and shook her and everything!"
"Let me try," said Flossie, smiling at what she deemed Morris's folly. "I can always rouse her with a word."

her with a word."

But the instant she saw Mrs. Towers's face in the strong electric light that Morris had turned on, she knew that nothing short of the last trump could rouse that sleeper.

For she lay there, dead and cold!

#### CHAPTER IX.

CHAPTER IX.

Down stairs the Hungarian Band pulsed weirdly and the feet of flying dancers skimmed over the waxed floors, and nobody noticed at first that one by one, people were beckoned out from behind stealthily litted draperies, so that it was sometime before Mr. Van Alden, the floor manager, made a public announcement that supper would be served at once, after which the second part of the programme would be omitted, owing to the illness of Mrs. Tressilian Towers. People stared and wondered, but they ate their supper with none the less appetite, and departed decorously, leaving polite messages of regret. And not until the next morning did they know what had really happened! happened!

happened!
As it chanced, Dr. Zellar was among the guests. He had arrived late and Mrs. Vaillant had taken him up to her mother's room.

"Oh, doctor!" cried she, frantically. "Tell us that it is only a swoon. She can't be—dead!"

"She is dead, most assuredly," said the doctor, as he touched her pulse and lifted the heavy eyelids. "What has she taken?"

"Just the same as usual," faltered Hilary, who had grown ghastly pale. "Morris will tellyou."

"It was Miss Field gave her the last dose!" squeaked the pusillanimous Morris, "as she'll

squeaked the pusillanimous Morris, "as she'll tell you herself, sir."

Flossie, who sat by the bedside, holding the hand of her dead friend, raised her tear-stained even at the appeal

"Certainly I did," said she quietly. "There's the phial on the dressing table—the dark green

one."

Dr. Zellar took out the cork and tasted the few drops that remained. He frowned slightly. "Some one has been tampering with the case," said he. "This is a powerful opiate." "It's the medicine you prescribed yourself, doctor," gasped Hilary, paler than ever. "No it is not," said he, sternly. "It is far too powerful a mixture for so old a person. It bears no doctor's name nor druggist's stamp. Who has dared—"
Then there was a little commotion in the

Then there was a little commotion in the room. Hilary Vaillant had fainted, but Dr. Zellar's glance was on Flossie Field. She did not look like a guilty person, he thought.

"You gave her the medicine, you say?" he questioned, sternly.
"Yes."
"Who authorized you?"
"I heard Miss Vaillant tell the maid that she

was to have it at eight o'clock and then at ten. Morris did not come in at ten, so I myself took the responsibility."
"Did you know what it was?"
"No—but Miss Vaillant was my authority. I

For Flossie had sunk into a brief slumber on the cushioned sofa where the pink silk draperies shielded her tired eyes.

"Well, ma'am," said the artful Morris, rubbing her hands, "I don't think it would be a bad idea for you to get a little beauty s'eep too. It's early, ma'am, and you always look better after you've had your nap."

"Perhaps I will," said Mrs. Towers, letting her royal fripperies fall in a glittering heap to the floor, and in a minute Morris had slipped on her satin dressing robe and placed her among the lace pillows.

He sat down at a little table and calmly wrote out the certificate: "Death from senile aesthenia."

aesthenia."
"Doctor!" gasped Mrs. Vaillant, who had just returned from deluging Hilary with cologne and smelling salts. "What does this signify! The certificate, I mean."
"Signify!" repeated the doctor, brusquely.
"Why it signifies death from old age. What else would you call it? Wagn?t ahe poorly.

would you call it? Wasn't she nearly

Won't you come in and see Hilary, doctor?

pleaded the mother. "She is so ill!"
Dr Zellar followed Mrs. Vaillant into Hilary's room. At the same instant Morris called her mistress out, and the physician stood looking

down at Hilary.
"Well!" said he sharply. "What does all this mean, young lady?"
It is said that a little wholesome brusqueness is an excellent cure for hysterics. In Hilary Vaillant's case it proved so.

"I—I didn't mean any harm!" gasped the girl, shrinking from the oblique flame of his keen gray eyes. "I wanted to keep grandmother up stairs—away from the bail, you know—she and her companion, Miss Field." "Oh!" said Zellar, savagely. "So you took it upon yourself to imperil my reputation and risk my patient's life to gratify a whim like that! A very smart thing to do!" Hilary covered her eyes with her hands. "Oh, don't speak so terribly, doctor!" sobbed she. "Do you know what the courts of law would call this, Miss Vaillant?" Hilary uttered a wail of terror. "Oh, doctor

Hilary uttered a wail of terror. "Oh, doctor—you will never let it come to that!" she shrieked.
"" may—who knows? Who gave you this

"may—who knows? Who gave you this nfrar dose?"
"1—cun't—tell—you."
"Why not?" inf~z~

"Why not?"
"I am pledged to secrecy."
Dr. Zellar rose and began pacing the room.
"The foul fiend can easily find tools for his own," muttered he.
"Strange that so fair an outward personality

own," mutered ne.

"Strange that so fair an outward personality can belong to a—murderess!"

Hilary shook like a lenf—she was deadly pale. "I never meant it!" she sobbed. "I never meant it!" she sobbed. "I never meant it!" is ne sobbed. "I never meant it!" he sobbed. "I never meant it!"

"Yet you would have let that pretty young thing, the companion, suffered for your crime, if you could," snarled he. "Don't deny it! I'm not a fooi!"

Miss Vaillant rose trembling from the sofa and threw herself on ner knees at his feet. "Mercy! Mercy!" she pleaded.

"Ah, you are at my feet, now" he sneered! "Well, young lady, I will be merciful—to you and to the Vaillants,—on one condition only—that you become my wife within three months. I know you are selfish and silly,—that I shall have to watch you as a cat watches a mouse. But I don't believe you'll dare to experiment on me."

But I don't believe you'll dare to experiment on me."

"Oh, I can't! I can't!" sobbed the girl.

"Well, why not? I can give you a good home and all the money you want. It's not every one who would extend such terms to—no, I won't repeat the word. But I love you in spite of everything. I always did. And I'm prepared to risk it. What do you say? Are you willing to buy my silence—now and forever—at this price?"

And Miss Vaillant murmured: "Yes!" With an effort, it is true, but still she spoke the

an effort, it is true, but still she spoke the word, though her face turned gray as ashes, and her heart almost ceased to beat.

The elderly suitor had won at last!

## CHAPTER X.

"But where is Flossie Field?" said Mrs. Jov-The funeral carriages were at the door to

The funeral carriages were at the door to convey the family and their friends to Woodlawn Cemetery, and the minister's wife, with her foot on the step asked the question of Mrs. Vaillant, a black draped, drooping figure. Wasit not bad enough to lose her mother so suddenly, that she should also within the last hour have learned that the lovely daughter, to the step of the step wash not but should also within the last hour have learned that the lovely daughter, to whom she looked to raise the family fortunes still higher by making an aristocratic marriage, had plighted herself to a fussy, baldheaded little doctor, whose only recommendations were his professional skill and a little money he had contrived to scrape together thereby.

"He must have cast some sort of a spell over Hilary," said her mother. "I cannot account for it, otherwise."

"Flossie?" Mrs. Vaillant repeated, vaguely. "We never thought of her, I don't see why she should be here."

"Because she loved Mrs. Towers, and Mrs. Towers loved her,"said Mrs. Joycotte.

Mrs. Vaillant frowned. "She was the cause of my mother's death," said she.

"Not in the least," spoke Mrs. Joycotte, decidedly. "It was all the fault of that stupid maid for misunderstanding Miss Vaillant's directions. Of course you have discharged her."

"No, we haven't," stammered Mrs. Vaillant. "We couldn't spare Morris—she has been with us for years. She is to be Hilary's maid now. Such a devoted servant!"

"All this is very extraordinary," said Mrs. Joycotte, curtly.

"The woman talks as if she didn't believe me," thought poor Mrs. Vaillant. But in her own heart she herself found it very difficult to understand Hilary's determination to retain Morris in her service.

me," thought poor Mrs. Vaillant. But in her own heart she herself found it very difficult to understand Hilary's determination to retain Morris in her service.

From an upper window, Flossie Field was sadly watching the carriages drive away. To her the world seemed looming up more cruel and cold than ever. What should she do next? Whither should she go?

With swimming eyes she turned away, just as Morris bounced into the room with a card. "For Miss Field," said she. "Though I'm sure I don't know why he should call. And if I might make so bold, it ain't a good thing for a young person as has lier living to make in service to go receiving calls from them as is so far above her."

But Flossie's eyes suddenly brightened as she read the name:—"Mr. Geoffrey Marchlands," "Ain't you goin' to change your frock nor nothin'?" said Morris, staring.

Without any reply, Flossie went into the dark and silent drawing room, feeling as though she trod on air.

"I am so glad to see you, Mr. Marchlands," she uttered, impetuously.

though she trod on air.
"I am so glad to see you, Mr. Marchlands," she uttered, impetuously.
"Are you? Really?" How bright his dark eyes shone as he took her little cold hand in

"Are you? Really?" How bright his dark eyes shone as he took her little cold hand in his own warm grasp.

"I need advice so much," she faltered. "And I have no one to consult."

"Advice? About what?"

"About my future. Everyone is looking askance at me, though I do not know what I have done to deserve it, and there is nothing more for me to do here. If you could recommend me to another place—I can't go back to Mrs. Joycotte again—she has been too kind already, and I must decide on something. No—I cannot accept pecuniary aid" as he was about to speak "for I know that you too are poor—"

"Poor is a comparative term," said Marchlands, slowly. "Yes, in some ways I am poor—for instance, I have no near relatives and but few friends. So you are willing to trust to my advice, Miss Field?"

Flossie lifted her frank eyes to his face with deepening color. "Yes, in everything," she spoke.

"And I pledge you my word "said he "to

spoke.

"And I pledge you my word," said he, "to prove worthy of your faith. But—Flossie—" Again she raised her sweet, questioning eyes.

"Could you not trust me a little further—could you not trust me with yourself—with all your life? With your heart's love, Flossie? Because in these few last weeks I have learned that life without you would be no life at all!"

show how in your own honie the Copper cure and the germs, then builds up the lungs, strengthens the heart, puts fiesh on the body and muscles on the bones, until the consumption is all gone and woman.

Have no doubts about the matter, but act sensible and be open to honest argument; take advice and write the company tonight since it costs you nothing to know and soon you will be entirely cured.

"Do you mean—"
"I mean that I want you to be my dearly be-loved wife, Flossic. Can you trust me as far as that?"

He took her tenderly and reverently in his arms—she came to them like a lost child that

sees its home at last!

"Oh!" she faltered. "I am so happy,—so happy!"

"Then you really love me, Flossie?"

"Then you really love me, Flossie?"

"I have loved you ever since—ever since that first day when I knocked over your picture. Do you remember, Mr. Marchlands."

"Geoffrey, if you please, my darling. I bought it for my collection,—it wasn't so bad. Now I shall treasure it for ever!"

"You, Geoffrey! Bought it? But I thought you were a poor young artist!"

"An artist, dearest, I own, but not so very poor. I have enough for us both, and to spare, in my English home. When may I take you there, Flossie, my sweetheart, my cherished one!"

"It's very strange!" said Mrs. Joycotte, from whose house Flossie was married. "I thought of course the child knew about Castle Marchlands and its great iron mines, and the famous picture gallery and all,—but it seems she didn't. And here is Hilary Vaillant, the beauty of the season, going to marry that pompous little doctor, when I know she worshipped the very ground that Marchlands trod on. And Captain Mayne has suddenly gone to Australia without a farewell word to anybody! There is something here I don't understand at all. But one thing I do know—that Flossie is the happiest girl in the world, and she deserves it all, God bless her!" (THE END.)

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Dalton and ladies who had wasted away to mere skeletons.

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## About Flowers. All

## BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

Desirability of Bulbs. Every garden should have its collection of bulbs because from them we get not only brilliant and beautiful flowers in great profu-

sion, but we get them at a time when the garden would be a cheerless place without them. They tide over the long period between the going of the snow and the coming of the ordinary spring flowers.

coming of the ordinary spring flowers with a prolific display of bloom which is all the more appreciated because it comes at a time when there is nothing to rival it. Now-a-days bulbs cost but little, and every lover of fine flowers can afford them. Indeed, those who love beautiful flowers can not afford to be without them

Chrysanthemums.

If these plants have been growing in the ground during the summer, they should be potted the first part of the month. It is a good plan to cut around each plant about ten days before lifting them with a sharp, thin-bladed spade. Make the cut about the size of the pot the plant is to go into. This severs the long roots, and forces them to send out new ones inside the bale of earth, and puts the plant in the best possible condition for lifting because the old roots will not have to be interfered with at potting-time, and the new roots will act as feeders.

As a general thing, but little potting-soil will

(EDITOR'S NOTE: It is the intention of the editor to have this department practical and useful in all ways. It will deal with the matter of gardening, both out and indoors, in a way calculated to be helpful to the woman who can have but a small garden, or a few pot plants. In order to make it of the greatest possible benefit to those women who love flowers quite as well as those who have a great deal of time to devote to their culture, Mr. Rexford, who is a recognized authority on this subject, will undertake to answer all questions they may ask, to the best of his ability. If there is anything you want to find out about flowers, tell him what it is, and perhaps he can furnish you with the desired information. Anyvay he will do his best to do so, and as your questions will be answered through these columns they will be of interest to all "Comfort" readers. Address, Eben E. Rexford, "Comfort" Questions, Shiocton, Wis).

### Bulb Planting.

HIS is the best month in which to plant bulbs in the garden. As a general thing work of this kind is put off until considerably later in the season because the amateur is under the impression that bulbs planted anytime before the coming of cold weather will do as well. This is not the case, however. In order to achieve the best results, bulbs must be got into the ground as early as possible. The reason for early planting is this bulbs form roots during the fail from which the early growth of the following season is supported. Such a growth would take place before they can properly perform the work of the season. If you plant them early, strong, healthy root-growth can, and will, be completed before the coming of cold weather, and the plants will be ready when spring comes to devote all their energies to the development of a fine crop of flowers. But if we do not plant our bulbs until late in the season they will only have fairly begun to make roots when winter comes and puts an end to their work. In spring it will be necessary for them to take it up where they left it off, and this will go on at a time when they are trying to produce flowers, thus taxing them to a greater extent than they are able to stand satisfactorily. Late-set bulbs invariably give inferior flowers if any, and they are so weakened by the over-taxing of their vitality that they seldom recover from the check. Therefore plant early and give your bulbs a chance to fully complete the work of the season before cold weather comes.

## Bulb-Beds.

Choose a location that is naturally well-drained if possible. If it is not so, excavate the soil to the depth of a foot and a half and fill in with four or five inches of something that will



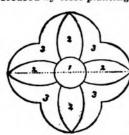
not decay—old crockery, brick, coal-slag, small stones, anything that will prevent the soil from settling down again as it was before you began work at it. This stratum of porous material will allow surplus water from the soil above to filter off through it, thus doing away with the danger of injury to the bulbs planted in it from undue retention of moisture in spring.

When the soil thrown out of the bed is returned to it, work it over thoroughly to make it fine and mellow. If rather heavy, because of clay, it is an excellent plan to add enough sharp, coarse sand to make it friable. Also add to it, while working it over, a liberal amount of old, well-rotted barnyard fertilizer, if you can get it. Nothing suits bulbs better than cow manure which has lain until it is black and crumbling, and the country gardener has the advantage of the city flower-lover because he can almost always get this ideal fertilizer with but little trouble. If it cannot be obtained I would advise bonedust as a substitute. Use in the proportion of a pound to each square very de soil if it is of ordinary richness. If Use in the proportion of a pound to each square yard of soil if it is of ordinary richness. If poor, double the amount.

## Planting.

Put Tulips and Hyacinths about four inches under the surface at the north. The smaller bulbs should be planted about three inches deep. Set the larger bulbs about six inches apart. Small varieties are more effective when grouped and planted closely. What we should aim at is a mass of color, and this can only be secured by close planting.

Avoid mixing



Avoid mixing kinds in the bed The most satisfactory results are always secured by keeping each
kind by itself.
There is a lack of
harmony in general
habit which makes
a discord of the beds in which tulips, hyacinths and daf-fodils are jumbled together.

## Protection.

Just before cold weather sets in, cover the bulb beds well with coarse manure or something similar. This is not to keep the cold out as so many suppose, rather to keep it in. Frost, if it stays in a comparatively tender plant will not injure it, but if the sun warms the soil enough to extract the frost during the day, and freezing takes place at night, injury is sure to result because of the alternation of cold and heat in which runture of the plant cold and heat in which rupture of the plant cells is likely to take place. It is the frequent alternation of conditions which does the mischief, not the cold, as most persons believe. Unless bulb-beds are given protection, the soil in which they are exposed under the action of frost and often the bulbs are heaved from their places, and their roots torn off. Be sure to give a covering of some sort.



roots will act as feeders.

As a general thing, but little potting-soil will be needed because the earth which is lifted with the plants will fill the pots, but if any is used to fill in about the roots, let it be rich with bone dust. Endeavor to

and exposing roots. To guard against this, water the plants well before lifting. When you have them in their pots, set them in a cool, airy, shaded place, and shower them well. Do

A. N.—Ivory, the much praised new Rose, has not been tried very extensively as a bedder, as yet, but being a slip from Golden Gate, it probably partakes to some extent of the characteristics of that variety, and would likely give satisfactory results in the garden.



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Records of the Doin' in the Cobb's Corner Postof-fice, "Writ out" by the Boy Behind the Counter.

[EDITOR'S NOTE. The quaint philosophers, the dry wags, the shrewd dickerers and the eminent yarn-spinners of the countryside make a forum of the country postoffice when there is room at the rear around the big stove. The stories and incidents on which some of the most successful human interest novels of the day are constructed come from the quaint loungers around the stores in Yankee communities. These official records of "Jeth's Crowd" are to be taken down month by month for the readers of "Comfort," and we hope that as you become acquainted with the members of the "Congress" your interest in their discourse and stories will deepen.

In the October number of "Comfort" the "Cobb's Corner Congress" will continue its sessions.]



NYTHING doin' in politics down in the Stun' Bridge dees-trick?" asked the

Postmaster.

"Not as ye might say 'specially,' said Ezra Pitts. "We're all gittin' our hind legs stretched ready for the Australine ballot in the fall election."

"Which way are ye goin' to jump?" asked the Postmaster.
"Direction of the best fodder," replied Ezra laconically.
"You fellers in the Stun' Bridge deception.

"You fellers in the Stun' Bridge deestrick have jumped the fence so much," said Teed Strout, "that your hind legs look like a kangaroo's."

"Australine ballot makes us look that."

kangaroo's."

"Australine ball ot makes us look that," answered Ezra.

"Makes me think of old Jeff Long," broke in Cap'n Jote Bailey.

"Jeff was stand' out in front of his house one day smokin' his pipe and lookin' at the scenery. 'Long come some city people on a buckboard. Feller that was drivin' hauled up and the city folks set there lookin' at Jeff. Staid there much as ten minutes and Jeff never moved. D' y ever see Jeff? Wal' he's worn the same pair of pants for more'n ten year and the way they bag at the knees beats all creation. Fin'ly one of the men on the buckboard hops off and walks over to where Jeff's was standin'."

"'Why don't ye jump?' says he.

"'Jump?' says Jeff, 'jump where to?'

"'Donno where to,' says the stranger, 'but ye've been standin' here for ten minutes with your legs all bent ready to jump and we've been waitin' for ye.' That's the way with the voters in the Stun' Bridge deestrick," concluded Cap'n Jote. "Ye might think they was ready to jump in politics at any and all times, but they hain't. It's only the way their political pant legs bag at the knee. Ye couldn't drive 'em out of the party. There's old Hen Perry. He's still votin' for Andrew Jackson."

old Hen Perry. He's still votin' for Andrew Jackson."

"D'ye hear about Hen in the last caucus they had down in the Stun' Bridge deestrick?"
The postmaster asked.

"Naw," was the chorus.

"Wal, Hen was out in front of the house while the caucas was goin' on, tryin' to work off that old high pressur' mare of his onto Paul Jones. Paul had more or less of a breather, too, but he had the old plug dosed up and had bent a hunk o' strap iron over his nose so that his breathin' didn't sound quite so much as us'al like a man rippin' shingles off a roof with a barn shovel. Hen was keepin' his old mare tip-toein' round all the time so that she wouldn't show that her right hip knocked down. Wal, he was right in the heat of the trade when there was more or less of a hullabaloo in the town house. Hen hadn't been in at all and wasn't intendin' to go in. He was more int'rested in horse tradin' than in politics. But when the rumpus in the town house got to goin' he hollered to one of the men at the door and asked him what the trouble was. The man hollered back that it was alleged that Silas Orff had voted mor'n once Hen has heen fightin' Silas in law about. was alleged that Silas Orff had voted mor'n once. Hen has been fightin' Silas in law about fence for about ten year and he hates him

fence for about ten year and ne nates him wuss'n pisen.

"Wal, Hen he drops the reins, left his old mare and made a break for the inside of the town house. He tipped over tew men who were in the entry way and plowed his way upthe aisle steppin' on corns and elbowin'. Fin'ly he fi't his way to the front through the howling and hopped up on a

he fi't his way to the front throin' crowd and hopped up on a settee. He's got a voice like the Bull of Bashan and he hollered the gang to a standstill. When they got quiet he says, says he, 'Feller citizens, Listen to me. Here is Silas Griff denyin' that he has voted more than once. Why, feller citizens, Silas Griff has voted once that I know of has voted once that I know of — twice to my certain knowledge and three times by Jeehookibus Hossfodder.' Wals'r, that crowd they gaffled onto Silas and spite all he could do or say they throwed him out off the town house and he hadn't voted but once, neither—and there was old Hen, he hadn't been in there at all. That's the way of politics, blame'em. Hain't no hon-



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bet he couldn't talk. Hite put his money on the store counter.

"Of course we all s'posed that Chet would flam his money down mighty quick, for who ever heerd tell of a steer beatin' a hoss? But I swow if Chet didn't take his kairosene can and paound of tea and start fer home. One of the fellers followed him out onto the store platform and says to him, 'Chet, for goodness sake's what are ye thinkin' of to be bluffed down in that way? That colt of your'n is reelly the best goin' hoss in town and can clean out anything round here, much less a blamed old stubtoed steer. Put up your money.'

"But Chet he unhitched and got into his wagon. 'Ye don't ketch me,' says he, 'I know I've got a good hoss,' says he, 'but after one of them blamed Durham steers gits started there hain't no tellin' where in timenation he will fetch up.' And off he drove, bluffed to a standstill."

"Polytics hain't botherin' us a mite down

"Polytics hain't botherin' us a mite down our way," broke in Ran Young, the stage-driver. "We're havin' a revival at the Twin Trees school house, and they wouldn't stop the meetin's even to have a rally last week. Revivalist is a stranger but he has been doin' a good job at it. Fust week he was there, though, he come nigh bustin' up the meetin'. Old lady got up to speak and she did make a powerful exhortation. It was her fust trip to the meetin' and when she got to goin' in reel good shape the evangelist was much taken with her earnestness. So he commenced to shout 'Amen,' at frequent intervals. Pretty "Polytics hain't botherin' us a mite down

frequent intervals. Pretty soon he wanted to know her soon he wanted to know her name so that he could en-courage her as she went along. So he leaned down and asked a leetle boy who set on the edge of the plat-form, what the sister's name was. The sister was speak-in' considerably loud by that

sety anywhere. I wouldn't reak myself to run for hog-bed in these fere days."

Moose-yard.' Evangelist thought the boy said and the footman for the state of the

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# Ned Todd The Oklahoma Detective; Or, The Strange Cabin in the Wilderness.

By Henry Dale.

Author of "Boomers and Cattle Kings," "The Cheyenne Outbreak," "Shadowing a Shadow," "Chepita." "Mormonism Unveiled," Etc.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

The opening chapters of this intensely interesting story appeared in February Comfort. Back numbers may be obtained by enclosing three cents to Comfort, Augusta, Maine, for each number desired.

During the past year portions of Indian Territory were opened to settlement by the Government allotment of lots by chance, and the scenes that were enacted in the years gone by, when Oklahoma was the objective point of settlers from east and west, north and south, were again presented in a much more exciting manner. A Kansas telephone girl luckily secured a lot valued at \$17,000, and others were nearly as octunate.

fortunate of the exciting events that have transpired in Okla-Because of the exciting events that have altracted the homa and Indian Territory, events that have altracted the attention of the whole country, the story of "Ned Todd" is presented to our readers in the hope that instruction and en-tertainment may be derived from its perusal.

## CHAPTER XIX.

THE IDIOT'S STORY.

HOUGH the pursuers were almost on them, Archie had no idea of leaving Daisy behind. He reined in his horse, threw himself from the saddle, and

unslung his rifle.

Half a dozen painted demons were almost upon him, but he raised his repeating Winchester and sent half a dozen shots among them, which checked their headlong advance. One saddle was emptied, two horses were down, and the others had cought a fety in flight.

which checked their headlong advance. One saddle was emptied, two horses were down, and the others had sought safety in flight.

He ran to Daisy, just as her horse began to kick and struggle in death. Seizing the insensible girl about the waist, he drew her away from the horse and laid her upon the leaves beneath a wide-spreading beach.

Crouching down by the foot of the tree, he determined to defend her with his life.

Fortunately he had brought some ammunition with him, and he had the presence of mind to slip a few cartridges into his gun during the lall in the attack.

Captain Snell, who had been one of the party that was chasing Ned Todd, on learning that there was a man and a woman about to make their way to the camp, had abandoned the chase after the borderer and turned his attention toward the youth and Daisy.

"Catch them, but do the girl no harm. A thousand dollars to the man who takes the girl unharmed!"

This stimulus was sure to bring about the desired result, he thought, and doubtless it would have but for the fact that the youth had shown a decided intention to take care of himself.

shown a decided intention to take care of him-

Placing Daisy out of the reach of their bullets, he crouched behind the old beech tree and sent shot after shot with such precision into their ranks that the Indians for the second

sent shot after shot with such precision into their ranks that the Indians for the second time fell back.

"Death and fury!" roared the road agent chief. "Are you all a set of cowards? Look, see! the boomers are arming, and we shall soon have twenty-five or thirty blazing away at us. On him! take him! There's enough, now all together!"

He had brought up his road agents and Cheyenne warriors, about sixty or seventy in number. There was not a ghost of a show for the youth, for he knew that it would be impossible for the boomers to reach him before they had overwhelmed him in numbers. But he resolved to defend himself to the last.

Again he had taken advantage of the lull in the attack to reload the empty chambers of his gun, and with cocked rifle waited for a renewal of the attack, which he understood would be his death struggle. Daisy had regained her consciousness, and realizing it all, asked:

"Is it not over yet?"

"No, but it soon will be. Here they come

"No, but it soon will be. Here they come now. Good by."

The great line of horsemen coming on at a

The great line of horsemen coming on at a sweeping gallop, bore down upon him. They were almost within gunshot when suddenly a wild shout rose on the air, and a withering volley was poured into their ranks. The youth sprang to his feet, amazed at the sudden attack. Bursting out from a wood near, was half a hundred blue-coated cavalry, headed by the irrepressible Ned Todd himself.

"Whoop, horoay! give it to them boys," shouted the borderer, dashing away at the head of the column, waving his hat in the air.

The soldiers followed, their guns and pistols flashing death at every jump. Saddles were

flashing death at every jump. Saddles were emptied and the ground soon covered with men and horses. The bewildered red skins halted for a single moment, wavered and then broke

But that moment of hesitation was fatal to them. The cavalry was among them, and their bright sabres doing sad havoc. Utterly disheartened and terrified, they fled in every di-

rection.

"What is it? what does it mean?" Daisy asked from where she lay.

"Deliverance has come," the youth shouted. "Soldiers are here and we are safe. Lie close to the ground and do not stir, lest you get hit with a bullet."

She obeyed him and kept close to the earth. The boomers came to their aid also, and the Indians and road agents were driven away or killed, for but little pains were taken to take

captives. "Well, boy, are you all right?" asked Ned

captives.

"Well, boy, are you all right?" asked Ned Todd, dashing up to where the youth stood, ready to spend his last drop of blood in the defense of Daisy Miller.

"Yes, untouched," was the answer,

"And the girl?"

"Not badly injured. They shot my horse and I was slightly bruised by the fall," Daisy answered, springing to her feet.

"Well, I am glad to know it is no worse. When they got onto our racket so quick, and deserted me to follow you, I was afraid that after all our plan would be a failure."

"It would but for the soldiers. Where did you find them?" the youth asked.

"They were in the wood, into which I was chased, watching the Indians. There was something about them that was rather suspicious, they thought."

The boomers had by this time come up, and invited all to their camp. They went, and there Daisy found many acquaintances. There were those who had not yet heard of her father's awful death, and her own captivity. She was regarded as one returned from the dead. They were glad to have her with them once They were glad to have her with them once

more, and as she was weak and worn out, some good and nourishment was given her and then the best bed in the camp furnished her. Na-ture too long kept at a strain gave way, and in an hour after Daisy Miller was in the camp she

was in a high fever.

A surgeon, by chance, was with the troop, and he at once administered medicine to her.

"Do you think that she is in a critical condi-tion, doctor?" asked Archie Holland.
"I cannot tell yet," he answered. "She is young and may come out all right. I hope so at all events."

Archie went away from the tent in which the Archie went away from the tent in which the sick girl lay, with a heavy feeling in his heart. Now that the road agents and Cheyennes had been dispersed and driven away, the Oklahoma boomers learned that there was another unpleasant surprise for them. The soldiers had come to drive them out of the country.

"It seems very hard, after we have braved so much and come here in this wilderness and built our homes, to be driven away," said one old boomer.

built our homes, to be driven away," said one old boomer.

"I know that it seems hard," answered the officer in charge of the troops. "But we have our duty to perform, and we must do it. We shall give you a few days anyway, until the young lady can be removed, and then we shall have you returned to the States."

Archie heard this and he felt as if he could almost shed tears for these people. Someone touched his arm. He turned about and saw Ned Todd.

"What is it, Ned?"

almost sheat dears for these people. Someone touched his arm. He turned about and saw Ned Todd.

"What is it, Ned?"
"I say, now that these troops are going to stay here a week or two, wouldn't it be a good idea to get some of them and go back to that cabin where the idiot cripple is. I believe that from him we can get the secret of your father's mysterious disappearance."
"But would they go?"
"I know that the captain would send at least a dozen with us. That would be enough."
"But—but Daisy?"
"Oh, she will be well taken care of. Don't forget the original object of this visit."
Archie felt a little guilty that he should have to be reminded that his father was somewhere in that vast wilderness a prisoner.
"I will ask him; we will go!" he said. "That matter must not be given up."
They went to the captain and told him of their plan. The captain listened to it and when they were through, he said:
"I don't know that it will be acting in accordance to my orders."
"When you are so far from headquarters do you always wait to act upon orders? Does not the department sometimes give you latitude, some discretion?" asked Ned Todd.
"Oh, yes."
"Well, if ever latitude was given, it should be on this occasion. You have no time now to quibble about orders. Everything must be done now or never."
"Well, Major Todd, how many men will it

done now or never."

"Well, Major Todd, how many men will it require?"

"A dozen under a brave discreet officer, will be sufficient."

"Then you shall have them."

"When can we start?"

"As soon as you choose. In the morning if you wish."

"Tonight would be better."

"Tonight would be better."

"Tonight would be better."
"Very well; tonight be it then."
"Will you permit the men to volunteer?"
"Yes, any that wish to. Go and talk with them. See Sergeant Staves."
The sergeant was found and he was very anxious to be one of the party to go and exterminate such a formidable band of road agents as these in Oklahoma had proved to be. They had been guilty of robbing the United States mail on divers occasions, and sacking frontier villages. villages.

villages.

"Yes, sir, you can count on me," said the soldier. "I would just like to be at such a frolic as that will be."

Twelve stout, brave young fellows were selected out of the command, and when armed with carbines and revolvers they prepared to set out for the strange cabin in the wilderness, as soon as it was dark.

Archie again called at the tent where the poor, delirious Daisy lay. She was sleeping, but her fever was very high.

"What do you think of her case?" he asked of the army surgeon.

"What do you think of her case?" he asked of the army surgeon. "She is doing very well, I think, yet I have not had her under my care long enough for much change to take place. I hope that her fever may go down during the night." It was a trying ordeal to go away that night and leave Daisy still in a critical condition, but if they should wait until she recovered they could not have the assistance of the soldiers. At midnight the entire party, mounted on

At midnight the entire party, mounted on fresh horses, set out for the mysterious cabin in the forest. All night long they traveled without any incident worthy of mention, and at dawn of day halted in a large wood, where they remained in camp until noon, allowing their horses to rest and taking some sleep

About two o'clock in the afternoon the horses were again saddled and the small cavalcade started once more on the long, toilsome march. To Archie Holland, who was unaccustomed to such travel, the fatigue was almost too much.

such travel, the fatigue was almost too much. Nothing but his indomitable will kept him up during the journey.

At dusk they halted again, and gave their horses a chance to graze for an hour, and partook of some supper. Ned Todd, who acted as guide for the party, said that they could not be more than ten miles from the log cabin.

"What time will we reach it?" Archie asked.

"About midnight," he answered.

"That will be the best time to strike 'em' said the sargeant. "They won't be looking for us then, and we'll come on 'em unawares.

"That will be the best time to strike 'em" said the sargeant. "They won't be looking for us then, and we'll come on 'em unawares. We'll be apt to find 'em all asleep."

"If we can get the cripple away from them before they do him any harm, our secret will, I believe, be obtained. He can tell me where my father is, but if they should suspect that he is not the idiot he pretends to be they would kill him. We must take him away alive and unharmed."

After a halt of a couple of hours, the cavel-

narmed."

After a halt of a couple of hours, the cavalcade again saddled their horses, and were once more on their way through the trackless forest toward the strange cabin in the wilderness.

Ned Todd, the irrepressible borderer, rode in

front, guided by his meagre knowledge of the country. He knew that they must be near the cabin, but again and again found himself at fault, and thus kept the party wandering about in the wood until three or four o'clock in the morning, before they came in sight of the

The moon had by this time risen and the sky being clear, filled the wood with light. They entered by the very same road which Todd and Archie had entered on their first visit to the

Archie had entered on their first visit to the place.

The great log cabin seemed very quiet. Not a sign of a living being was to be seen and Archie was asking himself if it was deserted.

The officer commanded them to dismount, which they did. Three men were left to hold the horses and the others advanced on foot to the cabin. First the house was surrounded, and then Todd, the sergeant, and two or three of the soldiers advanced to the door.

As they came to it someone inside the building, doubtless awakened from sleep by the tramping of feet, opened the door and gave utterance to a yell.

"Halt!" cried Todd, leaping toward the aperture.

"Hait!" cried fodd, leaping toward the aperture.

Crack! went a pistol, and the bullet struck the buckle of the scout's belt.

"Come on, boys, here they are," Ned Todd shouted, and with a kick from his ponderous boot, he sent the door flying from its hinges. "Here they are! down with them!"

Then it seemed as if a pandemonium reigned within the house. Yells, oaths and groans mingled with pistol shots, made the night hideous. A cloud of black smoke rose from within and around the building, and masses of fighting, struggling men at last burst through the doors and windows of the building, and the conflict which had begun inside, was renewed in the yard about the house. From door and windows there sprung dark forms, and the flash of pistols and clash of steel was almost incessant. almost incessant.

almost incessant.

"Here they are, sweep them from the face of the earth!" yelled the irrepressible Ned Todd, rushing like a cyclone through the building. One man rose from the floor and fired at him, but Ned seemed to hold a charmed life. Placing his own pistol at his would-be slayer's breast, he shot him dead, and then bounded over the body, pressing the others in so closely that they were compelled to beat a retreat to that they were compelled to beat a retreat to

he rear. In his flight, Captain Snell, wishing to cover up all the dark past of his life, seized a lighted candle and set fire to a tablecloth and some bed clothing, and then fled. On after him came the border detective and ranger, and just be-

the border detective and ranger, and just behind him, Archie Holland, the sergeant and several others.

They went thundering through the apartment where the idiot lay kicking and giggling with infinite delight. On, out into the rear yard, where the bandits halted for a last fight, Todd and Capt. Snell met face to face.

"Aha! it's you, meddlesome fool, that we have to thank for this," cried Snell. "Take that for your pains," and raising his pistol he snapped it in the face of the scout. It was well for Todd that it missed fire, for had it not it would have sent him to eternity.

would have sent him to eternity.
"It's my time, now," he cried, and then with
his own pistol he shot down the chief of road

agents.
At this moment the flames were seen leaping out of the cabin, and Todd turning to Archie,

cried:
"The cripple, the cripple, bring him out; he

It needed no second bidding. Archie sprang into the burning building and found the cripple already making his way toward the door. He seized him in his strong young arms, dragged him from the building and laid him on the grass at a safe distance.

grass at a safe distance.

The combat was by this time over. The road agents were either slain or had fled. Four or five bodies lay within the light of the burning building, their pale faces upturned to the sky. Archie recognized one among them, and going to his side bent over the body of the dying man.

ing man.
"Oh, brother, brother!" he whispered, "don't you know me? Speak but one word to ask forgiveness, that I may have some hope for you in the future. Speak, oh, speak!"

The dying man opened his eyes, and looked

upon the face gazing in pity and kindness upon him. But he did not utter a word. That tongue so long guilty of sin and deceit, was paralyzed and silenced forever.

paralyzed and silenced forever.

"Speak, Ralph; oh, speak, and tell me where my father is. Oh, do tell me where I shall find my father!"

The man gazed at him a moment with a wild vacant stare, and then as the death shadows crept over his frame, a strange shudder convulsed his form. He was dying.

"Archie, Archie Holland," called a voice, and looking about the youth discovered to his utter amazement, the cripple sitting up. "Don't you know me?" he said.

"No."

"I do not wonder at it, I have changed so much. A change brought about by suffering and torture. I have a story to tell you all."
They gathered about the man who had sufered so much, and with breathless interest list-

ened, while he narrated a story that seemed so wild so impossible of belief that they would almost be inclined to doubt it, but for the con-

almost be inclined to doubt it, but for the convincing proof that he gave them.
"Several years ago, I was one of the wealthiest cattle men in the West," he began. "I had a wife and one child, a bright-eyed son, in the States. I had a step-son, who proved to be my inveterate enemy. I gave him employment with my herds in the West, and he ran away from me, and I never heard of him for months. I did not dream that a band of road agents, that was at that time and has ever since been a that was at that time and has ever since been that was at that time and has ever since been a terror and dread to the entire country, was under his control, but such was the fact. I de-termined to quit business in the West, and sold out my cattle, receiving in gold three hundred thousand dollars for them. I started for the nearest railroad station to go to the States, when I was pursued by the road agents, who had become aware of the amount of money I carried with me, and chased to within twenty five miles of this place, where my faithfu guide was murdered and I made captive. Be fore I was captured however, I managed to conceal my money where it has not been found to this day. I was brought to this cabin, and here tortured and burned with hot irons to tell where the money was buried, until I am the wretched helpless cripple that you see. My feet are only clubs, and my hands almost use less. But I kept my secret, and was thrown into a fever from my suffering, from which when I recovered I pretended to be an idiot. Believing that I was an idiot they ceased to

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.)

# How to Paint a House Cheap

And Have It Guaranteed to Look Better, Wear Longer and Cost Less Than the Best White Lead Paints

Never Fades, Cracks, Chalks, Peels or Blisters, and is Not Affected by Gases

Fifty Sample Colors Prepaid to Any Address Absolutely Free

The cost of painting the house and barn, out-buildings and fences is a heavy burden. Cheap paints soon fade, peel or scale off and white lead and oil costs so much and has to be re-placed so often that it is a constant expense to keep the bright, clean appearance so desirable



The Waldorf-Astoria, New York City, one of the Most Magnificent Hotels in the World, Has used Tons and Tons of the World-Famous Carrara Paint

in the cosy cottage home or the elegant mansion. To meet the needs of the small purge and at the same time give the rich, lasting, protecting effect of a first-class paint caused the manufacture of Carrara Paint, and it is the best paint for house, barn or fence; for interior or exterior work it has no equal. It is smoother, covers more surface, brightens and preserves colors, is used on wood, iron, tin, brick, stone or tile, and never cracks, peels, blisters or chalks; it does not fade; it outlasts the best white lead or any mixed paint and it covers so much more surface to the gallon that it is cheaper in the first cost than most cheap paints. The following are a few of the large users of Carrara Paint:

Pennsylvania R. R. Co.; Pullman Palace Car

Carrara Paint:
Pennsylvania R. R. Co.; Pullman Palace Car
Company; Chicago Telephone Company; Central Union Telephone Company; Field Museum,
Chicago; Kenwood Club, Chicago; Cincinnati
Southern; C. and E. I. R. R. Co.; Denver &
Rio Grande R. R.; Wellington Hotel, Chicago.



The Roof of the Great Field Museum, Chicago. Covering 7 Acres of Ground, is Painted with Carrara Paint

From railroad box car to elegantly furnished general offices of the great railways; from race track fences and stables to fancy club house; from plain brick walls and stone fences troofs and interior finish of stately hotels; country barn or hay shed or cheap outbuilding to farm residence, suburban home or luxurious city residence, Carrara is used because it lasts longer, never fades, never cracks, never blisters, never peels, covers more surface than the high-est priced paints and costs less than the cheap mixed paints that injure instead of protect est priced paints and costs less than the cheap mixed paints that injure instead of protect. There is but one Carrara. It is made by the Carrara Paint Agency. General offices, 528 Carrara Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio, and anyone having a house to paint should send for 50 sample colors, free, of this great paint that has stood the most rigid tests for 25 years, and bear in mind that it is the only paint ever manufactured that is backed by a positive guarantee in every case. Write to-day and save half your paint bills in the future. save half your paint bills in the future.

## Our Home Workers

## Busy Bees with Thread and with Needle.



ONSTANT in quiries come to us for directions for crocheting or knitting infants' wearing apparel, and the three articles which we illustrate and describe he rewith are in response to these requests, which we trust will be acceptable to young mothers, and to their friends who wish to contribute so me-thing really serviceable and comfortable to the

Baby's hamper. Socks are crocheted or knitted, and knitting silk or fine Saxony are used in either case.

socks are crocheted or knitted, and knitting silk or fine Saxony are used in either case. Those which we illustrate are knitted on two needles, and two colors are used, pink and white. Cast on fity-seven stitches.

Knit first needle plain, second seam, third plain, fourth needle with white; slip one, wool over. \*Knit two; slip one, knit two together, bind, slip stitch over knit two, wool over, knit one, wool over. Repeat from \*Fifth needle seam. These two needles, the fourth and fifth, make a figure. Knit two figures with white; then with color knit on e needle like fourth, next needle



sew together.
For the drawers, which are also knitted, cast

For the drawers, which are also knitted, cast seventy-six stitches, knit three needles; make a row of holes by knitting two stitches, putting wool over and knitting two together; repeat through the needle, then make gore by knitting six stitches, knit ting six stitches more each time till there are thirty-six stitches.

stitches more each time till there are thirty-six stitches.

Next knit eight purls (a purl is two needles), then widen one stitch on end of needle on which gore is made, on first needle of every fourth purl five times, which will make twenty purls. Next widen at beginning and end of first needle of every two purls till there are nine-ty-six stitches; the n knit two purls (this makes the body). Next narrow at beginning and end of every other needle, till there are fifty-six stitches; the n stitch, wool over, narrow, repeat to end of needle; knit two needles plain, one seam, one plain, one will there are thirty-six stitches left. Knit eleven purls plain, then take the twelve center stitches and knit twelve purls; then knit stitches left on side and pick up ten stitches on each side of top piece. Knit five needles, bind off. Knit another leg like this except beginning ore at end of needle instead of beginning. This reverses it so as to make a pair. Sew up the legs, then pin and sew body, making gore on either leg join. Make cord and run in holes made at top and at knee.

The jacket here shown is crocheted, and the meterials required are two strains of means.

The jacket here shown is crocheted, and the materials required are two skeins of cream colored saxony wool, two-fold for the body,—one skein of colored, three-fold for yoke and

Yoke—One hundred and one chain. First row: twenty-four single crochet, taking up back of stitch, to form rib widen on the twenty-fifth and twenty-eighth stitches, forty-four single crochet, then widen the same as the single crochet, then widen the same as the other front. Widen every row, having first two stitches between widenings, then four, six, eight, and to thirty-eight. Always keep twenty-four stitches on front and forty-four stitches between widenings on back.

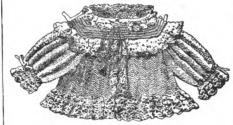
Jacket—First row—One chain for first stitch, single crochet in next two chains, long crochet in next three chains, three single crochet, three

single crochet in next two chains, long crochet in next three chains, three single crochet, three long crochet, three single crochet, ending in last chain of point, nineteen chain for armhole, three long crochet beginning in the last chain of point on back (eight long groups and seven short groups) on back, then same on other

hort groups) on back, then same on other cont. Break off every row. Second row—One chain, three single crochet, three single crochet in point, five single crochet, three single crochet in point, five single crochet, three single crochet in point, five single crochet, three single crochet in point, ave single crochet, three single crochet in point, five single crochet, long crochet in next three chain. Three single crochet, three long crochet, in point on back, five single crochet, and so on across the back, then same on front.

Third row—One chain, three single crochet, three in point, seven single crochet, three in point, seven single crochet, and so on.

Fourth row-One chain, three single crochet,



three in point, nine single crochet, three in point, nine single crochet and so on.

Fifth row—One chain, three single crochet,

Fifth row—One chain, three single crochet, three in point, four single crochet, skip one chain, one single crochet, skip one en chain, four single crochet, three in point and so on, thirty rows of single crochet, long twenty-two points around sack (four on front eight on back and three under arm).

Border—First row—Three chain, then six long crochet in point, one long crochet in third chain, and so on, three rows back and forth, beginning on wrong side of white, then one row of white all around except the neck, then chain of color (three chain in every chain for edge).

for edge).

Collar—Fifty long crochet in every other chain, two rows of white like border, chain of

color.

Sleeve—First row—Begin midway under arm, three single crochet, three long crochet, opposite others and so on (seven long crochet groups, six single crochet groups over shoulder), (four single crochet groups, three single crochet groups under arm), thirty-one rows single crochet long, make same of body of sack.

Sack. Cuff—Draw together with chain in every other chain of color, then long crochet in every other chain: (thirty-one) three rows of white, chain of color like border. Frill around yoke same as sleeve.

## Three Chain Edge.

CROCHET TERMS.

Ch, chain; sc, single crochet; dc, double crochet; tc, treble crochet; stc, short treble crochet; dtc, double treble crochet; p, picot.

All of the new woven laces that are used for trimming the cotton dresses this season are very odd in their construction of pattern. They very odd in their construction of pattern. They have open work on one side and scallops or some fine stitches on the other side of the point. Those who can use the hook in making lace for themselves will perhaps find this pattern of

use.
A chain of six, fasten with a slip stitch and turn

turn.

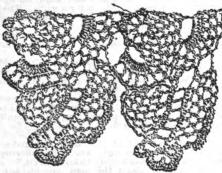
Ch 5, 1 tc, \*ch 2, 1 tc, \* repeat four times.
\*ch 3, 1 sc, \*repeat three times. Under each ch 2, put 1 sc, 2 tc, 1 sc, go down and back with ch 3, 1 sc, twice, then ch 6, filled with 12 tc.
All the open work is made of the ch 3, 1 sc, and can be seen by the illustration where it should be made.

After the open work, make ch 6 and fill with 12 tc, open work on the 12 tc make 6 holes of ch 2, 1 tc, fill each hole with 3 sc, continue open work.

Make ch 20, on this chain, make 8 holes. fill

Make ch 20, on this chain, make 8 holes, fill each hole with 3 sc, making 6 in the extreme end of ladder so that it will lie flat. Having finished the ladder make open work between

the picots.



as in illustration.

## Pinwheel Circle.

This little wheel may be used for a variety of things. I do not claim it as original, for I took the idea from the pinwheel lace, so will "go snacks" with its author on originality. I have made (by varying the thread) pin-cushion covers, toilet sets, baby carriage covers, plastrons, aprons, laces, and many other articles. The pin-cushion covers may be made to fasten diamond shape or square as preferred, on blue silk. Plastrons are made of 40 or 50 cotton. Very handsome aprons are made of a strip of ribbon

ch, turn.

3. 1 tr into 10th stitch (from needle) of ch, 2 ch, miss 2, 1 tr into next, 2 ch, miss 2, 13 tr in remainder of ch, fasten to ring of tr with 1

10 remainder of ch, lasten to ring of tr with 1 sc, ch 8, turn.

4. 1 tr with 2 ch between, in the 8th, 10th, 12th, and 14 stitches of last row, ch 8, turn.

5. \*Tr on tr, 2 ch, repeat once, 13 tr under 8 ch, fasten to tr in ring.

Make 16 of these arms, fastening first and last together. Join the wheels together by catching the 7 ch in end to 7 ch of other pinwheel.

In spaces made by joining wheels together use the tiny circles, worked as follows: LITTLE WHEEL. Ch 30, join; in this ring

work 32 tr, ch 5, turn.

2. Catch in 2d stitch, ch 4, catch in 4th stitch, continue this around, making 16 holes,

ch 5, turn.
3. Fasten in 1st ch loop, ch 5, fasten in next

3. Fasten in 15t the 15th, 15t

#### Polka Dot Tatted Medallion.

There is nothing more popular in tatting and crochet work than medallions. Joined together they can be put to a great variety of uses in the way of centrepieces for the dining-table, large and small doilies, applied work for bureau scarfs, buffet and five o'clock table-covers, tidies, pincushion and sofa pillow covers.

When applied to linen as a decoration for corners, ends, etc., the medallions are first basted firmly in place, and are then buttonhole-stitched around the entire outer edge with embroidery cotton. The linen is then cut away underneath, leaving the design, which thus shows to the best advantage.

1st row—With 1 shuttle, 12 double, and 6 picots, close the ring.

2d row—With 2 shuttles, knot the threads into 1 of the picots of the first ring; 1 picot, 2 double, 1 long picot, 2 double, pass

picot, 2 double, pass the right hand thread through 1 of through 1 of the picots of the ring, 1 pic ot, 2 double, and so on. After the 12th pi-cot, fasten off the threads on the wrong side by 2 or 3 stitches. stitches.

side by 2 or 3 stitches.

3d row—
POLKA DOT MEDALLION.

With 1 shuttle, \*3 double, pass the thread through 1 of the picots of the 2d row, make 3 double, close the ring, leave one-eighth of an inch of thread, turn the work; 4 double, 1 picot, 4 double, close the ring, leave again one-eighth of an inch of thread, and repeat 11 times from \*. Tie the thread, making space one-eighth of an inch long.

4th row—With 2 shuttles, fasten the ends to 1 of the picots of the 12 rings of the third row, \*3 double, 1 picot, 3 double. With one shuttle, 3 double, pass the thread through the picot, 2 double, 1 picot, 3 double, close the ring. Close to this 3 double, pass the thread through the 2d picot of the 1st ring, 3 double, 1 picot, 3 double, close the ring. Again close to the last ring, 3 double, pass the thread through the 2d picot of the 1st ring, 3 double, 1 picot, 3 double, close the ring. Again close to the last ring, 3 double, pass the thread through the picot of the 2d ring, 2 double, 1picot, 3 double, close the ring. With two shuttles, 3 double, close the ring. With two shuttles, 3 double, close the ring of the 3d row, and repeat 11 times from \*.

5th row—With 2 shuttles, 6 double and 2 picots over the lower rings, and 10 double and 4 picots over the upper rings. Repeat all around, joining the picots of the figures of the 4th row between the two short loops, as the work proceeds. Worked with coarse thread, several of these medallions, over scarlet or blue, make a beautiful tidy.

these medallions, over scarlet or blue, make a beautiful tidy.

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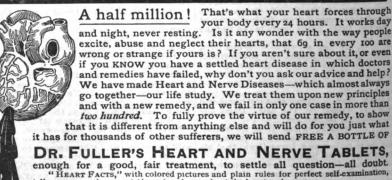
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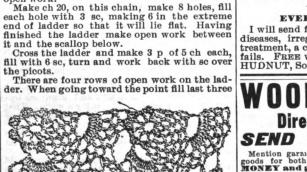
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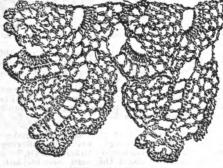
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THREE CHAIN EDGE.

chains with 6 sc; work back with sc, and continue open work to the straight edge.

Each Vandyke is made separately and joined

handsome aprons are made of a strip of ribbon or muslin and a row of circles, the ribbon be-ing sewed into points at the bottom.

1. Make a ch of 30 stitches, join round; into this make 30 tr, 4 ch, turn.
2. 1 tr, 1 ch into each stitch of last row, 25

#### Women Wear. What

## Autumn Hints on What to Wear and How to Make It.

ARLY fail calls for duck and pique coat suits, which are inexpensive, yet fashionable, and suitable for the

season.
Black and white goods still con-

tinue to be the most popular.

Bold and daring are the September hats;
many of these hats are frimmed with both fruits and flowers combined; for instance, cherries and the cherry blossoms and any other flowers with their fruits which suit the wearer.

The heavy coarse straw is much used and a popular color in hat decoration is green.

Many of the new autumn skirts are made with yokes, and for cool days dresses are made of cashmere French flannel, or other soft woolen goods.

A serviceable coat is developed in red cloth finished with stitching, for a young girl.
Serge, cheviot and mohair are popular goods.
Light gray homespun makes a smart suit, with a finish of braid.

Dark blue serge can be made up with pipings of black silk.

of black silk.

Or Diack sink.

Crimson mohair with white braid trimmings is quite stylish for a little girl.

Fawn colored broadcloth will be stylish with

Fawn colored broadcloth will be stylish with large pearl buttons, for cloaks.

Little boys' coats are made on the double breasted box coat order, with turned back cuffs, any style of inexpensive material can be used with good effect. Red serge makes a pretty suit, trimmed with white collar and shield. Suits of plaid and sailor blouse of white flannel, alpaca and serge of any color can be made with good taste and effect for the small boys. small boys.

An attractive hat for early autumn is of heavy brown straw trimmed with brown berries and

Hats of all green are worn with black dresses Many shades of green are combined on one hat but very great care must be taken in the blend-ing of these trying shades.

## Answers to Correspondents.

Answers to Correspondents.

Miss Mary B., Trenton, O.—Your pale blue alpaca will add quite an attraction to your wardrobe. Put it in good shape for remodeling, then trim in bands of blue silk, a shade darker; graduate them from the bottom of the skirt to the knee; then begin again with a wide band and graduate to the belt; trim the bodice in the same kind of bands, graduating from the high collar to the belt; trim the sleeve in like manner, and finish the pouch at the waist with a band of silk; a wide sash of the blue silk is worn with this dress. (2) Do over the black taffeta silk; make it over with white, using both black and white lace. (3) A short coat with facings of moire, is as simple a coat as can be made, and yet very much up to date. This coat can be made short or three-quarters length, as preferred, with a coat sleeve or bell-shaped.

Miss Mollie R., Richmond, Va.—You can combine

be made short or three-quarters length, as preferred, with a coat sleeve or bell-shaped.

Miss Mollie R., Richmond, Va.—You can combine blue with green, but the blending is, most certainly, to be wisely considered, and the shading also. The parrot green and hyacinth blue can live in harmony, with more real satisfaction than most of the color combinations of the present date. The main color of the gown, however, must be blue, and the green comes in as an accessory. The selecting of the shades and colors and putting them together, requires a very careful and tasteful consideration, or else the gown is an entire failure. If managed rightly the effect is quite pretty. For instance, a blue blouse can be made to be worn with the solid blue skirt. Cut the blouse of taffeta silk, then set in narrow bands of green silk, and cover these bands with an open stitch in blue embroidery silk. This decoration is to be used only on the front and on the sleeves, collar and cuffs. The back of the blouse can be tucked diagonally, straight across, or lengthwise, and buttoned with small green silk buttons. This gown may be worn with a blue straw hat, trimmed with blue and a delicate touch of green; the note of green, if in harmony with the shade of blue, will produce an effect extremely smart and attractive.

Mrs. M. L. Columbus, Ky.—A suitable gown for an elderly person of quiet, tastes can be made.

mony with the shade of blue, will produce an effect extremely smart and attractive.

Mrs. M. L. Columbus, Ky.—A suitable gown for an elderly person of quiet tastes can be made of gun metal gray goods, and an inexpensive one also; make a plain, gored, fiared skirt, above the hem place three wide tucks; and the bodice is made with pin plaits falling from the shoulders half way down the front of the waist with full blouse at the belt. The V shaped neck opens over a collar and front of white silk; finish the bishop sleeve also with pin plaits. Lavender colored silk can be used instead of the white for the collar and front of the bodice, and a piece of lavender silk forms the girdle. This combination makes quite a becoming and also quite a serviceable gown.

Miss Martha N., Ashland, O.—An early fall coat suit of tan colored, light weight cloth will be what you need, the skirt laid in box plaits and stitched with silk of the new currant red in many lines, this stitching forming a narrow point at the lower end where the folds are released to form a graceful fullness above the hem. The coat collar is trimmed with narrow bands of the velvet which are joined together by heavy black lace inserting, and then put on the collar. This is worn with a red silk waist. Red seems to take the lead, especially the fruit reds, in many of the fall costumes as well as in hats. Bright red pipings are also used upon gowns in plain colors. Hats of red straw garnished with black velvet ribbon are a most becoming and fashionable head wear. Small cappes are also being made to wear with early fall gowns.

Miss D., Briceville, Tenn.—The ceru veiling is always advisable, no matter what the design may

made to wear with early fall gowns.

Miss D., Briceville, Tenn.—The ecru veiling is always advisable, no matter what the design may be: a little alteration will change it from a summer to an evening gown for winter. It can be trimmed with guipure lace, pointed yoke effect, and long sleeves of lace, tight from the wrist to the elbow, tucking the top of the sleeve of veiling half way down, to fall in a pouch at the elbow. The flounce on the skirt may be headed by inserting put on in deep pointed design.

Mrs B. K. Oneida, S. D.—Your old time flowered.

Mrs. B. K., Oneida, S. D.—Your old time flowered ailk dress is lovely, and will make an "up to date" gown of exquisite development. You certainly should be congratulated on its possession. Flowered materials both in silk and all the gauzy goods are the novelties of the present season.

goods are the novelties of the present season.

Mrs. M. J., Pendleton, S. C.—How can I make a morning dress of linen of any color? Quite a comfortable and very stylish design is blouse effect, cut it surplice, and fasten with loops of heavy cord, and pearl buttons. This can be worn with or without a shield. With the skirt of linen you have a serviceable and most durable costume.

Mrs. Kate S., Howard, R. I.—For early autumn wear, the black taffeta silk can be worn with a white mohair waist embroidered in blue or stitching done in red, or in pale green which is the shade so much in demand. A sash of satin Liberty ribbon would give this costume an extremely smart and graceful finishing touch.

Mrs. N. W. Beaumont. Ps.—An evening gown.

Mrs. N. W., Beaumont, Pa.—An evening gown, of any the thin, gauzy goods so much in vogue, would be quite pretty for a lady of forty, made of black satin striped gauze over white; mingle a bit of turquoise blue trimming, in sweet and simple harmony of design, and you certainly will enjoy the wearing. Have it made in any of the pretty new styles to suit the figure of the wearer.

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sleeve, and substitute the bisnop or any long desirable one.

Mrs. W. Apex, N. C.—Yes, anything in white is what you should wear; it adds size and comfort also. Wear your skirts long and very plain in style if you wish to look taller. (2) Short jackets would suit you. (3) Dark colors for the street and all those of more brilliant hue for the evening gowns.

Mrs. Edith L., Garfield, N. M.—I would advise the crepon renovated and retrimmed; crepon is holding its own admirably while the newer ones are somewhat softer than those of other days, yet all are worn. Your crepon dress can be altered nicely; cut it over by a late pattern using new linings, and trim the skirt with taffeta silk, with one or two flounces. Use the silk on the bodice in any pretty way suitable to the wearer; a bit of ecru lace or inserting will freshen up the waist.

Mrs. B., Beverly, N. J.—Your coat should not be tight fitting in the front, but tight in the back; stout women should avoid too much trimming of any kind; never wear horizontal lines. Any tight clinging garment will be becoming.

Mrs. S., Caudia, N. H.—Your very wide black silk with read wear horizontal wear wear.

clinging garment will be becoming.

Mrs. S., Candia, N. H.—Your very wide black silk skirt will produce an attractive and most charming result from your patience, skill and labor. Rip and wipe well with alcohol; press carefully on the wrong side over something black to prevent linting. Cut by one of the new, pretty, clinging skirt patterns and trim with bias folds to simulate tucks; head each fold from the bottom of the skirt running to the belt with narrow gimp. The waist can be made of black mouselline or dotted Swiss; this is tucked in three deep tucks across the waist below the armholes the width of the fold on the skirt; each tuck headed with the gimp. The same tucking is arranged at the lower part of the bishop sleeve.

Miss Blanche R., Hartwell, Mo.—Yes, the foulard

Miss Blanche R., Hartwell, Mo.—Yes, the foulard can be lengthened by using a ruffle of black net; as it is black with a lavender flower design you can trim the ruffle in five or seven rows of lavender satin ribbon, also decorate the bodice in like manner.

Mand. Newberry, Mich.—I would suggest for early fall a dress of light weight serge trimmed in bands of silk Scotch plaid. As it is to be worn by a young Miss, it could be made gored skirt trimmed with six bands of plaid. The waist may be cut in any becoming style, and trimmed with the bands, box plait, back and front. Place the narrow silk band between the plaits, all the way to the belt, a yoke effect. The sleeves are still holding the effect of early summer, "bagging" below the elbow. These may be box-plaited across the top and gathered into a cuff, trimmed with bands of the silk.

Miss K., Alvin, Ill.—Yes, French knots will trim a fiannel blouse very prettlly. Use any design. If the fiannel is blue, then use shaded blue silk for the knots, and an outlining through them of black. If the blouse is of brown fiannel, use orange-colored silk for the knots, and a dash of white outlining. Do not make any of these decorations elaborate for a blouse.

Mrs. L. L., Winona, Miss.—Make the lawn skirt

elaborate for a blouse.

Mrs. L. L., Winona, Miss.—Make the lawn skirt tucked diagonally; this adds to the smartness of the gown very greatly. It will take more goods, but after all, it will consume more time than money. You will have a dainty skirt in this way. Add a tucked flounce, and trim the walst in the same manner. Any simple lace, or insertion, can be used. Lace seems to be the favorite finish for all garments.

Miss Martha V. Advence Year and the same manner.

Miss Martha V., Advance, Ind.—The colored autumn linens for waists should not be stamped. For the cross stitch, baste on scrim, and work over it, for the cross stitch, as in days of yore. When the stitching is finished, cut out the scrim.

Mrs. Dora H., Cambridge, Idaho.—No shade or color overrules the immense popularity of white. It will be worn as the cooler weather approaches on into midwinter in all sorts of heavier goods. (2) For a blouse, coarse white basket cloth in cotton would be suitable, ornamented with French knots.

Mrs. Nora W., Shelbyville, Ky.—The baby's cloak could be made of cashmere or any soft wool material in the most simple and babylike design. Line it with India silk or any soft inexpensive lining and do not make it longer than two or three inches below the skirt. The cloak for baby must be warm but not heavy.

Miss Susan R. Biohymond, Vs.—"Liberty, Brile.

be warm but not heavy.

Miss Susan R., Richmond, Va.—"Liberty Brilliant" is a name given to a soft clinging all silk goods, it drapes gracefully and has a satin finish. It is seen in street gowns as well as evening wear.

Miss Gertrude L., East River, Tenn.—Everything is ruffling, flouncing and blousing; "simplicity" sits in sackcloth and ashes. (2) Yes, make every garment in the most "trimmed up" style. After all the lavish use of many different kinds of transparent fabric all the summer season, we hear a distant rustle in the close approaching autumn air which fortetls of accessories yet unheard of for the finishing touches of the more weighty material, which are so soon to take the place of the summer novelties. summer novelties.

## A Turtle Tape Measure.

Can you imagine anything more useful than a tape measure for a thousand and one purposes connected with your sewing, crocheting, knit-ting or fancy work? Think of the satisfaction of having every measurement agree and the whole of each piece of work complete and perfect. Ordinary tape measures are more of inconvenience than an assistance because you have to be careful and not get them into a snarl.

Now this little Sterling Silver Green Turtle

we picture here contains a thirty-six inch linen measure that is wound by a strong spring so that when not in use it coils up inside ready to be pulled out again without thought or trouble. You can use the tape and drop the turtle and the spring will automatically wind it up be-fore it can fall but a few inches. The Turtle has

back with this inscription in raised letters:
"Other turtles have four feet, I have seven." The
balance including the legs and bear aven. balance including the legs and head are made of enameled celluloid finished in shape and color Mary, Armenia, N.D.—The heavier grades of lines duck would make an advisable skirt; make enameled celluloid finished in shape and color with a circular flounce not too wide, or folds of the to represent a live turtle. One of the most

same. This duck would also be suitable for the driving trip, worn with any waist. A small coat of any kind can be added if the weather calls for sit. (2) No, as the autumn, hazy days creep upon us, we will for out-door wear put aside the Eton sleeve, and substitute the bishop or any long desirable one. that add to the pleasure of needlework and it is our good luck to have obtained a limited quantity of these Turtle Tape Measures to offer as a gift to any of our lady readers' who will send us two new yearly subscribers to Compost at 25c each. We send the turtle carefully packed at our expense upon receipt of the money with subscriptions. money with subscriptions.

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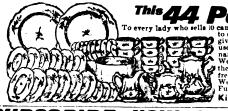
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# Talks Girls.

## Conducted by Cousin Marion.

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one month.

HE summer is over, my dears, and the autumn is coming with its harvests of the year, and may it bring to you some of the good things that the deserving do not always fail to get. September is a pleasant month, and may you all enjoy it. Now let us to work.

The first to come with her questions is Cousin Daffodil of Montrose, Iowa, and she wants to know if a girl likes a man and he doesn't know it what should she do to let him find out? Dear me, oh, dear me. If he is so stupid as not to find out for himself, for goodness sake, Daffodil, don't do anything to let him know. How can you like such a stupid person?

Myrtle, Winchester, N. D.—August 31st, 1885, fell on Monday, and February 19th, 1889, fell on Tues-

Honeysuckle, Lebanon, Ohio.—Of course you must not correspond with a young man to whom your parents object. (2) If you are not engaged to the young man with whom you are corresponding, you may go with the young man at your home. (3) If the young man does not write to you, let him go, and don't bother over people who don't care for you.

you.

Seline, St. Sylvester, P. Q.—Girls and boys of sixteen and eighteen have no business being engaged.

(2) No girl should marry before she is twenty-one; better wait till she is twenty-five. (3) No kissing except between engaged couples; and not too much of it then.

M. B., Montrose, Ia.—The only way to treat a strange man who attempts to force his attentions upon you is to ask some decent man, policeman or otherwise, to take him in hand and rid you of him. "Mashers," as they are called, ought to be tarred and feathered and driven to the woods.

Mary and Fan, Utica, N. Y.—Ask the young man

Mary and Fan, Utica, N. Y.—Ask the young man what he means by calling steadily once a week. He may mean to rob the house. (2) "Huggybuggies"

what he means by calling steadily once a week. He may mean to rob the house. (2) "Huggybuggies" are very improper.

Belva, Alton, Pa.—It is not improper to place flowers on the desk of the Professor you like, but it is not commendable. Don't do it.

B. and T., Tecumseh, Neb.—The only way to secure beaus is to make yourselves attractive in a sweet, womanly way. Nice men like that better than anything. (2) There are many "latest historical novels." Some of them are "A Virginian," "The Mississippi Bubble," "The Conquerer," "Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall," and "Hearts Courageous."

Jackson, Miss.—Some one, who signs no name of

Jackson, Miss.—Some one, who signs no name of any kind, asks a whole lot of questions which she wants answered as they are written. They are as to what is proper, and I can answer all of them by a simple No. She should not do any of the things she asks about.

she asks about.

Sweetheart, Cooperstown, Pa.—Sixteen is too young to formally receive men's attentions. (2) Treat your escort home as pleasantly and politely as you know how, but not effusively. You may invite him in, even though it is the first time he has taken you home, if it is not late, or at any hour if the other members of the family are about and the house is still open.

Perceived Brownstone Ills—You may visit the

Rosebud, Brownstone, Ills.—You may visit the home of your fiance for any length of time, provided his people ask you to. (2) Opals are not bad luck for anything, but they are not used as engagement rings. Only a diamond. (3) No time is set on engagements. It is a matter to be determined by those most interested.

Ignorance, Rochester, N. Y.—Your mother is probably a better judge of young men than you are and you will do well not to encourage any one to whom she objects.

Innocence. Marksville. Is—Von. 272 a 2014.

whom she objects.

Innocence, Marksville, La.—You are a little young, possibly, to marry, but under the circumstances, I think I would not wait two years. If the man is all right and able to support you, marry any time this autumn. (2) The engagement ring is worn on the third finger of the left hand. You might let near friends see what is inside of it. (3) The young man should return the letters without being asked, when the engagement is broken.

Blue Eves. Alma. Wis.—August 5th. 1882 fell on

Blue Eyes, Alma, Wis.-August 5th, 1882 fell on

A. C. R., Cleveland, O.—A letter addressed to either man, New York City, will be delivered. Don't know their street numbers, but it is not nec-

essary.

Three Hayseeds, Sprague, Wash.—Ask your mother. (2) May 14th, 1880, fell on Friday; July 9th, 1888, Monday. (3) What kind of a "bow" do you mean? A bow of ribbon?

A bow of ribbon?

Unhappy Girl, Carroll Co., Md.—Under all the circumstances I think you and the young man should talk your affair over thoroughly, and come to some kind of positive agreement. Of course your mother will oppose it, but if the young man is worthy and can support you your mother's prejudice may be overcome. Do not be in a hurry to marry, because that may make matters worse. Be sure you are right before you go ahead.

Dew Drop, Manchester, Ia.—There is no such place known for a certainty. You will have to send your stories in and see what the editor thinks of them. Try your local editor first and get his opin-

L. J., Helena, Mon.—There is no cure for blushing except self-possession. Study to be unconscious of yourself. Think about other people and what they are like, and get your mind off of your own self.

own self.

Violet, Hartwell, Neb.—If the man is worthy, the objection of the parents should not be considered. Prejudices may be overcome. (2) When a man is in love with a girl she will always know it, unless he is a knave and she is stupid. (3) Don't exchange photographs except with your parents' consent.

Western Beauty, St. Francis, Kans.—You are too young, if I am able to judge from the questions you ask.

ask.

Nell, Greensboro, N. C.—Tell the young man who is staying in the house that it is bed time, when the hour has come. He may know himself that as a house visitor he should not stay in the parlor any longer than if he were merely making a call. (2) On coming in after the family has retired, simply go to your respective rooms.

go to your respective rooms.

Cinderella, Saint Francis, Kans.—If he wants to propose he will do so, and if he does not, do you think it would be pleasant for you to fish around and find out that he didn't want you? It is not your place to take the lead. (2) It is not unlady-like to stop on the street to talk with a man, but the conversation should be brief. (3) You might give a man a simple scarfpin, but no expensive jewelry.

M. S., Fairmount, Texas.—Men don't usually give watches to ladies unless they are engaged to them, and not often then; but if the lady accepts one she wears it. (2) A solitaire diamond is the engagement ring and it is worn on the third finger of the left hand.

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riore us. AMERICAN SUPPLY CO., 806-8 N. Main St., Dept. 57, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Troubled Girl, Hill Side City, N. Y.—If there is no objection to the man except that he is a Catholic, you might take that risk, though such marriages are not always the happiest. If you love him and he loves you the church part of it may be disregarded, also the mother's opposition. (2) I do not see any impropriety in acting as his stenographer.

Sweetheart, Krug, Md.—April 22, 1887, fell on Friday; April 17, 1880, fell on Saturday.

There, dears, all your questions are answered, and I hope you will take them to heart and think them over and get all the good out of them that is intended. By, by.

COUSIN MARION.

## Manners and Looks.

"Virtue itself offends, when coupled with forbidding manners."-Bishop Middleton.

Miss M. D. Ithaca, Mich.—There are many books on etiquette, and they range in price from twenty-five cents to a dollar and a half. Mrs. Sherwood's "Manners and Social Usages" is one of the best, price \$1.50. Ask your book-store man to get it for

price \$1.50. Ask your book-store man to get it for you.

May Blossom, Pella, Ia.—Which one of a couple must give up his or her church for the other is a matter to be settled between them. Neither has a greater claim than the other, if both are church members. (2) Complexion hasn't anything to do with choosing a mate, I fancy. Blondes and brunettes may choose as they please. (3) Yes.

Beatrice, Drakesboro, Ky.—Sixteen year old girls should wear their dresses just below the shoe-top, depending somewhat on the height and size of the girl. Some girls of that age are larger than their mothers, and a large girl must dress more like a woman than a girl. (2) To remove freckles dissolve in half an ounce of lemon juice, one ounce of Venice soap and add a quarter ounce each of oil of bitter almonds and deliquated oil of tartar. Let the mixture remain in the sun till it becomes a paste, then add three drops oil of rhodium and keep for use. Apply as follows: Wash the face at night with elderflower water, and anoint with the paste. Wash it off in the morning with rosewater, used copiously. (3) What is said to be a fine hair restorer is made as follows: Sugar of lead half ounce; lac sulphur, half ounce; essence of bergamot, half ounce; alcohol, half gill; glycerine, three ounces; tincture of cantharides, half ounce: ammonia, half ounce. Mix all in one pint of soft water. The hair must be perfectly clean before applying, and the mixture must be rubbed into the roots.

Violet, Heartwell, Neb.—The best way for a girl of seventeen to do up her hair is to choose the most.

roots.
Violet, Heartwell, Neb.—The best way for a girl of seventeen to do up her hair is to choose the most becoming way. It does not matter if it is not quite what is fashionable if it makes her look better that way than any other. The Pompadour is probably more worn than any other, but it is not becoming to many faces.

to many faces.

Miss M. G. H., Cleveland, O.—Why not advertise your hair remover in "Comfort?"

Gum Drop, Smoot, Wyo.—There is no set form for asking a man to call. Simply tell him you would be glad to have him call. (2) A lady may go with as many men to ice cream in one evening as she can find room for the ice cream. There is no rule. (3) No, the lady should keep her gloves on. (4) If there is no room at her own house, the lady should borrow the parlor of some friend. This is often done with those who have small houses. (5) Basket ball, yes. (6) No.

Hayseed, Sprague, Wash.—See answer above to

Hayseed, Sprague, Wash.—See answer above to Violet."

Ignor, Rochester, N. Y.—It is proper to ask a man to call, and to tell him what time you will be at home. If you have no time definitely when you re-ceive callers, it is enough to ask him to call.

Katie, St. Peter, Minn.—It may be proper enough for two ladies and two men to leave the ballroom to go for a walk, but it is not usual, and ladies in ball costume are not in walking condition ordinarily. (2) Not in the best society, but possibly in the "Bowery". (3) A lady who was at all diffident would scarcely permit herself to be the only woman in a company of men, no matter how elegant the company might be.

company might be.

Married Lady, Farmer City, Ills.—No reply is necessary. (2) Fold your napkin loosely only, and lay it beside your plate. (3) A formal bow is sufficient in speaking to men or women. A smile is always agreeable. (4) A pretty neck needs no necklace, but if one is worn let it be simple. (5) Tannin will not make the lips thin that we have ever heard of. Nothing will. (6) Lemon juice is not hurtful to skin or stomach if not used to excess. (7) Don't know about the lotion formula you submit. Try it and see if it is effective.

Beatrice Turner. Mecumseh. Neb—For blacks

nt and see if it is effective.

Beatrice Turner, Mecumseh, Neb.—For black-heads there is no certain cure. Eat plain food for the blood and take plenty of exercise. Wash the face in warm water and soap, using a soft flesh brush. As a lotion use a mixture of pure brandy, two ounces; cologne, one ounce; liquor of potassa, one half ounce. Apply at night after pressing the blackheads out, and thoroughly washing the face in hot water and soap. hot water and soap.

Belva, Alton, Pa.—You may say either "Beg your pardon", or "Pardon me", with a preference for the latter. But do not use it too often. (2) Simply tell him he may go with you, if you want him to go.

Minnie S., Montrose, Ia.—See answer above to "Violet".

Blue Bell, Lebanon, O.—At a small dance if two or more couples wish to stroll beyond the dancing room, there is no impropriety in it, especially if the night be warm. It would not be good form at a formal dancing party, though some of the daring might do so. might do so

might do so.

Mrs. D. C. L. Independence, Mo.—It is the custom in the larger cities for ladies to reserve one day in the week when they are at home to callers and callers are expected on that day. If they call at other times they may be received or not as the lady chooses, and they should not criticise her for not being at home on "off days". Ladies should adopt this rule in the smaller towns, where a great deal of valuable time is wasted by indiscriminate callers who "run in" at any hour and don't seem to know when to run out. Of course in the large cities this kind of informal visiting is not possible.

Two Ladies, Oxford, Miss.—We do not know of any place in which the ladies of the town enter into an agreement among themselves to give their

any place in which the ladies of the town enter into an agreement among themselves to give their town more social life by taking turns through the Winter at giving an afternoon reception one day in the week, say, Wednesday, from 3 to 6, but we can readily see what a benefit it would be to all. Such receptions or teas, would be informal, would cost little or nothing for refreshments as the simplest things would be served, people could drop in and out again, even the men could come in for a few minutes, and the whole social life of the place would be encouraged and improved. We heartily recommend your trying it and would advise the ladies of other small towns to do the same. It would not be necessary to send out invitations. All your sequaintances would be welcome, and they could



bring such visitors as they might have with them. Social life in the small towns is too narrow, and too much in cliques, and it should be broadened by just such a liberal policy as you propose and we should be glad to hear after the season is over, what success you have had.

Kathryn, Paris, Texas.—It is considered "smart" for the lady to drive, but she should have a turnout to match. That is, if she has an old-fashioned buggy with a "Dobbin" of a horse, she ought to let the man do the driving. With a cart and a smart horse, she could take the lines herself.

John K. L., Napoleon, Ind.—The man always takes

John Kr. L., Napoleon, Ind.—The man always takes his hat off when speaking to a lady in passing, or to a man with a lady whom he does not know. He should keep his hat on when talking to a lady on the street or out of doors generally, though a piaza might not be considered to be out of doors. In a store, while he might remove his hat when he spoke to the lady and keep it off while talking briefly to her, he would put it on again if they remained in company and went about the store together. This rule prevails usually in all public places.

Orange Lily cures Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacement. Displacement, Painful Periods. For a free trial address, Mrs. H. L. Fretter, Detroit, Mich.

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wonderful price offerings ever made, our liberal terms, pay after received oner and THREE MONTHS FREE SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL this ad. out and mail to

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Marvelous Discovery by the Famous Dr. Yonkerman of Kalamazoo, Mich.-State Officials and Great Medical Men Pronounce it in Only Cure for Consumption and All Throat and Lung Troubles.

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Mr. Boylan says: "Tuberculozyne (Yonkerman)

mr. Boylan says: "Tuberculozyne (Yonkerman) has cured me completely of consumption.
"Three years ago I contracted a cough and a cold that hung on and that I could not break up I had hemorrhages and four physicians of this city prohemorrhages and four physicians of this city pro-nounced my case consumption of the lungs and advised me to go South, as they thought it might prolong my life a little. I continued to grow worse until I was very weak and had to quit work. I thought my case hopeless but was persuaded to take Tuberculozyne and to-day I am as well as ever and able to work at my trade (tailor) every day. I have gained 18 pounds and am increasing in weight and Dr. Yonkerman cured me." day. I have gained is pounds and am increasing in weight and Dr. Yonkerman cured me."

The doctor makes no secret of the ingredients of

his wonderful cure, believing that the people are entitled to such a production of science, and he is sending free treatments all over the world bringis sending free treatments all over the world bringing joy of knowledge of certain rescue from this awful fatal disease. Such eminent scientists as Koch, Luton, Pasteur and all the great medical and germ specialists and chemists have already repeatedly declared that the consumptive germ cannot live a minute in the presence of the ingredients of this wonderful remedy that has already revolutionized the treatment of consumption and has taken it from the catalogue of deadly fatal diseases and placed it in the curable list. Free treatments, proof of tests, already made and letters from grateful people—former consumptives letters from grateful people—former consumptives rescued from the very jaws of death are sent free to all who write to the Yonkerman Chemical Co., 580 Shakespeare Building, Kalamazoo, Mich. Dr. Yonkerman has organized his own company, despite rich offers from corporations, so that he can spite rich offers from corporations, so that he can be sure that all consumptive sufferers on the face of the earth will have this marvelous and only genuine cure for consumption at a price within the reach of the poorest person. Write to-day. It is a sure cure and the free trial sent you will do you more good than all the medicines, cod-liver oils, stimulants or changes of climate and it will convince you that at last there has been discovered the true cure for consumption. Don't delay—there the true cure for consumption. Don't delay—there is not an hour to lose when you have consumption or any throat or lung trouble. Send to-day for

## Ned Todd.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9.)

torture me. I have lived a terrible life all these torture me. I have lived a terrible life all these years, and it is a wonder that I did not go mad. I lived only with a hope of some day having revenge, and that hope has at last been realized. Here lies the man who has caused me all my woe. And it is no wonder that my own son did not know me, so greatly have I been changed by suffering."

The youth now recognized his father in that mis-shapen cripple, and throwing himself upon his neck, wept:

"Father, father! found at last!"

#### CHAPTER XX. CONCLUSION.

CHAPTER XX.

CONCLUSION.

After the excitement attending the discovery had somewhat subsided, the sergeant made a short inventory of their losses. They had one man killed, another wounded, while four of the road agents were lying stiff and lifeless upon the ground, their chief one of the number, and they had good reason to believe that two or three of those who had escaped did not get away unscathed. It was a decided victory.

We will state here for the benefit of the reader, that the band of Captain Snell has never been heard of since that night. Those who escaped doubtless were too much afraid of the power of the law, which was capable of reaching out even into the wilderness to protect people, to again openly defy it.

Mr. Holland told his son that his money was buried in a large cavern, which he had accidentally found. He thought that it was in an easterly direction from the hut. Daylight dawned, and they were about to bury the dead robbers before going in search of the cavern of death, which both Archie and Ned Todd knew must be the cavern alluded to, when they were suddenly startled by a wild cry, and Oklahoma Peg suddenly burst from the wood, and running to the side of the road agent chieftain, fell upon her knees and burst into the most frantic fit of weeping.

"Oh, he is dead, he whom I loved, but who was losing his love for me," she cried. Wilder and wilder grew her sobs and cries, until she, in a fit of frenzy, snatched a small silver handled dagger, which she wore in the belt about her waist, and before any one could interfere to prevent her, plunged it to her heart.

Side by side, the road agent and his injured bride were huried. Then the others were not the bride were huried. Then the others were not the bride were huried. Then the others were not the bride were huried. Then the others were not the bride were huried. Then the others were not the bride were huried. Then the others were not the side of the road agent and his injured bride were huried. Then the others were not the side of the road ag

neart.

Side by side, the road agent and his injured bride were buried. Then the others were put beneath the sod, and with only a few relics the party set out to find the cavern of death.

Ned Todd's skill and judgment in wood craft again stood them in need. Had it not been for him it is doubtful if they could have been death.

for him, it is doubtful if they could have found

for him, it is doubtful if they could have found it.

Archie Holland rode by the side of his crippled fatner, and the latter told him all about his horrib. captivity, and how he had prayed for liberty. In that the vengeance of the Lord might fall aponthe men who had inflicted such a fearful punishment upon him.

The cavern was reached, and they all entered. Mr. Holland recognized the place. He said that it had evidently been inhabited two hundred years before by some of the old Spanish explorers under De Soto, as he had found a full suit of armor, and two or three old matchlocks of the period.

The gold was buried under the approach to the natural bridge and it proved to be under the very stone which Archie Holland had knocked over into the torrent below, when he saved the life of the detective by catching him. But for some dust and debris that had settled upon the great iron chest in which the gold upon the great iron chest in which the gold was kept, it would have been discovered when the loose stone was rolled off from it.
"Here it is, and all right," said the father.
"Now let us reach the settlement as soon as possible, and then we will live happily, my son."

When they returned to the boomers' camp, they found Daisy much improved, and the whole party one week later was ready to start

They reached the city of Abeline, where the

They reached the city of Abeline, where the youth and his father were to take the train for their eastern home. Before parting from the boomers, Mr. Holland made each of them a present in gold, which to a considerable extent compensated them for their loss in Oklahoma.

Daisy had no relatives left, and Archie Holland had grown to love the poor friendless girl. When she had regained her health, he proposed marriage and was accepted. His father approved the union, and saw no reason of delaying the marriage. After considerable persuasion, the bashful, modest Daisy consented to become his wife at once, and the next day they were married in the little white church, which stands just in the outskirts of Abeline.

A few days later they took their departure. First, before going, Archie paid the sum agreed upon to Major Todd, the border scout and detective, for his very faithful and effective services rendered in the search for his father.

Then with his young wife he went to his old home, where he engaged in a prosperous mercantile business. His crippled father is an inmate of his household, and is pitted by all who know of his great misfortune and suffering. There is no more prosperous and honorable business man in the city where he lives, than Archibald Holland.

THE END.

Those who have read "Ned Todd" will be interested to know that in our next issue we shall commence another thrilling Indian story even more interesting and exciting than that which finishes above. The October number will contain the first chapters of

## JACK HARKAWAY OUT WEST AMONG THE INDIANS. by Bracebridge Heming.

You cannot afford to miss one chapter of this exciting story of adventure, so if you are not a subscriber or if your subscription expires with this number send 10c. with the coupon which you will find on page II of this paper.

Is your name in the list on page 15? If it is it may pay you to get a copy of "Comfort's List of Heirs." Send in coupon at foot of

## The Home Finder.

Paid up subscribers who desire to make a change in their present situation or are in any way uncomfortable in their abode and want information about any particular location in any State in the Union can address "The Comfort Home Finder," Augusta, Maine, and we will try and serve them.

Notice. Many of those applying for information to this column ask us to advertise their property for them by calling the attention of home seekers to their possessions. We cannot do this except at the usual advertising rates. We can only refer seekers to persons in authority who will furnish information in detail for the benefit of their respective states and neighborhoods.

E. S. West, Stafford, Conn.—Our advice is not to try fox raising in Alaska unless you have unlimited capital. If you have money you can employ men to live on a fox island, but if you tried it yourself you would soon wish you were back in Connecticut. The climate is cold and damp, especially on the island, and you would be about as lonely as Robinson Crusoe was. The fox raising in Alaska is done either by natives, or companies with capital who employ natives to do the work. Emma Wigglesworth, Altavista, Mo.—We know of no Ozark Mountain circulars. Write to Geo. P. Ellis, Secretary State Board of Agriculture, Columbia, Mo., for information, stating to him just what you want to know. Don't leave it to him to tell you, but ask the questions to cover all points.

Louis C. Gregory, Floresville, Texas—Your question is not in our line. Write to the editor of any agricultural paper in your state inclosing postage for reply.

Mrs. Laura Powell, Pollak, Texas—We are not

Louis C. Gregory, Floresville, Texas—Your question is not in our line. Write to the editor of any agricultural paper in your state inclosing postage for reply.

Mrs. Lawra Powell, Pollak, Texas—We are not landscape gardeners in this department and would not like to offer advice at this distance. In our opinion, however, you are as good a judge where to place your trees and shrubs as a professional would be, and better than any book could tell you. Set them out to suit your own taste and you will be better satisfied than if you had some one else to do it for you by rules of gardening that you did not understand. The chief point to be observed in setting out shade trees is to locate them where they will furnish shade where it is most needed during the hottest hours of the day. Comfort is of more value in this regard than rules of Art.

Mrs. Mary Robinson, Widdowfield. Wyo.—Write to Commissioner of Public Lands, Washington, D. C. and to Hon. J. H. Vaughn, Territorial Treasurer, Santa Fe, N. M., for information concerning desert lands. New Mexico has over fifty-five million acres of public lands subject to entry and settlement, over fourteen millions of which are not yet surveyed.

M. D., Niangua, Mo.—We do not know the school laws of Arkansas, but you can get all information by writing to State Superintendent of Schools, Little Rock. There is something over three millions of acres of public lands in Arkansas, most of which we fancy is hardly tillable. Write to Land Commissioner, Washington, D. C., or to Hon. Frank Hill, Commissioner of Agriculture, Little Rock, Ark. We fancy you would find as many teachers in Arkansas as you do in Missouri. If you are determined to teach why not write to the War Department at Washington, D. C., or to Hon. Frank Hill, commissioner, washington and find out about schools in the Philippines?

Old Man, East Kingston, N. H.—We do not know positively, but we believe there is no part of the country where stomach troubles may be benefited by climatic conditions. In some localities where th

Thomas K., Batavia, Ohio.—Write to J. R. Young, Humboldt, Tenn., for proposition to go into stock raising.

Landlord, Emporia, Kan.—There is a letter at this office which will be forwarded if your address

Humboldt, Tenn., for proposition to go into stock raising.

Landlord, Emporia, Kan.—There is a letter at this office which will be forwarded if your address is furnished.

Mrs. Allie West, Corning, N. Y.—Lumbering has never been actively pushed in South Carolina and it would be hard to say what are lumbering towns. About 68 per cent. of the state is believed to be covered with merchantable timber, and no doubt an active man from the north might do well there. Write to Hon. M. R. Cooper, Columbia, for information, asking him to refer your letter to some one in the lumber business who is reliable. Georgia contains three times as much standing timber as South Carolina, and within the last ten years the business has largely increased. We have no details or figures, but if you will write to Hon. O. B. Stevens, Commissioner of Agriculture, Atlanta, asking him to refer your letter to some reliable dealer, you will be put in the way of finding out all you want to know before going there to see for yourself.

Farmer, Altoona, Okla.—If you can get \$200 a year, even in grain, for a farm costing \$2,000 you are doing much better than you could in anything in our knowledge. Land anywhere east of the Mississippi that will produce twenty bushels of wheat to the acre is worth from \$50 an acre up, and you can easily calculate what kind of an income you would get from a \$2,000 farm. There are some towns where you could buy small houses for renting, that might bring you in gross \$250 to \$300 a year, but they are extremely hard to find and rents would likely go down with the erection of a very few extra houses. \$300 a year, which you seem to think you can get on your \$2,000 to invest, means 15 per cent. and money is hardly worth that these days when three per cent. government bonds are selling at a premium. You will either have to come down in your notions or find something that every one in this country with money would only be too glad to get hold of. Why not go to Washington or Oregon and loan your money on mort-gages? You can g

would not, however, advise Florida as a place for the livery business unless you have special advantages. Write to the Editor of the Sub Tropic, Palatka, and ask him what he thinks of it. In any event you would have to investigate the field personally.

F. D. C., Medina, Ohio.—Mt. Vernon, N. Y. is a very pleasant suburban town about half an hour from New York City, and is a desirable place of the control of

residence, though rents are high, a very ordinary house bringing from \$25 to \$50 a month.

Miss K. I. J., Madison, Wis.—A boarding house in Seattle would probably pay if you were skillful in keeping it, and had good business sense. Prices are not high there, six to ten dollars a week, for one person in a room, according to house and style, and higher than ten in some instances. Provisions are higher than in western markets, but not very much. Help is the largest item of expense, cooks being worth from \$30 to \$50 a month, and house girls \$20. Rent is also high in good neighborhoods. Fuel is the least expense, as the winters are never cold, and little fire goes a long way, though in some years some fire is necessary every month in the year for a day or two at a time.

M. I. K., Doyleston, Pa.—Real estate almost any-

the year for a day or two at a time.

M. I. K., Doyleston, Pa.—Real estate almost anywhere along the Maine coast is high in price, as compared with rough land elsewhere. The entire section has become very popular as a resort for summer people from the cities east of the Mississippi, and they are people with money who are willing to pay for what they want. There are many desirable places, however, where you could get very good value for your \$5,000. Pretty much the same condition exists along the south shore of Connecticut, where prices are even higher in favored localities. You get more mosquitoes though for your money in Connecticut than you do in Maine.



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Send your name and address at once, and on receipt of same we will send you one box of Red Cross Pepsin Gum, express charges prepaid. You can sell it in an hour among your friends and neighbors, and send the proceeds (\$1.00) to us, upon receipt of which we will forward the ring you select, charges paid. Could anything be easier? You don't invest a cent and have no trouble in selling the gum. We also give Watches and other presents for selling larger quantities. List sent with gum.

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After years of patient study, and delving into the dusty record of the past, as well as following modern experiments in the realms of medical science, Dr. James W. Kidd, 213 Baltes Block, Fort Wayne, Ind., makes the startling announcement that he has surely



DR. JAMES WILLIAM KIDD.

discovered the elixir of life. That he is able with the aid of a mysterious compound, known only to himself, produced as a result of the years he has spent in searching for this precious life-giving boon, to cure any and every disease that is known to the human body. There is no doubt of the doctor's earnestness in making his claim and the remarkable cures that he is daily effecting seems to bear him out very strongly. His theory which he advances is one of reason and based on sound experience in a medical practice of many years. It costs nothing to try his remarkable "Elixir of Life," as he calls it, for he sends it free, to anyone who is a sufferer, in sufficient quantities to convince of its ability to cure, so there is absolutely no risk to run. Some of the cures cited are very remarkable, and but for reliable witnesses would hardly be credited. The lame have thrown away crutches and walked about after two or three trials of the remedy. The sick, given up by home doctors, have been restored to their families and friends in perfect health. Rheumatism, neuralgia, stomach, heart, liver, kidney, blood and skin diseases and bladder troubles disappear as by magic. Headaches, backaches, nervousness, fevers, consumption, coughs, colds, asthma, catarrh, bronchitis and all affections of the throat, lungs or any vital organs are easily overcome in a space of time that is simply marvelous.

Partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, dropsy, gout, scrofula and piles are quickly and permanently removed. It purifies the entire system, blood and tissues, restores normal nerve power, circulation and a state of perfect health is produced at once. To the doctor all systems are alike and equally affected by this great "Elixir of Life." Send for the remedy to-day. It is free to every sufferer. State what you want to be cured of and the sure remedy for it will be sent you free by return mail.

## Family Doctor.

O many inquiries are received by COMFORT concerning the health of the family that a column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be referred to physicians, not to us. Address The Family Doctor, Comfort, Augusta, Maina.

Clerk, Pittsburg, Texas.—In reducing your flesh stop eating all fattening foods, that is those with starch or sweetening in them, as cereals, peas, beans, corn, potatoes and such. Have your bread toasted and put salt on it instead of butter. Drink no milk, and just as little water as you can possibly get along with, and make that acid with the juice of lemons or limes. Sleep only seven hours at night, and during the day when you feel like taking a nap, take exercise instead. And take plenty of exercise, five miles for a walk is none too much. Lately it has been announced that a diet of beef and spinach, disregarding all the other foods, will reduce the flesh more quickly and with less danger than any other course. You must in a manner starve yourself or you will continue to gather flesh.

Mrs. D., Bellows Falls, Vt.—We are afraid that

gather flesh.

Mrs. D., Bellows Falls, Vt.—We are afraid that we can do very little toward relieving your asthma. If it is possible for you to make a trip to Denver, or to New Mexico, it would do more good than all the medicines the doctors could give. Of the simpler remedies patients have found relief in inhaling tobacco smoke and some by wearing a gauze veil over the face. Have you ever tried a mixture of honey and castor oil? Two ounces of the best of honey and one ounce of castor oil are the proportions. Take a teaspoonful night and morning. Try some of the patent medicines that are to be had at the drug stores. Very many times they can do what the doctors fail in.

I. H., Greenwich, Kans.—The best thing for

they can do what the doctors fall in.

I. H., Greenwich, Kans.—The best thing for blackheads and red blotches on the face is to get your blood in better condition, which may be done by eating very simple food with the smallest amount of grease, frequent bathing in hot water, and plenty of exercise in the open air. For local applications to the blackheads use, after squeezing them out, a mixture of pure brandy two ounces, cologne, one ounce, liquor of potassa, one half ounce. Apply at night after washing the face thoroughly with soap and water. As to the red blotches, we cannot venture a local application because we do not know what causes them. You had better consult your home physician.

A Wyoming correspondent writes to say that

had better consult your home physician.

A Wyoming correspondent writes to say that common table salt is a sure cure for hay fever, or at least was in her case and that of a friend of hers. Her experience with it extended over three years, and each year it prevented the disease. She took half a teaspoonful every morning. She does not say how she administered it, but we suppose she snuffed it. The same correspondent says that willow charcoal tablets are almost a specific in cases of headache arising from disordered stomach. We thank the lady, and hope other correspondents with good, simple remedies will submit them.

A. E. L., Covelo, Cal.—There are numerous reme-

with good, simple remedies will submit them.

A. E. L., Covelo, Cal.—There are numerous remedies for falling hair. A famous lotion that will prevent its falling out is made of cologne, two ounces; tincture of cantharides, two drachms; oil of lavender or rosemary, ten drops. Apply morning and night for a time, then at less frequent intervals. If the scalp becomes sore, use less frequently. (2) There is no absolutely harmless hair dye, because any of them makes the hair unnatural. Any dye that your druggist will recommend is as good as any we can give you a recipe for. (3) Write to A. Simonson, 933 Broadway, New York City. (4) There is no sure cure for catarrh. Some patent medicines are a relief and it is sometimes practically cured by going to some parts of the country, Colorado, New Mexico or Arizona, where the air is perfectly dry.

E. C., West Lake, Minn.—We are afraid we can

Colorado, New Mexico or Arizona, where the air is perfectly dry.

E. C., West Lake, Minn.—We are afraid we can not do much for your yellow neck. An excellent wash that may be of some benefit is made of pure oxide of zinc, one ounce; glycerine, one ounce; rosewater, four ounces; essence of rose, fifteen drops. Sift the zinc, dissolving it in just enough of the rosewater to cover it; add the glycerine, and then the rest of the rosewater. Shake well and apply with a soft sponge or antiseptic gauze. The neck must be well wiped off before the liquid dries, or it will be streaked. This does not remove the yellow, it merely hides it. (2) Vaseline thoroughly rubbed into the scalp, but not on all the hair, will make it less dry and sooth the scalp. Use it at intervals of three weeks or a month. (3) If you will take a cold bath every morning, you will be much less liable to take cold. At least soak your feet in cold water every morning, and rub them dry with a rough towel. Wear cotton stockings and loose shoes.

Argus, Evansville, Ind.—Granulated eyelids are

dry with a rough towel. Wear cotton stockings and loose shoes.

Argus, Evansville, Ind.—Granulated eyelids are not to be treated by newspaper remedies, but require the care of an occulist who is thoroughly competent. If the case is merely a slight trouble, a very good remedy, that can do no harm if it does no good, is made of alum powder eight drams, and white of one egg. Shake together until they coagulate. Apply on linen and cover with muslin.

Frank K., Leonardtown, Md.—People do not inherit disease; they inherit only the predisposition. If there is consumption in your family, the wisest thing for you to do is to live in some part of the country where consumption is practically unknown. The high parts of Colorado, the warm, dry plains of Arizona and New Mexico, should be chosen as your home. There with ordinary care of yourself you will live out your three score and ten, as far as consumption is concerned.

Kitty, Jackson, Ark.—Tartar on the teeth is the result of too much acid in the system. It may be removed by taking a sharpened pine stick and dipping it into pulverized pumice stone moistened with lemon juice and rubbing the parts of the teeth affected. Rinse the mouth with warm water. Do not use the pumice stone except when necessary, as it will injure the enamel. Brush your teeth twice a day, using soft water and a brush not too stiff.

Miss Pansy, Wilmington, Del.—If your general health is good your pallor, or lack of color is due

wice a day, using soft water and a brush not too stiff.

Miss Pansy, Wilmington, Del.—If your general health is good your pallor, or lack of color is due largely to lack of oxygen in the blood, and you should stay in the open air as much as possible, and sleep in a room where you can get fresh air all night. During the day get out and take long and frequent breaths of good air. This will get the oxygen into your lungs from where it will go into the blood and supply the deficiency which seems to be lacking. If your general health is not good, your case demands the attention of a physician who can study the conditions and make the proper suggestions for a remedy. Some people are naturally pallid, in which case there is no remedy.

A. Z., Palmyra, Va.—Judging off hand we should say that you have indigestion with its train of discomforts. Suppose you try a diet of plain food, and not very much of it, taking about half a teaspoonful of ordinary cooking sods in a glass of water after each meal. About once a week take a tablespoonful of Glauber salts in a glass of hot water before breakfast. And take plenty of exercise, unless your work is active and in the open air.

John Milligan, Dewey, Ariz.: The address of the lady asking about hay fever is lost, but if you will

John Milligan, Dewey, Ariz.: The address of the lady asking about hay fever is lost, but if you will send your remedy to this paper we will be glad to present it to the public so that all may derive bene-

Green, Reading, Ohio.—A famous constipation pill is made as follows: one grain podophyllin, one grain extract belladonna, five grains capsicum, and twenty grains powdered rhubart; mix and divide into twenty pills. Take one three times a day.

H. R. S., San Francisco, Cal.—If you have a formula for curing inflammatory(not "inflamable," as you have it) rheumatism in two days you can get all the money you want for it. We would advise your getting it patented at once.

Inquirer, Ely, Minn.—If it is not from too much liquor, the cure of which is to let liquor alone, there is no cure except a course of treatment by a physician, and sometimes not even then. See the physician.

cian.

O. S., Gladden, Mo.—We have supposed you have consulted physicians, if not you should do so. For yourself what might be of great benefit to your difficult breathing would be frequent long inhalations of fresh air. Stand up out of doors and practice long breaths, beginning gently at first. Do it as you progress for five minutes at a time, and any number of times during the day. Evidently you have catarrh but you should find out from a physician whether you have or not. Such a condition as you describe yourself to be in requires much more careful treatment than you could get through a newspaper.

K. M. B., Hagerstown, Md.—Your dizziness head-

a newspaper.

K. M. B., Hagerstown, Md.—Your dizziness, headache, mental depression, etc. are due very evidently to over-eating. You cannot over-load your stomach and expect to keep in a good condition. Don't diet yourself, but actually stop eating. That is, skip a meal every other day for a week, and then skip two for a day or two at a time, until your stomach has a chance to gain its normal strength. You will either have to do this or quit eating altogether, and you know what that means. Don't take any more medicine.

Mrs. M. H. O'D, Knightstown, Ind.—An arcellant

take any more medicine.

Mrs. M. H. O'D, Knightstown, Ind.—An excellent remedy for the stings or bites of spiders, wasps or bees, is to apply equal parts of common salt and bicarbonate of soda dissolved in warm water, well rubbed in. This will ordinarily give instant relief. Another remedy is one part spirit of hartshorn and two parts olive oil, rubbed in.

Mother, Emporia, Kans.—If you find difficulty in having your children take castor oil, beat it up with the white of an egg until both are thoroughly mixed. You may add a little sugar if you wish, and the children will not object to it, if you do not tell them you are giving them castor oil.

Miss B.. Springfield, Vt.—Bad breath may be

Miss R., Springfield, Vt.—Bad breath may be remedied by taking a teaspoonful of the following mixture after each meal: one ounce liquor of potassa, one ounce chloride of soda, one ounce phose phate of soda, and three ounces of water. If it is the result of bad teeth they must be looked after by a dentist.

the result of bad teeth they must be looked after by a dentist.

K. L. Y., Spokane, Wash.—If your patient is troubled with bed sores apply to them the white of an egg well beaten and mixed with spirits of wine. Another remedy is to bathe them in a mixture of powdered alum and whiskey, one tablespoonful of alum to a teacupful of whiskey.

Hiram H., Rockport, Ind.—You may cure your ingrowing nails by careful treatment and well selected shoes. That is shoes which do not press down on the foot. Get from the druggist some perchloride of iron in fluid form and apply a small quantity to the painful part. Almost immediate relief will be experienced, and presently the skin will begin to dry and harden, and the pain will gradually depart. Let the hardened flesh remain for two weeks or more when it may be removed by soaking the feet in warm water. New and healthy flesh will be found below, and if the nails be cut only at the top and curved, with possibly a groove cut down the top of them, the ingrowing will be prevented and no more trouble will be had with them. In less serious cases simply scraping the top of the nail with a piece of glass until it is quite thin will prevent growing into the flesh at the side.

Do not be alarmed about your ears until you have tried to restore their faculty, which you say

quite thin will prevent growing into the flesh at the side.

Do not be alarmed about your ears until you have tried to restore their faculty, which you say seems to be impaired without any reason for it. Inject some tepid water into the ear with that side of the head held upward. Then let the water run out after a minute. Drop in a couple of drops daily of this mixture: ten drops sassafras oil; one fluid drachm of glycerine; half fluid ounce olive oil. A simple cure for earache is to put a wad of cotton in the bowl of a tobacco pipe, saturate it with chloroform, place another dry wad over it, place the stem in the ear and blow through the bowl. The fumes of the chloroform enter and effect an almost immediate cure.

Kate K., Pulaski, Tenn.—Your palpitation of the heart is not true heart disease, and you are in no danger from it if you will be careful to eat only digestible food. You have indigestion and not angina pectoris and a drink of bicarbonate of soda in a glass of hot water after meals will be found to be a remedy. Prevention is better than cure in such cases, and you must diet yourself and take more exercise. Indigestion sometimes kills, and it sometimes makes one feel so bad that he wishes it would be quicker in its fatality.

E. W. C., Parish, Ills.—If your physician cannot stop the running of your ear we will not undertake the case. A very little mistake may cause you the

loss of your hearing, and we advise you to take advice of a physician, or at least of a druggist w may recommend something that can do no harn

may recommend something that can do no harm.
Y. T., Corryton, Tenn.—The use of depilatories, or hair removers, is not recommended, although some of them are practically harmless. Boudet's depilatory is said to be very effective and safe. It is made of three parts hydro-sulphurst of sodium (crystallized); ten parts finely powdered quick-lime and eleven parts starch. It should not be applied longer than from two to four minutes and washed off. Another is made of a strong solution of sulphurst of barium mixed to a paste with starch, finely powdered. Apply immediately after mixing and remove after five or ten minutes, according to the growth of hair.

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## Astrological Calendar.

CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER, 1902.

October 1 - Wednesday. This month opens with a superior day which should be improved to its fullest extent in forwarding all the major enterprises of life. REGULUS advises his friends to initiate their great undertakings; buy goods for trade; open new phaces for business; deal with judges, counsellors, ecclesiastics, and traders in wool and woolen goods; use the day for financial negotiations and gaining business credit and reputation. In general, all parents born about the 29th of January, 29th of March or May or the 1st of October or last of November, of past years, have now improved prosperity and better condition of health.

prosperity and better condition of health.

2—Thursday. Improve every moment of the forenoon for dealings in metals, machinery and entiry, also
for the pursuit of the mechanical trades and inventions;
perform experiments in chemistry, study new methods
in all mechanical and electrical work; deal with public
officials and manufacturing corporations or railways; as
the afternoon advances more baffling conditions prevail
and disappointments and disagreeable experiences are
induced; have no dealings with real estate men nor
trade in agricultural implements or products.

3—Friday. Urge all commercial transactions during this day; prosecute mathematical and scientific studies; deal with the intellectual classes, booksellers, publishers, printers, lawyers, press-writers and attend to matters of account. In the atternoon do not expect success in money negotiations nor be careless or extravagant in handling or dispensing thy wordly goods.

4—Saturday. Give preference to the foremon for

A—Saturday. Give preference to the forenoon for thy most important moves, particularly if same are concerned with literary labors of any class of mental work; the latter half of the day induces quarrels and disagreements and suggests patience and self-control; do not have any surgical operations performed on this day and be very careful in handling sharp instruments, fire-arms, explosives, and inflammable materials; heart troubles are aggravated at this time.

are aggravated at this time.

5—Sunday. The mind will be inclined towards the elegant in literature and the imagination will be active; pulpit efforts will abound in flower of speech and be effective in religious matters.

6—Monday. Begin the day early and give thy best energies to business; buy goods for trade and deal with judges, ecclesiastics, and persons of means and prominence; seek money accommodations, make collections, adjust accounts, prosecute mathematical studies; do important correspondence, travel, and make all kinds of contracts; commercial men are especially favored.

7—Tuesday. Push general business vigorously during this day, giving extra efforts to such business as pertains to manufacture or construction; travel, trade in cattle, and deal with chemists, physicians, military men and all who work with fire, machinery or sharp tools.

in cattle, and deal with chemists, physicians, military men and all who work with fire, machinery or sharp tools.

S-Wednesday. Baffling circumstances attend the prosecution of business relating to fancy and ornamental goods, musical merchandise and also the pursuits of the fine arts; make no matrimonial engagement in the forenoon, nor expect much progress in such undertakings already in hand; the afternoon is quite favorable for all classes of literary work-particularly prose and not poetry; do commercial correspondence and contract making.

9-Thursday. Give no cause for offence to thine employer or superior in office; the day is quite a treacherous one; sign no deeds nor transact business pertaining to houses or lands or any kind of mining enterprises; not make purchases of any of the agricultural productions—lumber, wool, coal, petroleum, lead, or copper.

10-Friday. This day is generally propitious for urging all the honorable pursuits without special encouragement to any particular class of engagements.

11-Saturday. Though the last day of the week, let none of the moments of the day be wasted but pursue thine avocations vigorously for thine exertions for pecuniary advantages in all honorable undertakings will meet with more than ordinary success; buy goods for trade, especially of an elegant, artistic or decorative nature; seek money accommodations; ask for credit; open new stores; deal with banks and other monied institutions; make collections; attend to architectural work; buy clothing and decorative apparel and urge the fine arts.

12-Saunday. A favorable Sabbath day; peculiar and original religious ideas and doctrines engage the mind and pulpit discourse will be striking rather than commonplace.

13-Monday. Urge business of all kinds during the first part of the day, preference being given to such as

monplace.

13-Monday. Urge business of all kinds during the list matter that of the day, preference being given to such as depends upon mental labors; it is especially favorable

You can easily make three dollars a day working for us. Do not miss this chance of making good money. See the back page of this paper.

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## PERSONAL.

WANTED—Information of Lizzie and Katie Fox, who in 1886 lived in Lawrence St., New York City, with their parents, Thomas Fox and his wife, Julia. It living, their present address, and if dead, the time and place of their deaths Cesired. Address Augusta, Maine.

Town

State

for literary matters and for the prosecution of the mathe-matical and scientific studies; let all classes of contracts affecting legal matters and all important movements for intellectual improvement and educational interests be now made. Merchants and tradesmen are particularly favored. The afternoon is less to be depended upon, be-ing peculiarly unfortunate for any kind of real estate transactions.

14-Tuesday. Do not use this time for any transaction pertaining to patents, trademarks, copyrights, or any business connected with corporations, nor deal in any article depending for its value upon protected rights of investors; use the afternoon for engagements with builders, contractors, miners, farmers and dealers in produce.

15-Wednesday. Employ this day for forwarding all the general affairs of life, though do not use the time for inaugurating any new or very important enterprises, as conditions do not promise well for successful results.

16—Thursday. It will be better to defer important engagements relating to the elegant pursuits and fine arts until after the noon hour, but let affairs pertaining to scientific or political matters be urged vigorously during the middle hours of the day when also deal with officials and employees of railways, steamships and corporations; have no dealings with very aged persons in the evening nor expect any favor from persons in authority.

the evening nor expect any favor from persons in authority.

17—Friday. Total Eclipse of the Moon just after midnight, visible in the United States. Use the early forencon for pressing engagements with persons in the manufacturing and mechanical enterprises and for dealings with engineers, surgeons, electricians, military men, cutlers, and iron and brass workers; the latter hours of the forencon are unfavorable for successful mental labor or dealings pertaining to books, writings, contracts or agreements of any kind; nor should any application be made during the middle hours of the day to public officials for favor or advantage.

18—Saturday. Be watchful of the purse during the first half of this day, nor permit desires for personal gratification to induce an extravagant expenditure of means; do not purchase goods for trade nor be careless in exposing valuables where they could be easily stolen.

19—Sunday. The morning is the best part of the day though the day generally contributes to aggressive and inharmonious discourse and is promotive of excitement and controversy; fires are to be particularly guarded against.

guarded against.

20—Monday. The very early and late hours of the day are the best. Use the morning for urging collections and otherwise attending to money matters; make no written application for any favor during the forenoon, but give thy best efforts to the afternoon especially for any of the elegant pursuits, artistic work, or musical or dramatical affairs; make no matrimonial engagements in the evening.

the evening.

21—Tuesday. This is one of the excellent days of the month and REQULUS urges his friends to fully improve every moment of the time for inaugurating important matters of the passing life. Let special preference be given to such business as pertains to commerce in connection with manufacturing and mechanical enterprises, important literary and scientific work, and mathematical and educational undertakings; have dealings with those engaged in such matters; perform chemical and electrical experiments; have dentistry attended to; consult thy lawyer and begin litigation if it must be resorted to.

sorted to.

22—Wednesday. Let this day be improved for all general affairs and engagements of a minor character and importance, especially to those pertaining to the elegant, artistic, and decorative in life; but steps of much magnitude are best postponed until the 25th instant.

23.—Thursday. An evil day. Fraud and deceit are among the principal characteristics of the passing time; beware of treachery; avoid beginning journeys; sign no deeds of writings nor have any transactions of importance in the law; avoid dealings in real estate and with elderly persons; beware of giving credit in thy business. Persons engaged in the literary pursuits, as a rule, are not prosperous at this time. Persons born about the 14th of January, 15th of April, 20th of July, or 23rd of October, of past years, will need to exercise great circumspection in all their affairs for nearly a year to come; tendencies towards perplexities and troubles in business, pecuniary losses, physical and mental depression, and family misfortunes are some of the accompanying evils peculiar to the near prevailing influences in such lives. Nervous disorders are likely to many of the gentler sex so born.

24.—Friday. The mischievous conditions of vester-

so born.

24—Friday. The mischievous conditions of yesterday reach well into the forenoon of this day and caution is extended for this time. Money losses are to be looked out for during the forenoon, in which no investment of means should be made for profit nor should monied collections or accommodations be sought. The afternoon initiates some of the choicer conditions and should be vigorously employed in forwarding all enterprises of moment. Particular efforts should be given to all manufacturing enterprises, especially in the nature of weaving and constructing the fine classes of goods; consult the tailor, milliner, dressmaker and dentist and purchase mathematical, philosophical and scientific wares.

25—Saturday. Another of the favorable days of the

25—Saturday. Another of the favorable days of the nonth. Those in the artistic professions and all in mechanical trades and dealings and those in the literary walks should launch their major enterprises on this day.

mechanical trades and dealings and those in the literary walks should launch their major enterprises on this day.

26—Sünday. The morning is very excitable and patience and moderation are admonished; the balance of the day abounds in benevolence and conduces in a marked degree enjoyment of religious and moral education and intellectual improvement.

27—Monday. The middle hours of the day favor dealings in houses and lands, real estate improvements and house furnishing and letting; the morning and evening are less favorable for any transaction.

28—Tuesday. The noon hours are the poorest of the day, but as the atternoon is entered upon let every energy be given in thy business and labor; urge all honorable pursuits to the utmost; deal with bankers and persons of wealth, judges and lawyers; seek money accommodations; buy goods for trade and adjust accounts.

29—Weduesday. Begin the day early; urge all correspondence and the literary pursuits to the utmost; engage help, travel, and deal with teachers, mathematicians, lawyers and judges; attend to business with public officials and government authorities.

30—Thursday. Improve every moment of this day; giving preference to the fine arts and manufactures; the artist, musician, dramatist, and all engaged in the artistic pursuits should waste no moments of this day in idleness or pleasure, for the passing time promises unusual advantages from works now begun or executed. The day favors courtship and invites the marriage contract.

31—Friday Partial Eclipse of the Sun. An indiffer-

tract.

31-Friday Partial Eclipse of the Sun. An indifferent day, not to be recommended for beginning any new work or undertaking of consequence; particularly should caution be exercised in all money matters lest losses come; and no promotion or advance from thine employers but confine thine efforts principally to routine matters.

## Is Your Name Here?

Biddles Craven
Crawford
Crocker
Crosby
Cross
Crane
Cullen
Cummings
Cunningham
Curtis Cohen Coffin Coleman Coles Collier Collins Foy Francis Franklin Fraser Freeman French Fry Fuller Faulkner Fawcett Fenton Fairburn Falkner Fanning Farmer Farrar Farrell Greenfield Greenhill Greenwoo Owen Owen Oxley

The above list is selected from thousands of names arranged alphabetically in a little book entitled "COMFORT'S LIST OF HEIRS." The names represent persons who have either been advertised for in a daily newspaper in the United States or Great Britain as heirs to money or property or in whose names there stands unclaimed estates in the British Court of Chancery.

Warner Warren Watkins Watson Watts Webb Weber Weldon Weiss Weller

Tully Turner

Vincent

## FORTUNES ARE WAITING FOR PEOPLE TO CLAIM THEM.

or their Next-of-Kin Heirs and Legal Representatives. As these advertisements is most cases appear but once or twice and in one or two papers only, they are never seen by the persons interested, who are in consequence entirely ignorant that they are entitled to any money or property. COMFORT has already on file thousands of these advertisements, and the names of persons so advertised for will be found in "COMFORT'S LIST OF HEIRS."

HOW TO GET A COPY OF THIS GUIDE TO FORTUNE.

We will send this valuable List of Heirs only to those who send us two six months' subscriptions to "COMFORT." That is to say, if you are a subscriber you can receive this booklet by sending ten cents to renew or extend your subscription and send us a new subscriber for six months for another ten cents in all sending us 20 cents. If you are not a subscriper then send us 10 cents for a trial subscription for six months and get another subscriber at the same rate, in all sending us 20 cents.

Publishers COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.	escription for COMFORT for six months
paid in advance, with the understanding the a year.	at 1 may continue my subscription at 25e
Name	County
Town	State
I also enclose 10c. for which please of FORT for six months paid in advance with may be continued at 25c. a year.	nter the following subscription to COM the understanding that this subscription
Name	County
Town	State

Name	 County
	•

## NOTICE TO AGENTS

# A Profitable Business

FOR MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE

## WILLING WORK. TO \$3.00 A DAY SURE.

DEAR READER:

If you are out of work, or are not satisfied with your present business and would like to make more money, it will be to your interest to read this notice. We do not offer you a chance to make a fortune without work, but we do offer you an opportunity to make money much faster than you can make it at any other kind of work. The country is flooded with circulars offering chances to make money at the rate of from twenty to fifty dollars a day; such offers are not business-like, and all agents who amount to anything are disgusted with such circulars, and most of them are thrown aside without being read. If you are looking for an opportunity to make twenty to fifty dollars a day, you might as well throw this notice aside also; but if you would like to engage in a good paying business, you will do well to read this notice through carefully. Then you can use your own judgment as to whether our offer is a reasonable one or not.

We guarantee that anyone who is willing to work can make from \$3 to \$5 a day at this business. We admit that \$3 to \$5 a day is not much of an inducement when compared to the statements made by some firms, who offer all the way from \$20 to \$50 a day for selling various articles. We do not make you such glowing promises, but what we do offer you has the advantage of being true. We might offer agents a sure chance of making from \$20 to \$50 a day, but the chances are that anyone who would believe such unreasonable nonsense would not know enough to earn his board at any kind of business. That is not the kind of agents we are in quest of; we want reliable agents with common sense, who are willing to work for good pay, and not those who are looking for an opportunity to make a fortune without work. We believe the only way to get such agents and keep them, is to furnish them with a good thing to sell, a real genuine bargain, and then to tell them the exact truth about the business. We have a large number of agents at work, and the business. We have a large number of agents at work, and we know for a certainty what working agents can make. We know that \$3 a day is the very lowest; most of our agents are averaging \$4 and \$5 a day, and often some of them make a good deal more than that. We have several agents who are clearing from \$7 to \$10 a day. But these are great workers operating in the best territory, and, of course, everyone cannot do as well, but it is easy for anyone to make, at the very least, \$3 a day above all expenses an any territory. We haven't a single working agent who is clearing, on an average, less than \$3 a day. Now, be sure that you understand us: We don't say that lazy, shiftless agents will make \$3 a day, for they can't do it at this or any other business, but what we do say is that agents who are willing to work, not too hard, but the same as they would expect to work at any other business, can easily clear \$3 a day above all expenses, in any territory, and if they have good territory to work in they can make anywhere from \$5 to \$7, and even \$10 a day. If you want a good chance to work and get good pay for it, you will find it to your interest to read this notice through carefully.

The articles which we have for you to sell are a line of forks, spoons, etc., made of a new metal called "Brazil Silver." We will describe this new line of goods the best we can, then you can judge for yourself whether we are offering you a good chance to make money or not.

## BRAZIL SILVER. Warranted for Twenty-five Years.

Brazil Silver is believed to be the very best metal in existence for the manufacture of forks and spoons; it has all the lustre and brilliancy of burnished coin silver, and is much harder and

more durable, in fact, it is impossible to wear it out. It is absolutely indestructible. The goods made of this metal are the same all the way through, there being no plating to wear off they will remain as good as new for any length of time. For all practical purposes in the manufacture of table ware this Brazil Silver is superior to coin silver. It is as lustrous and as pure as coin silver, and being much harder it will wear even longer than silver; in fact it is absolutely impossible to wear it out. It will wear forever. As there is no plating to wear off, the metal being the same all the way through, it stands to reason that you can't wear it out. Our confidence in the metal is so great that we guarantee it to wear twenty-five years. We give a guarantee signed by the company warranting the goods to wear and to give perfect satisfaction for twenty-five years. We are an old, strong and thoroughly established firm with ample capital to carry on our business and make our guaranty as good as the Bank of England. In selling these goods an agent can as the Bank of England. In selling these goods an agent can recommend them with the greatest of confidence, for they are just as represented, absolutely indestructible. And, furthermore, our guarantee warranting the goods to give satisfaction for twenty-five years, clears the agent from all responsibility in the matter; for if any article fails to give perfect satisfaction, no matter how long it has been in use, we hold ourselves ready to refund the money read for the entirely. These goods are the no matter how long it has been in use, we hold ourselves ready to refund the money paid for the article. These goods are the same metal all the way through; they will never wear out. They always wear white and bright. We give a guarantee signed by the company, warranting every piece of Brazil Silver to wear twenty-five years. You can sell these goods to your best friends with perfect confidence, for every sale is as much a benefit to your customer as to yourself.

Working with goods that are warranted to wear and give satisfaction for so long a time as twenty-five years, and by a Company, too, whose capital is sufficiently large to make their guarantee good for almost any amount, is an advantage which no other firm is prepared to offer. If you want to make money fast now is the time to do it. If you think that fiveddollar bills are good things to have, now is the time to get them. Never in he history of the agency business have agents had as good a chance to make money rapidly, and it is reasonably sure that they will never have another chance like it.

It is easy to make from \$3 to \$5 a day at this business.

It is easy to make from \$3 to \$5 a day at this business.

## All Marked with Initial Letters, Without any Extra Cost.

Among all classes there has always been a strong desire to Among an classes there has alread been a strong desire to have their table ware marked with their initial letter, but on ac-count of the heavy expense of having it marked only a very few have been able to afford it. Heretofore the cost of artistically marking table ware has been even greater than the cost of the marking table wait one methods, we are able to offer these goods; now, by our new methods, we are able to offer these elegant Brazil Silver goods, all marked with any initial letter desired in the very highest style of the art, without any extra cost for marking. These Brazil Silver goods, even if unmarked, would be the greatest bargain ever offered the public in table ware, but with the additional and highly desirable feature of being all marked with beautiful and artistic initial letters, these goods are not only great bargains in table ware, but are the greatest bargains of any kind that have ever been offered to the public through agents or in any other way.

The people are always ready enough to buy what they want when it is presented to them in the form of a genuine bargain. Well, here is absolutely the greatest bargain every offered, and the agent who works with it will find that what he has is earnestly desired at nearly every house he visits; it is easy to get orders when you can offer great bargains, that the people really want and can afford.

It is easy to make from \$3 to \$5 a day at this business.

## Table and Dessert Knives.

Our knives are made of the finest tempered cutlery steel and are triple plate, in other words every dozen knives is plated with 12 dwt. of pure silver and hand burnished. Our knives are of the highest grade, fully equal to Rogers' or any knives made. These knives will not wear as long as Brazil Silver goods, but they will wear as long as any knives made. We guarantee them to wear ten years in constant use. If not in constant use they will wear proportionately longer. We give a guarantee, signed by the Company, warranting the knives to wear and to give perfect satisfaction to the purchaser for ten years. As knives are usually used in families they will wear much longer, anywhere from fitteen to twenty years. They are fully equal to Rogers' knives and only cost about two-thirds as much. It may seem strange to some that we can sell so staple an article as silver plated knives at such reduced prices, but we are doing it. It is our way of giving the public good, solid value for their money. We are saving our customers about one-third of the price at which the same grade of knives are sold at the stores and jewelers. Any one who will take the trouble to compare our knives and prices with triple plate 12 dwt. knives sold at the stores and jewelers, will be convinced of the truth of our statements. We are making a profit, of course, but our unequal facilities and immense trade make it possible for us to undersell all competitors, and our customers are getting the benefit of the lowest prices known in the silverware trade. We are not only selling at greatly reduced prices, but we also guarantee every article to be exactly as represented and to give perfect satisfaction to the purchaser, or money refunded.

The First Thing to Do. 12 dwt. of pure silver and hand burnished. Our knives are of the

## The First Thing to Do.

If you decide to accept the agency, the first thing to do is to send to us for the agent's case of samples, which is the most complete and perfect case of samples that has ever been pre-pared for the convenience of agents. Our complete and perfect case of samples is not to be compared with anything that has ever been sent to agents before. It contains the very best and most salable articles in the world. There is nothing in the market that agents can sell as fast and sell as easily and make as much money out of, as they can the goods contained in this as much money out of, as they can the goods contained in this splendid case of samples, and everything is arranged and explained so that any agent can't fail to understand just how to go to work to make a great success of the business. As soon as you receive the case of samples you are ready for business. And if you are willing to work you are just as sure to make from \$3 to \$5 a day as the sun is to rise. Take the case of samples and canvass your territory according to the directions sent with the samples, until you have taken orders for the amount of goods you are prepared to send for. Then order the goods from us and fill your orders, and so continue.

## The Magnificent Case of Samples Which We Furnish to Agents.

aple Dessert Knife, retail price, \$1.95 per set of six . . . One Sample Table Fork, retail price, \$1.95 per set 32 1-2 cents each One Sample Table Spoon, retail price, \$1.95 per set One Sample Dessert Fork, retail price, \$1.30 per set of six
One Sample Dessert Spoon, retail price, \$1.80 per set of six
One Sample Tea Spoon, retail price, \$1.80 per set of six
One Sample Tea Spoon, retail price, 95 cents per set of six
One Sugar Shell
One Butter Knife
One Salt or Pepper Shaker
Total retail value of Samples
We also send you with the case of samples a large 32 1-2 cents each cents each 30 cents each . 15 5-6 cents each

Total retail value of Samples . . . \$2.831-3

We also send you with the case of samples a large and very beautiful catalogue, illustrating a full line of plated ware, such as Casters, Pickle Cruets, Butter Dishes. Tea Sets, Napkin Rings, etc., etc., etc.

Reckoning the above samples at our lowest retail prices they amount to \$2.831-3. We furnish them to agents nicely put up in an elegant sample case or roll, for only \$1.00, which is \$1.831-3 less than they amount to at our regular retail prices. This is less than one-half of the retail value of the samples, and much less than they cost us. The sample case or roll, which the samples are put up in costs us nearly as much as we require you to send for the samples, case and all.

## Wholesale Prices.

Wholesale or agents' prices and all necessary information for carrying on the business will be furnished with the Outfit. Remember we make everything plain to you about wholesale prices, methods, etc., when we send you the Outfit.

## VERY IMPORTANT.

The business we are offering is straightforward and honest in everyway, shape and manner. Our goods are in every respect, just as we represent them to be. The Outfit we furnish our agents is exactly as we represent it, and is always sent the same day the order is received, just as agreed. We have tried to state these facts so they could and would be believed and we are constantly receiving letters from parties who would like to engage in the business and would do so if they felt sure we were telling the truth and would do as we agree. Many of these doubters have been cheated and are not altogether to blame for doubting; the most of them say they think we are honest, they say we talk honest, but as they have al-ready been swindled they don't feel like risking even one dollar

and so, although our business is in every respect just as represented, and we always do just as we promise, we lose the services of a great many agents and they lose the benefit they might derive from the business because they are afraid we may not be telling the truth. Now, to overcome this spirit of doubt, we have decided to send Samples to all who wish us to do so C. O. D., with privilege of examination at the express office. It costs us from twenty-five to forty cents more to send the samples this way, as we have to pay that amount for return charges on the money, but we are willing to do it and so prove to all that are interested that the Outfit and our goods are just what

we claim. If after reading this notice you think you would like to give the business a trial but wish to see the Sample Case be-fore you pay the one dollar cut out the following printed form, fill it out and send it to us and we will send the Outfit to your express office prepaid, and give the express agent instrucyour express office prepaid, and give the express agent instructions to let you thoroughly examine the Outfit, then, if you are satisfied that we have told the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and are also satisfied that you can make money selling our goods, you can pay the express agent one dollar and take the Outfit. If you are not satisfied, you can refuse to take it and the agent will return it to us. No other firm has ever made such an offer. We have adopted this plan in order to convince the most skeptical and to secure the services of all the good working agents in the United States.

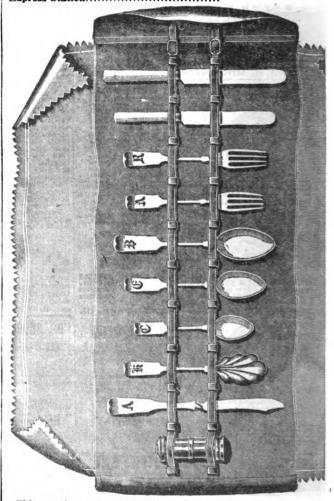
(CUT OUT THE FOLLOWING FORM.) Form to be Signed by those who wish us to send the Outfit C. O. D. with Privilege of Examination.

ROYAL MANUFACTURING CO., DETROIT, MICH .:

GENTLEMEN—Send the Outfit by Express, C. O. D., with privilege of examination. If I find the Outfit just as you say, I will pay the one dollar required and give the business I will pay the a fair trial, but if I am not satisfied that the Outfit is as good as you recommend it to be, I shall refuse to receive it. Now, reas you recommend it to be, I shall refuse to receive it. Now, remember, the understanding is that I am not to take the Outfit unless I, myself, am satisfied that it is all right. It must all depend on my own judgment. If I am satisfied, I will take the Outfit; if I am not satisfied, I shall not take it and shall not pay the one dollar If you want to send the Outfit with this understanding, send it along C. O. D., with privilege of examination.

Name..... Postoffice.... County...... State.....

Express Station.....



This cut shows the Sample Case or Roll, and how the samples This cut shows the Sample Case or Roll, and how the samples appear put up ready for business. The Roll is made of highly finished waterproof canvas, and lined with soft fiannel goods. The samples are held in place by strong straps. The whole rolls up and fastens with a leather strap which is firmly fastened to the back of the Roll. This is the most practical arrangement for carrying the samples that could be thought of. When rolled up the Case is compact and easy to carry. When open the samples show to the best possible advantage, making a good impression at first sight. This Sample Roll gives a business-like appearance; it is substantial and handsome, and invariably gives the impression that there is something valuable inside. All are anxious to see what it is you are carrying around with such care. This is of importance as it secures attention and interest at the start. There is nothing like having your samples put up in a business-like shape; it gives a favorable impression from the start, which is half the battle. It is the same in all matters. A store that looks like business attracts customers; while, from a shanty store, you would not, as a rule, expect the best things. The fact is, in the agency business, as in every other business, you must have things fixed up just right if you expect to succeed. Our Brazil Silver Goods are the best that have ever been offered for the price, or anywhere near it. The new feature of being marked with beautiful and artistic initial letters, free of cost, is the greatest popular hit of the times; and the Sample Roll is arranged so as to show the goods off to the best possible advantage. Furthermore, we carefully teach every agent just how to take advantage of all these splendid qualities and popular features. Is it any wonder that our agents succeed better than those who are working for other firms?

We Prepay all Express Charges on Everything. We pay the appear put up ready for business. The Roll is made of highly these spiendid qualities and popular features. Is it any wonder that our agents succeed better than those who are working for other firms? We Prepay all Express Charges on Everything. We pay the charges on the Outfit and on all goods ordered. Remember, we pay all express charges.

ROYAL MANUFACTURING CO., DETROIT, MICH.

HON. HAZEN S. PINGREB, flichigan's Famous Governor, says we are worthy of your confidence.

To Whom it May Concern: In answer to all inquiries I have received concerning the standing of the Royal Manufacturing Company of Detroit, Mich., I have invariably replied that the Company is in every any worthy of the confidence of all. In regard to its financial standing and the trustworthiness of the gentlemen connected with it the reading public may rely upon them implicitly.

HAZEN S. PINGREE.

Two New Serial Stories Commence in This Number.

OCTOBER, 1902.

Vol. XIV. No. 12. M.N. 168

# THE KEY TO A MILLION AND A QUARTER HOMES = Devoted to Art, Literature, Science and the Bome Circle.



# ONFORT

## A Million and a Quarter Homes.

ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND COPIES, Each and Every Issue,

Or Exceeding 15 Millions A Year.

COMFORT has the the largest sworn circulation of any publication, of any kind, anywhere.

COMFORT is the only monthly in the world printed in five to eight bright colors on a perfecting press, which takes the paper from rolls, prints and binds it complete. Comport's matter is original, copyrighted and cannot be found elsewhere.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS are entered on our books as soon as received, and are slaways dated from the current issue, unless otherwise ordered. PONTAGE to all parts of the United States and Canada is prepaid by us. CHANGE OF ADDRESS. When ordering change in address, be sure of give former as well as new address. We cannot find your name on ur books unless you do. Due notice given upon expiration of sub-criptions.

our books unless you do.

Due notice given upon expiration of seriptions.

COMFORT was started and its subscription price fixed on the basis of an Spage paper it has been voluntarily enlarged to 12, 16 and 24 pages. When more than 12 pages are now given the subscriber can consider ta gift from the published.

TO CONTRICTORS: All literary contributions should be accompanied by stamped and addressed envelopes for their return in case they are not available. Manuscripts should not be rolled.

Entered at the Post Office at Augusta, Maine, as second-class mail matter.

Published Monthly by W. H. GANNETT, Incorporated, Augusta, Maine.

New York Office, Temple Court, Chicago Office, Marquette Building

## The Editor's Talk.

With this issue Comfort closes its fourteenth volume. We have been looking over our files and we find that there has been a steady and marked improvement in each volume from the very first. The fifteenth volume, which commences with the November issue, will be no exception. It will be the best yet. In fact we promise our readers that the coming volume, will be better than all the rest of the fourteen put together. For our new volume we have arranged a programme of serial stories, short stories, special articles illustrated by photographs, which, with the regular departments and new features yet to be announced will make Comfort the equal of any magazine whose subscription price is \$1 a year, instead of the low price of 25 cents.

In this issue we commence two new serial stories. "Under Love's Spell" by May Agnes Fleming, is a story that will hold our readers' attention from start to finish. The other serial story, "Jack Harkaway Out West among the Indians," will, we feel sure, be eagerly read by all our boy readers as well as the grown-ups. To the people of this generation the American Indian is scarcely more than a tradition, a myth, to be found only in history. The remnants of the tribe, now to be found isolated in spots of the great West are but poor specimens of the Indian braves who once possessed this land. To the historian it seems but yesterday that the heroic deeds were wrought which gave name and fame to the great warrior chiefs, such as King Philip, who led the Narragansett and other tribes in the bloody war which bears his name; Powhatan, the powerful Virginia sachem, and father of the beautiful Pocahontas, who saved the life of Captain John Smith; Pontiac, leader of the Ottawas and Pottawatomies, remarkable for his great ability and good judgment; Logan, the eloquent Mingo chief of the Iroquois nation, humane and friendly to the whites; Tecumsch, the Shawnee warrior, brave but kind-hearted, born in in 1768, near Springfield, Ohio; Osceola, the plotting chief of the powerful Seminoles; Black Hawk, the great Pottawattomic chieftain; and the more recent Sioux chief, Sitting Bull, crafty and treacherous, but able withal.

COMFORT has many inquiries from women and girls concerning how they in some way may make money at home, either to help the actual living expenses, or to secure pinmoney for themselves. COMFORT wants to do all it can to help the ladies, old and young, to a little more wealth than Fortune may have favored them with, and it invites them to send suggestions of any and all kinds which will be printed for the hencit of all concerned. No printed for the benefit of all concerned. doubt there are some ways by which money may be made, in town or on the farm, and we want the women readers of COMFORT to suggest in print how it may be done.

BOOKS
TO READ.

The state of people who can buy them or get them from the libration of the suggestions as to which are the most readable, for every reader has his own taste, and we publish a list. We do not offer any suggestions as to which are the most readable, for every reader has his own taste, and we have now may choose as he pleases. In every way able, for every reader has his own taste, and each one may choose as he pleases. In every way they are good, and are written by well-known writers and are issued by the best publishing houses. They are chiefly novels, but a few other books are read and we give them with the rest. The list begins with the six books selling in the largest quantities during the month of September: The Virginian, by Owen Wister; Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch, Miss Hegan; The Mississippi Bubble, Hough;

Dorothy Vernon, Major; Ranson's Folly, Richard Harding Davis; The Hound of the Baskervilles, Conan Doyle; The Conqueror, Gertrude Atherton; Hearts Courageous, Hallie Erminie Rives; Oldfield, Nancy Hunton Bank; Barbara Ladd, C. D. Roberts; Hope Loring, Lillian Bell; Councilman Crœsus, Mary K. Potter; The Last Word, Alice McGowan; The Kindred of the Wild, C. D. Roberts; Abroad With the Jimmies, Lillian Bell; The Mate of the Good Ship York, W. Clark Russell; Strephen Holton, C. F. Pidgin, Temporal Power, Maric Corelli; Captain Macklin, R. H. Davis; Oliver Horn, F. Honkinson Smith; The Shadow of the Rope, E. W. Hornung; The Wings of the Dove, Henry James; The Valley of Decision, Edith Wharton; Bylow Hill, G. W. Cable; Doctor Bryson, Frank H. Spearman; A Pasteboard Crown, Clara Morris; At Sunwich Port, W. W. Jacobs; The One Before, Barry Pain; The Romance of the Colorado River, F. S. Dellenbagh; Lavender and Old Lace, Myrtle Reed; In City Tents, Christine Terhune Herrick; Typhoon, Joseph Conrad; A Song of a Single Note, Amelia E. Barr; Love in Extremis, Mary Cholmondeley; Paul Kelver, J. K. Jerome; The Lady of the Barre, W. W. Jacobs; Fuel of Fire, Ellen Thorneycroft Fowler; No Other Way, Walter Besant; The Founding of Fortune, Jane Barlow; Tom Tad, W. H. Yenable; The Weather, and Practical Methods of Poreasting, "Farmer" Dunn; A Short History of Music, A. Untersteiner; A Speckled Bird, Augusta Evans Wilson; Lafitte of Louisiana, Mary Deveraux; The Pharoan and the Priest, Glovatski; The Queen of Quelparte, A. B. Huibert; Tower or Throne, Harriet T. Comstock; The Shadow of the Czar, John R. Carling; The Heroine of the Strait, Mary Catherine Crawley; In the Country God Forgot, Frances Charles; A Girl of Virginia, Lucy M. Thurston; The Story of the Mormons, William A. Linn: The Spenders, Harry Leon Lewis; The Shadow of the Czar, John R. Carling; The Heroine of the Strait, Mary Catherine Crawley; In the Country God Forgot, Frances Charles; A Girl of Virginia, Lucy M. Thurston; The Story of the Morth, P. Durny of a Goose

Some time ago in The Home Finder column of MUCH OUT COMFORT we told correspondents asking about Arizona Lands to write to Hon. M. A. Smith, Delegate in Congress from that territory, and we are now in receipt of the following letter from that gentleman.

EDITOR COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

DEAR Sire: I have had a large number of letters from different parts of the country asking for information concerning Arizona and mentioring an article in COMFORT. I will be greatly obliged if you will send me a copy of the article, and I enclose ten cents to pay for same. Your kind attention to this will oblige, Yours respectfully, M. A. SMITH. House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

Instead of an "article" it was only a line, but it contained the "power", and the Delegate from Arizona has no doubt been surprised to hear from so many people from so many different parts of the country, which shows that COMFORT not only goes everywhere, but the people read it.

comport not only goes everywhere, but the people read it.

As a balm to the overwrought feelings of the gentleman from Arizona who is a man that will work himself to a frazzle for the good of his territory and the benefit of the people and the country at large, Comport's Poet offers these few lines of soothing verse:

## To Hon. M. A. Smith of Arizona.

Behold a little line that tells The people where to go
For information; and behold
What plenteous harvests grow.

The Congressman, who loves to take A little needed rest, Is hustled by the seeking crowds To help them in their quest.

Instead of going out to dine
And have a lot of fun In resting-time, he has to put Himself into a run.

And hire a lot of clerks to do The hard, unusual task
That follows when the people have
Some extra things to ask.

It keeps him out of bed of nights, It makes him work all day, And wonder why a statesman can't Pull in some extra pay.

But what's the odds? The Congressman Must grin and bear it all,

For what he's there for is to hear

The people when they call.

And he's all right, and so are they, And so is Comfort that Lets Congressmen and people know Exactly where they're at.

In the mean time if any more of COMFORT'S Home Seekers want to know anything about what a fine country Arizona is let them write to Hon. M. A. Smith, House of Representatives,

The Editor

## **Pieces** to Speak.

### Squash!!!

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY CHARLES NOEL DOUGLAS.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

Old uncle Rube way down in Maine had never had no luck,
With corn an' hogs an' such like things, well, he would just allow,
No critter lived in this broad land to touch him
anyhow.
But tomaters, taters and the like that most folks have on hand,
He couldn't raise the things for shucks an' mostly
bought 'em canned,
But one day in his garden patch he saw and yelled
'Jehosh!'
There, glowin' in the mornin' sun a glorious golden
squash.

His good wife heard the shoutin' and swift to the garden hied
And there upon the ground to her astonishment espied
The primest, finest, biggest golden squash that ever over the state of the primest. grew An' she no sooner knew of it than all Maine knew it too.
The news it spread like wild-fire and folks for All rushed to view the yellow beauty nestlin' on the ground,
And uncle Rube swelled out with pride, and said
"Look here by gosh,
I ain't much on tomaters, but I beat the world on
squash."

squash."

A mystery 'twas to uncle Rube just how that ol' squash grew,
He'd tried to raise 'em all his life, a hundred times or two.
But the more he dug an' coaxed and tried the less success he had,
Till he just quit in sheer disgust an' went off hoppin' mad.
And now without no tendin' no fixin' and no care lie'd raised a squash that made Creation hump itself an' stare.
A dinner then he vowed he'd give and cut a mighty splosh
And invite all the folks around to help him eat that squash.

The invites they were all sent out, the preparations made, An' uncle Reuben's wife to market sundry trips essayed.
And lovingly did uncle Rube his golden treasure As nature painted it each morn a deeper golden hue. An' folks went in for fastin' so that on th' eventful Ten pounds of squash an' turkey each could nicely stow away.
Then uncle Reuben 'lowed again from Maine way
to Oshkosh
There never yet was seen the like of that jim
dandy squash.

Now dawned the day of days that was to see the sumptuous feast,
An' as the streaks of rosy light were glimmering in the east
Up bright an' early uncle Rube arose an' took his knife An' sallied to the garden path to take the squash's life,
Keen was the blade and strong his grasp an'
swiftly heat his heart,
As now he reached the precious spot an' backward

As now he reached the precious spot an observator gave a start.
"Murder! Thieves!! Police!!!" he yelled. "Great snakes! oh lor' by gosh!"
Some thund'rin' gol darn thief has been an' stole the gosh blame squash."

## Parson Caldwell of Springfield, New Jersey.

BY BRET HARTS.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher.

Here's the spot. Look around you. Above on the Lay the Hessians encamped. By that church on Stood the gaunt Jersey farmers. And here ran a You may dig anywhere and you'll turn up a ball. Nothing more. Grasses spring, waters run, flowers

Pretty much as they did ninety-three years ago. Nothing more, did I say? Stay one moment; you've

Nothing more, and a bay, heard
Of Caldwell, the parson, who once preached the word
Down at Springfield? What, no?—Come, that's bad: why, he had
All the Jerseys adame! And they gave him the name
Of the "Rebel High Priest." He stuck in their

gorge, For he loved the Lord God—and he hated King

He had cause you might say! When the Hessians that day
Marched up with Knyphausen, they stopped on their way,
At the "Farms," where his wife with a child in her Sat alone in her house. How it happened, none

knew
But God—and that one of the hireling crew
Who fired the shot! Enough!—there she lay,
And Caldwell, the chaplain, her husband, away! Did he preach-did he pray? Think of him as you

By the old church today; think of him and that band
Of militant plowboys! See the smoke and the heat
Of that reckless advance, of that straggling retreat!
Keep the ghost of that wife, foully slain in your view—
And what could you—what should you, what would you do?

Why, just what he did! They were left in the For the want of more wadding. He ran to the church,
Broke the door, stripped the pews, and dashed out in the road,
With his arms full of hymn-books, and threw down his load
At their feet! Then above all the shouting and shots
Rang his voice—"Put Watts into 'em. Boys, give 'em Watts!"

And they did. That is all. Grasses spring, flowers blow
Pretty much as they did a hundred years ago.
You may dig anywhere and you'll turn up a bo
But not always a hero like this—and that's all.

## MONEY TO BE MADE

Cash for Suggestions, Anecdotes and Photographs.

## \$20 For Suggestions.

We want, as we said in this column last month, to improve COMFORT, and we want to do it in a way that will suit our readers. We are now planning for next year.
What improvement can you suggest? Write us and say what you think we ought to do to improve COMFORT—in its pictures, in its stories, in its various departments. We will give \$10 cash to the subscriber sending in the best suggestion and \$5, \$3 and \$2 each to the three next best-in all \$20. Only subscribers to COMFORT are eligible to compete. Suggestions should be short and to the point, and under 100 words in length. Say which of the present features and departments you like best. Say which you don't like. Say what you would like that we now haven't got. They must reach us before the 10th of each month and should be addressed:

Suggestion Editor, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

## We Pay for Anecdotes.

COMPORT wants good anecdotes of people or things, local, state or national and will pay for them. Every reader of COMFORT knows some good short anecdote about some person or place, and if he or she will tell it in writing and submit it to us, the money will be paid promptly for it if it is acceptable. Literary excellence is not asked for—the story is the thing, but it must be a story that has never been printed. We want something new. Some of those interesting things that never get beyond the small circle of talkers unless somebody writes them.

For such stories COMFORT will pay one cent a word if the story is 100 words or less in length, and one-half a cent a word beyond the 100 word limit. That is, a story of fifty words will bring the writer fifty cents, 100 words a \$1.00, and 150 words, \$1.25.

Now men and women, COMFORT readers, professional writers and everybody else who can tell a story get out your pencils and give yourselves a chance to earn some extra money. Address Anecdote Editor,

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

## \$1.00 EACH for PHOTOS.

COMFORT wants photographs of interesting People, Places and Things. They may be of historical houses, monuments, localities, graves, churches, trees, bridges, or anything else that has more than a mere local interest. There is something of this sort in almost every community where there are COMFORT readers. If not of such interest, there may be things that are peculiar and which are not found elsewhere, from a double headed calf to a chicken with four legs or some person who has done something extraordinary. We especially want photographs of men or women who are 100 years old or upwards.

Now you know what we want, and if you have a camera of your own and can take the photograph, or can get one any other way, and will send it to us, we will give you ONE DOLLAR for it, if acceptable, and you write enough description with it so those who see it when we print it will know what it is. Any size photograph will answer, if it is very sharp and clear, but we prefer them not less than 2 1-2 by 3 1-2 inches. In many cases you can buy in the stores or from the local photographer pictures that will answer our purpose. LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHERS THEM-SELVES MAY BE ABLE TO MAKE A DOL-LAR OR TWO BY LOOKING INTO THIS OFFER. COMFORT wants the pictures and their description and will not be at all exacting. If the matter can be used at all, you may be sure of getting your dollar, and getting it promptly for anything we accept. Address

Picture Editor Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

somewhat to their host. He made King Edward wait an hour for him because he was afraid to let his train go more than twenty miles an hour, and he does other things not more polite. He had never been on the sea until he crossed over to England, and at first he was afraid to go aboard ship, but did so at last, and proved to be quite a sailor. He wears jewels sufficient on all occasions to start a jewelry store, and he fairly blazes with all kinds of precious stones on state occasions.

9. Not many men in penitentiaries as convicts write novels, but Ellery P. Ingham, former U. S. District Attorney, convicted of bribery in a revenue stamp counterfeiting case and sent to the Pennsylvania state prison for two years has done so. His novel is "At The Point of the Sword," and is historical. He was released last Christmas and asserts his innocence. He worked on his book all the time

nocence. He worked on his book all the time he was in prison, until he broke down in

10. Another American wedding which will interest the people of this country is that of Miss Vivian Sartoris, daughter of Mrs. Nellie Grant Sartoris, and granddaughter of the late

Grant Sartoris, and granddaughter of the late General Grant, our greatest general. The groom is Mr. Frederick Roosevelt Scovel, son of the Chevalier Scovel, a French singer, who married Miss Maria Roosevelt, a cousin of President Roosevelt. The wedding took place August 26th, at Coburg, Can., where Mrs. Sartoris spends her summers.

11. Once upon a time nobody owned a baseball club, and the national game was really a national affair, but in these days when somebody owns everything in bunches, called Trusts, even the baseball clubs are owned, and a scheme is being engineered by Col. J. T. Brush of Philadelphia, a baseball magnate and owner of several clubs, to consolidate the National and American Leagues and make a Trust of the whole business of professional playing. If Col. Brush is successful he will probably be the leading baseball man of the country.

12. About five years ago the world of men, women and science was more or less astonished by a book written by Dr. Leopold S. Schenck of Vienna, called "The Determination of Sex." After thirty years of study Dr. Schenk wrote the book and made the statement that he could determine the sex of children before birth, and that boys or girls might be born as parents desired. A great many people of the highest prominence were interested and Dr. Schenck became famous. But his theories were not altogether correct and he lost favor and finally went back into obscurity, and lost his place as Professor in the Vienna University. He died in August, at Schwanberg, Syria.

Once upon a time nobody owned a base-

WOMEN

15. Mrs. Hannah E. Nelson, of Newmarket, N. J., who has always lived in a plain way, working hard for a living as a young woman, is now likely to become a millionairess. Her daughter was Mrs. Chas. L. Fair, who with her husband, was killed in an automobile accident in France, and her property goes to her mother. Mrs. Nelson will get more than a million dollars in any event, but if it is shown that Mr. Fair died before his wife, then the whole estate will go to the heirs of Mrs. Fair, and this amounts to eight or ten millions. It is an ill wind that blows nobody good.

16. It is not often that the Governor of one

16. It is not often that the Governor of one state cannot visit another state for fear of being arrested, but that was the recent experience of Gov. Kimball of Rhode Island. A bench warrant was issued for him by a New York Court, on complaint of A. F. Power of the New England Manufacturers' Association. Mr. Power claims malicious prosecution and put his damages at \$150,000. The trouble was about business matters. Gov. Kimball staid away from Newport.

17. Americans have too much of the strenuous life. They make wrecks of themselves by overwork whenever they have the opportunity. During the past year or two, no man has been more talked of than Charles M. Schwab, President of the "Billion Dollar" Steel Company, and the tremendous work he accomplished. In less than twenty-five years he had risen from a position of \$2.50 a week as a store boy to the Presidency of the great steel company at a salary said to be one million dollars a year. He has made millions, and was still at it, When the blow came, and now at the age of forty, he must quit all his business and take absolute rest, or become a mental wreck with only a short time to live. Nature will assert herself.

18. Several years ago America lost one of her richest young women, Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt of New York City. She became the wife of the Duke of Marlborough, and went to live in England, her money doing much to restore the ancient ducal palaces of the Marlboroughs. As the Duchess she became very popular, and she remained on the other side until a few weeks ago when she returned to this country on a visit. She had been expecting to have a gay time socially, but the death by automobile of Mr. Fair in France, whose sister is Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., made many changes in her social engagements.

19, 20. Some years ago Charles L. Tripler claimed to have made the discovery of liquefying the air at a cost to make it commercially valuable as a power for machinery. A company was organized to manufacture liquid air, and hundreds of people put their money into it. The company was capitalized at ten millions of dollars, two of the leading spirits being Stephen W. Dorsey of the Star Route scandals of twenty years ago, and Senator Jones of Nevada, whose

years ago, and Senator Jones of Nevada, whose reputation was good. The company failed to make good its promises, stockholders began to demand their money, and now the whole thing is in the courts.

away from Newport.

Portraits and Paragraphs
of People Prominent in
the Public Prints.

Remington, a New York business and society
man killed himself at Newport by shooting in
the mouth, because of worry over the loss of
Miss May Van Alen, the oldest daughter, who
inherited six million dollars through her mother, one of the Astor family. They were engaged and she broke the engagement because
he showed signs of losing his mind.



l. Chas. L. Fair.









5. Miss Deacon.











MEN

1, 2. The automobile is still doing its deadly

work, and at the same time every factory in this country and abroad is working over time to supply the demand. The latest victims were Mr. and Mrs. Chas. L. Fair, who were instantly killed near Trouville, France, by their auto.

dashing into a team by the roadside. Mr. Fair was the son of the late Senator Fair of Colorado, and the brother-in-law of W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and Herman Oelrichs of New York. He was a multi-millionaire.

3. This country had been expecting to see the famous Santos-Dumont fly his balloon from Brighton Beach to New York City, in August, a distance of ten or twelve miles, but all of a sudden, a week or so before the flying, the young balloonist left suddenly for Europe. He claimed that the price to be paid, \$20,000, was not forthcoming, and those in charge of the exhibition claim that the money was ready and they do not know why he left the country as he did. He will appear at the St. Louis Exposition just the same.

position just the same.

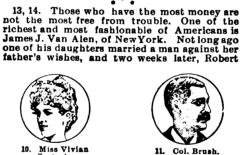
4, 5. Nothing has so disturbed the Emperor of Germany and set all the court circles to gossiping as the stories told of the Crown Prince Frederick William's proposition to surrender his rights to an American girl, Miss Gladys Deacon, daughter of the late E. P. Deacon, who killed a Frenchman named Abeille, some years ago, for making love to his wife. The Crown Prince has caused his father all sorts of trouble by his attentions to Miss Deacon. It is said that he has offered to marry her, "morganatically," as royal persons marry those out of their rank, but Miss Deacon is a true American and will not have the Prince except as his recognized wife. The Prince in the mean time has been locked in his room, and the Emperor is keeping a guard over him. Miss Dea-

his recognized wife. The Prince in the mean time has been locked in his room, and the Emperor is keeping a guard over him. Miss Deacon is a beautiful young woman, and extremely popular at all the courts of Europe.

6. In the stirring times of 1861—65, the watchword, "I fight mit Sigel," was known wherever there were soldiers, and Gen. Franz Sigel was one of the best-known officers in the Union army. He has been lost in the great time of peace, and outside of New York City he has scarcely been heard of since the war. He died at his home, New York, in August, after a long illness, aged 78. He leaves a widow and several children. He came to America in 1852, after a stormy career as a German revolutionist. He raised a regiment of Germans in 1861, and entered the army as its Colonel. He was one of the hardest fighters in the field, and he became a Major General. He retired shortly after the surrender of Lee owing to ill health.

7. Sir. Thomas Lipton, the English yachtsman and good fellow, who has tried so valiantly to win our American cup with his Shamrock, came near being an automobile victim recently. He was speeding near London when

ly to win our American cup with his Shamrock, came near being an automobile victim
recently. He was speeding near London when
the machine skidded on the street car rails
and was smashed, but Sir Thomas was not
seriously injured. His escape was very narrow. On the same day the Sultan of Morocco
went into a stone wall with his machine and
was badly shaken up. The auto. seems to be
ruler of rulers on land and sea.



berg, Syria.

10. Miss Vivian Sartoris.







cial engagements.





# and Philosophy

## By Comfort's Own Fun Maker.

## October.

The middle one of Autumn's months Is certainly a hummer. With one edge next to Winter time, And t'other next to Summer.

What profiteth a man if he gain the whole world and have a disordered liver?

## A Woman's View.

"Think of it, my dear," said Mr. Closefist, laying down his newspaper, "there are more than two thousand million dollars in circulation in this country."

country?"
"Is that so?" replied his wife, cheerfully, "Well, judging from the difficulty I always experience in getting you to give me a quarter, I thought there wasn't more than three dollars and a half in the whole world."

## To a Widow.

My heart has always gone a-Miss And lost so many blisses, That I am fearing loss in this, Because it's full of Mrs.

Fortune knocks once at every man's door, but he's often asleep inside and doesn't hear.

## Not a Chip of the Old Block.

"A rolling stone gathers no moss." wisely remarked Mr. Mossback to his frisky son.
"If you are hinting at me, Dad," replied the young man, "I can say that I don't have to gather any. You've got enough on your back to supply the entire community."

## A Sweet Sentiment.

What is home without a mother? It is something free from strife's Disturbing spirit, if the mother Is your wife's.

## Not a Parvenu.

The elegant Mosquito
Told the Landlord that she thought
He—the Landlord—wasn't doing
Exactly as he ought,

In providing high-toned persons To meet the said mosquitoes Epicurean demands.

The Landlord grew quite huffy:
"What right," said he, "have you
To come around objecting
To anything I do?
I don't see any reason
Why you should claim to be
Fastidious in matters
Of high society."

"That's all you know about it,"
The insect answered quick;
"And I desire to say, sir,
I have a right to kick,
Because, sir, when I visit
Society's domains
The blood of our best people
Commingles in my veins."

## L'Envoi.

And the Landlord Took in his sign Which read: NO MOSQUITOES.

## Wealth's Comforts.

The Millionaire—"Is your friend very rich?" Doctor—"Not so very; just comfortably rich, you The Millionaire—with a sigh: "Comfortably rich, eh? Well, I wish I was that rich."

If promises paid debts all of us would be rich.

In the Boarding House.

Landlady—in surprise: "Why, Mr. Muggs, you are putting butter in your coffee, and here's plenty of milk."

Mr. Muggs-"Yes, but I'm trying to strike an

average."

Landlady—"An average? Whatever do you mean, Mr. Muggs?"

Mr. Muggs—"Well, you see the coffee is so weak marriage he earns for her. and the butter is so strong."

## Not Altogether Bad. A little honor now and then. Is relished by the worst of men.

## By Other Fun Makers.

## A Pair.

Hapley-There seemed to be some excitement at your house last night.

Popley (dejectedly)-Yes, we had a deuce of a

Hapley—A deuce of a time, eh?
Popley—Yes; twins. —Philadelphia Press.

A stitch in time is worth two in the side.

—Pittsburg Dispatch.

## How He Played.

Blobbs—He plays the piano entirely by ear. Slobbs—It sounds as though he played it with his feet. Philadelphia Record.

The barber stands alone among tradesmen in that an appearance of being busy doesn't help his trade.

—Pittsburg Dispatch.

## Also True.

"How little we really know about our neighbors, after all," said the young wife, musingly.
"Yes," replied her husband; "and how much the seem to know about us."

—Judge.

## Proof.

Judge—What proof have you that this man was drunk?
Officer—He stopped his automobile at a watering trough for horses.

—N. Y. Herald.

Before marriage a man yearns for a woman; after her. —Chicago News.

## As Advertised.

Star Boarder-Look here, madam! When I came here you advertised that you had an excellent table. ble.
Landlady—So I have, Mr. Jenkins. That table is
the best quartered oak. —Ballimore News. of the best quartered oak.

If boys had the running of the world some of us grown-ups would have to do some humping.

—Pittsburg Dispatch.

## A Rural Parisian.

Joshua—And Jake's got back from Paris. They say he's fearfully stuck up over his trip. First man in the hull county that ever crossed the ocean. Judson—Yes; but don't it make you tired the way that blamed gillie went and put 50 cents worth of hartshorn in his hard cider to make it taste like absinthe?

—Judae. ŧ

A Late Reminder. Doctor—I am afraid, my friend, that you must have been taking something that hasn't agreed with you.

Patient—Very true, doctor, but it's too late to

remedy that now; I was married 15 years ago.

—Richmond Dispatch.

She ought to go on Wall Street, And there should play her part; Enc promised nineteen fellows A corner in her heart.

-N. Y. Sun.



14. Miss May Vau Alen.





16. Gov. Kimball.



Schwab.





Stephen W. Dorsey.

# JACK HARKAWAY

## Out West Among the Indians.

## BY BRACEBRIDGE HEMYNG.

Copyright, 1902, by W. H. Gannett, Publisher. NEW EDITION.

CHAPTER I.

JACK MAKES NEW FRIENDS.

Should you ask me whence these stories? Whence these legends and traditions, With the odors of the forest, With the odors of the forest, With the curling smoke of wigwams, With the curling smoke of wigwams, With the rushing of great rivers, With their frequent repetitions, And their wild reverberations, As of thunder in the mountains? I should answer, I should tell you, From the forest and the prairies, From the great lakes of the Northland, From the land of the Ojibways. From the land of the Dakotahs, From the mountains, moors, and fenlands, Where the heron, the Shuh-shuh-gah, Feeds among the reeds and rushes."

ALT!" It was the voice of Sublette, the guide.
For ten days Jack Harkaway's party had been traveling over the prairie, and had left Cheyenne City some distance behind them.
Making an average of thirty miles a day, they had traversed Nebraska, crossed several important rivers, among them the Platte, the Niobrara, or l'Eau qui Court, and the White Earth, entering the country of the Sioux in Dakota.

Dakota.

The guide's exclamation was the signal for "nooning."

Jack Harkaway was dressed in an entire suit

Jack Harkaway was dressed in an entire suit of buckskin; he rode his horse Lightning, was armed with his rifle Grim Death, as well as a pair of revolvers and a bowie.

Springing from the saddle, he slipped the bridle off his horse, and threw a stout lariat round his neck, which he fastened to a peg in the ground. The mule which carried the stores was treated in a similar manner by the Frenchman, Varney Bonneau, who, owing to Monday's illness, had taken the place of "head cook and bottle-washer" to the expedition.

Billy Shoot-dead and Hank Smith were Jack's body guard, and they threw themselves down and lighted their pipes, smoking in stolid silence.

"That is ver good," exclaimed Varney Bonneau, surveying the horse and mule, after he

"That is ver good," exclaimed Varney Bonneau, surveying the horse and mule, after he had fixed them in a position where the grass waved high. "If ze sacre Indians come into our corral, I guess ve can show them how to shoot, by gar!"

He proceeded to light a fire, over which huge chunks of dried venison were soon cooking.

A keg carried by the mule supplied water, and in another small cask was cold tea, which was highly relished by the men as a thirst-quencher, and indeed nothing better could have been taken under a hot sun.

Sublette, the guide, came up to Harkaway.

have been taken under a hot sun.
Sublette, the guide, came up to Harkaway, and said, in a low tone:
"Tonight I reckon to reach the place where I left Mr. Hunston."
"It is about time," replied Jack.
"Should he be dead from the effects of his wounds, you will not blame me?"
"Certainly not."
"I have done my best to guide you to him without delay."
"That is so," said Jack, "and if he is alive or dead, providing I get the valuable papers he has of mine, I will reward you handsomely."
"Of course that is understood," replied Sublette.

As he turned away, there was a subdued smile on his thin lips, which escaped the notice of Harkaway, who find joined Hank and Billy Shoot-dead.

tice of Harkaway, who flad joined Hank and Billy Shoot-dead.

The former was looking through a glass at some object in the distance, which he regarded with considerable interest.

"What can you see?" asked Jack.

"Injun," replied Hank, curtly.

"Where away?"

"On the prairie, yonder."

"Give us hold," said Billy Shoot-dead. "I can't see no Injuns."

"Air yer blind as well as foolish?" answered Hank, with a grunt of contempt. "Do yer s'pose I can't tell Injun when I see them?"

"I know you're a mighty big hunter, and can tell a'most anything with the naked eye," said Billy; "but you see I aren't no child."

"Wal, what's yer opinion of them black specks over to windward?"

"Them's buffler."

"So air you buffler!" replied Hank, with a loud laugh. "I am ready to swow that what yer can see is Injun."

"P'raps yer can tell what tribe they belong to," said Billy Shoot-dead.

"I can so. They's Apaches."

"Not by a long chalk. You don't get the Apaches up in the territory, onless they're on a raid," said Billy.

"Wall, I guess that's just what's the

a raid," said Billy.
"Wall, I guess that's just what's the trouble."

Billy Shoot-dead took a long look in the direction first indicated by Hank, and was at last, much to his chagrin, obliged to admit that what he had taken to be buffalo were, in reality, a band of mounted Indians.

These however, did not venture to approach the whites. Perhaps they did not perceive them. At any rate, they wheeled about their horses, and soon disappeared on the verge of the horizon.

norses, and soon disappeared on the verge of the horizon.

"The red pison's gone," said Hank with a grunt of satisfaction, "and I can't say I'm at all sorry. Wal, boys, I reckon it's time to be movin'. Look smart, Monsieur Bonneau, and let's be making tracks."

In a short time the party were again in mo-

In a short time the party were again in mo-

ion.

Jack called Sublette to his side, and said:

"In what direction are we going?"

"I reckon," replied the guide, "that in four ours we shall strike the south fork of the Big become River."

hours we shall strike the south fork of the Big Cheyenne River."

"Do we cross it?"

"No. Our path lies on this side, towards the region of the Black Hills."

"That is the very heart of the Sioux country," said Jack, a little nervously.

"You are right. It was there Mr. Hunston

met with his wound, and I was obliged to leave

met with his wound, and I was obliged to leave him where he fell, in charge of some friendly Indians," answered Sublette, coolly.

Jack said nothing more, though he looked carefully ahead, fearful of a surprise.

He had gone too far to retreat, and if Sublette contemplated treachery, all he could do was to guard against being taken unawares.

The sun was sinking into the bosom of the fleecy western clouds when the party neared the banks of the Big Cheyenne River.

A dark, gloomy, apparently impenetrable forest came down to the edge of the river, stretching for half a dozen miles in length, and about two in depth.

From the woods issued strange noises.

Among these could be distinguished the howling of the wolf, the peculiar croaking of the tree-toads, the hoot of the owl, the shrill screech of the night-hawk, and, what was more alarming than all, the angry scream of the panther.

"See!" suddenly exclaimed Hank "there's a

panther.
"See!" suddenly exclaimed Hank, "there's a deer on the edge of the forest."
Billy Shoot-dead raised his rifle, and was about to fire.
"Keep upint" exclaimed Hank, "there's a deer on the edge of the forest."

about to fire.

"Keep quiet," exclaimed Hank; "let the Colonel have the first shot. I want to see if he knows how to use his shooting-iron."

Jack steadied Lightning as soon as the game was pointed out to him, and raising Grim Death to his shoulder took a hasty aim.

There was a flash and a sharp crack.
The deer rolled over on its side, dead.
But at the same moment the sound of a sec-

But at the same moment the sound of a second shot was heard. Could it be an echo?

"The deer is yours," he added. "I am very sorry that I should have raised the question of proprietorship in the rather stubborn manner I did, but I hope you will excuse me when I tell you that I'm a new hand at hunting, and should have really felt proud if I had shot that deer."

"Better luck next time," said Jack. "However, you are perfectly welcome to half the beast, if you will honor me by accepting it."

"Oh! no, thank you," replied the stranger.
"I am well provisioned."

"Are you in camp about here?"

"Not far off. We have made camp in the woods, as we have been troubled by Sioux during the day. Did you meet Indians?"

"We saw a band of what we took to be Apaches in the morning; but they did not molest us in any way," answered Jack.
Billy Shoot-dead had been regarding the young stranger attentively for some time.

"Say," he said, "aren't you along with Captain Villard, the commander at Fort Sully?"

"Yes," was the reply. "I am his nephew."

"Wal, now," said Billy, "I thought I'd seen you in Chevenne City, and when I set eyes on yer, the idea stuck as fast in my head as a bee in a boy's har."

"I heard of you before I started," said Jack, "Better luck next time," said Jack. "How-

yer, the idea stuck as fast in my head as a bee in a boy's har."

"I heard of you before I started," said Jack, much pleased at knowing who he was speaking to. "You are Mr. Lyle Leland, I believe?"

"That is my name," was the answer.

"My name is Harkaway," said Jack, "and I am proud to make your acquaintance. My journey is nearly ended, I am sorry to say, or I should have been glad to have had the pleasure of traveling with you."

"My uncle and myself, Mr. Harkaway, would have been delighted to have enjoyed your society," replied Lyle Leland.

"Wal," said Hank, "I guess you'd better bring the captain up and jine us in eatin' a chunk of this venison."

"Not a bad idea," answered Lyle Leland, with a smile. "Set to and cook it. Our camp is not far off. We will shift and join you, as you hospitably suggest."

He nodded gaily to Jack, and disappeared in

He nodded gaily to Jack, and disappeared in the woods, having so marked the path by which he came that he had little or no difficulty in retracing his steps.



RAISING HIMSELF IN THE BRUSHWOOD, JACK BEHELD A SIGHT WHICH MADE HIS BLOOD TINGLE

"Did you give him two bullets?" asked Hank.
"No," replied Jack, "I only fired one shot."
"That's what I'm a thinking, but I'll swow I heard two go off when the deer was keeled over."

heard two go off when the deer was keeled over."

"P'rap's," said Billy Shoot-dead, "it's one of those extraordinary echoes as these wood is full of."

"Go to Oregon," replied Hank. "It worn't no echo. Not it."

Curious to set the matter at rest, Jack touched his horse with the whip, and rather imprudently galloped up to the spot where the deer had fallen.

He had segreely received it when a fall.

deer had fallen.

He had scarcely reached it when a tall, gentlemanly young man stepped out of the wood and advanced to the same place.

Jack reined in his horse, and looking at the newcomer, exclaimed:

"My shot I believe"

newcomer, excialined:

"My shot, I believe."

"We fired very much at the same time," answered the young man, "and I am vain enough to believe that my shot killed the deer, and that the venison is mine."

"I won't be positive," replied Jack.

"Nor I. The matter is easily settled. What bullet do you fire with?"

"A conical," replied Jack, taking a cartridge from his pouch and showing it.

"I use the old-fashioned round ball," said the stranger.

took out his knife, and kneeling down by

the deer, quickly began to skin it.

By this time the remainder of the party had come up, and showed great interest in the pro-

ceedings.

Fresh venison for supper was a treat which no one liked to forego, and the result of the examination was watched for with considerable

At length the handsome young stranger

At length the handsome young stranger began to cut up the deer.

In this process he came to the bullet, which he extracted, and held up to the light between his finger and thumb.

"It is your shot," he said.

The ball was conical in shape.

There was a slight air of chagrin and disappointment about him as he spoke.

His frank and genial manner won Jack's heart at once.

Jack was much pleased to think that he had fortunately overtaken Captain Villard and his nephew, Lyle Leland.

He had heard in Cheyenne City that they had quitted a little earlier than himself, to traverse very nearly the same line of country.

Captain Villard was an officer of distinction in the American army.

Captain Villard was an officer of distinction in the American army.

He had served in the Mexican war, and fought for his country during the rebellion, placing his sword on the side of the North.

In a short time, Lyle Leland returned with his uncle, who expressed himself glad to make the acquaintance of Harkaway.

A fire had been kindled, and the stores carried by mule ransacked to provide as elegant a supply as the occasion could afford.

"This is quite a pleasant meeting, Mr. Harkaway," said the captain.

"And all the more agreeable because it was unexpected," said Leland.

"And all the more agreeable because it was unexpected," said Leland.
"I am only sorry that we shall have to part company tomorrow," remarked Jack.
"Are you traveling for sport and pleasure?" inquired Villard.
"Not exactly," answered Jack. "I certainly enjoy the journey, and shall try for buffalo before I return; but I am going to the side of an old enemy of mine, who has stolen property belonging to me."

belonging to me.'
"Indeed!"

"Indeed!"
"He was hiding in the wilderness and got wounded by the Indians. Thinking himself dying, he sent for me to make reparation."
"Better late than never," said the captain,

"Guess you've seen signs of Injuns, captin'?"
said Hank.

said Hank.

"Yes," answered the captain. "We had to show them our heels this morning, and did not feel sorry when we reached the woods."

"Was they Sioux?"

"Undoubtedly. We are in the Sioux country now. I should not have traveled unaccompanied had I not thought them peaceable, but I fear they are going to break out."

"An Injun, cap, will a'most allers rob and murder when he's got the chance," observed Billy Shoot-dead.

"They are a treacherous race."

"They are a treacherous race."

"Did you ever kill an Injun, cap?"

"Oh yes, I have killed several."
"Shake on that," said Billy, holding out his hand. "I've no sorter respect for the man who hasn't kill his Injun."

hasn't kill his Injun."

"The painted skunks—ugh! how I hate 'em!"
exclaimed Hank.

"I've lost more'n one friend through them,"
continued Billy Shoot-dead. "Last fail, I
heard as they'd tomahawked Long Sam Parsons. You'd better believe I swore a few. Lor!
how I ripped and cursed when they told me
that Long Sam had gone up."

Lyle Leland looked at Jack and said:

"Mr. Harkaway, will you take a stroll?"

"With pleasure," answered Jack.

Billy Shoot-dead was in the act of taking an
cnormous chew of tobacco.

Billy Snoot-dead was in the act of taking an enormous chew of tobacco.

Suspending the important operation, he exclaimed, in a familiar manner, peculiar to him:

"Look hyar, boys, I kinder cotton to yer, and if you'll take my warning, you'll not go far from camp."

"We'll look out, my friend," answered Lyle.

"The pesky varmints is about and we're got.

"We'll look out, my friend," answered Lyle.
"The pesky varmints is about, and we've got to keep awake if we don't want our har raised."
"All right, Billy," said Jack; "as you're so anxious about my hair, I'll promise you it shall not adorn the belt of a Sioux chief tonight, at all events."

The two young men strolled away together, keeping out of gunshot of the woods, and walking over the green, waving prairie grass.
"Don't it seem strange to you to be wandering on the confines of civilization in the boundless West?" asked Lyle Leland.
"Yes," replied Jack; "I can scarcely realize it, though my life has been a very adventurous one."

one."
"I have not left Yale more than a year," said

"I have not left Yale more than a year," said Leland.
"You must be fond of adventures, or you would not be here."
"Not at all," exclaimed the young man, whose pensive countenance darkened. "I have been studying law, and, indeed, have a fine propect before me, but I gave all up to come here."

here."

"Why, may I ask, if the question is not an impertinent one?" said Jack.

Without knowing the reason, he began to take a great liking to the young American, who was as intelligent as he was handsome and

who was as intelligent as he was handsome and gentlemanly.
"I will tell you with pleasure," replied Lyle Leland. "I had a brother, Valentine Leland, and a sister, Viola. They undertook a journey last fall to Fort Sully, where my uncle is stationed."

He paused abruptly and dashed a tear-drop from his eye.
"They arrived safely, I hope?" said Jack.
"On the contrary, they were never heard of, and to this day no trace of them has been dis-

and to this day no trace of them has been discovered."

"That is sad."

"You see, Mr. Harkaway, that in quitting civilization and coming out here, I have only made up my mind to perform a simple duty."

"Quite so."

"If my brother and sister are dead, I will, to the best of my ability, avenge their murders. If they are held prisoners by the Indians, I will try to rescue them."

"It is a noble resolve, and I honor you for it," said Jack.
"I could not rest in Boston, where my home

it," said Jack.

"I could not rest in Boston, where my home is," continued Lyle Leland, "when I thought of my dear Viola being in the power of the red fiends."

"No one could wonder at your being dis-essed."

"No one could wonder at your being distressed."
"Well," said Lyle, trying to be a little more cheerful, "here I am, and I hope my journey will have some result."
"Are you going on to Fort Sully with Captain Villard?" inquired Jack.
"Yes. We intended to cross the Cheyenne River early tomorrow morning. You see, uncle is a very wealthy man, and will do all he can to aid me."
"That is well."

That is well."

"That is well."
"I can have a portion of his command to accompany me in my researches."
"Does your uncle like his occupation?"
"Not very much. He is too good a soldier to grumble at the orders of his superiors, but he is not held in great favor at the War Department. I don't know how it is, but he has not been rewarded as he deserves. He should have been a general by this time, and he is still a simple captain."

Jack now understood why he felt interested in Lyle Leland. There was that animal mag-

Jack now understood why he felt interested in Lyle Leland. There was that animal magnetism between them which always exists between two noble spirits.

The romance which tinged the life of the young student, fresh from the academic shades of Yale, was of that class which throws a halo round a man.

What could be grander than his resolve to throw himself among the savages, in the hore

What could be grander than his resolve to throw himself among the savages, in the hope of clearing up the mystery which hung over the fate of his brother and sister?

If he could help him at all in his search, Jack

determined to do so.

The shades of night were fast falling as they returned to camp. Hank had piled fresh pine-knots on the fire. The others had wrapped themselves in their blankets; but the sturdy hunter, with his rifle across his knees, was on the lookout.

"It's my watch," he said, as Jack approached.
"Let me relieve you in a couple of hours." determined to do so.

"Let me relieve you in a couple of hours," said Jack.
"Wal," answered Hank, "ef yer like to take the next spell yer welcome. I'll rouse yer up."
"Thanks," replied Jack. "I wish to take my turn with the rest of you, and you need not be afraid of leaving the safety of the camp in my hands."

hands."
"I aren't afeerd of you," replied Hank. "It's chaps like him I expect trouble from."
He jerked his arm in the direction of Sublette, as he spoke; but the guide had, to all vappearance, already gone to sleep, and did not hear the remark.

Soon Lyle Leland and Jack were rolled in their hisparksts, and throwing themselves on the

Soon Lyle Leiand and Jack were rolled in their blankets, and throwing themselves on the ground, fell into a deep slumber. Hank lighted his pipe, and kicking the logs into a blaze, walked up and down like a sentinel on guard. There was little danger of surprise while he was watching.

## CHAPTER II.

## SUBLETTE'S CONDUCT IS SUSPICIOUS.

SUBLETTE'S CONDUCT IS SUSPICIOUS.

Hank Smith was a firm believer in the equal distribution of labor, and when he had watched as long as he thought he ought to, he determined to wake up some one else. Harkaway's request that he might take his share with the rest occurred to him. He was about to rouse him, when Sublette rose up with a yawn, and exclaimed:

"What are you doing, friend Smith?"
"Bout to wake the boss. I'm kinder inclinated to get inside my blanket, seeing I've been on the look-out since you fellows took to snoring."

"Let me take a turn," answered the guide; "though what you've got to be afraid of I don't

"though what you've got to be an an all know."

"Wal," said Hank, "to start with, there's Injuns in plenty about."

"I'll keep a right smart look-out, never fear," answered Sublette.

Hank threw himself down to get to sleep, and the guide sat upon the trunk of a fallen tree, watching the sleepers with considerable eagerness. It happened that Jack had been roused by the conversation which had taken place between the hunter and guide, for the latter had spoken rather loudly in his defence of the Indians. of the Indians.

It seemed odd that Sublette, who was not at

all of a self-sacrificing sort of nature, should volunteer to put himself on guard. Jack determined to keep from going to sleep again and

to watch him.

The guide's intelligent face had contracted

The guide's intelligent face had contracted in the glimmering shadows, and it worked passionately, as he sometimes raised his arm and muttered to himself.

"All, all shr ll die at one swoop," Jack heard him say; "they sleep, never to wake again." He gave one more searching look upon the slumbering party, and carrying his rifle at the trail, quitted the encampment, striking the forest a few hundred yards higher up, and disappearing in its gloomy depths. Jack rose instantly. He touched Hank on the shoulder.

"Get up, quickly," he said.

"What's got you, Colonel?" asked the hunter, rubbing his eyes."

"Sublette's gone off in the woods, and it's my opinion he's going to bring the reds down on us."

"Ethet ro?"

on us."
"That so?"

Jack hastily aroused Lyle Leland, to whom "Will you kindly wake the others," he said,
"and keep as good a lookout as possible against a surprise?"
"Certainly—and you?"
"I intend to follow the guide if Hank, who is an old hunter and backwoodsman, will come with me."

an old hunter and backwoodsman, will come with me."

"Good enough!" exclaimed Hank. "Did you see what direction the fellow's trail tuk?"

"Be smart," said Jack. "I can show you."

Jack led the way to where he had seen the guide disappear in the woods.

"It was somewhere about here," he said.

"Right. I see a path," replied Hank, bending down. "Let me go first. Keep close up to me, and go snake-like. Don't step on a dry twig, if you can help it, as the leastest sound may warn the skunks that we're on the trail."

It was very dark in the woods, and only an occasionally gleam of moonlight penetrated through the dense foilage of oak and maple which towered over the scrub, which was chiefly made up of wild cherry crab, and brambles.

But a path, tolerably well defined, had been

But a path, tolerably well defined, had been struck by Sublette.

The hunter argued in his own mind that the Indians were not far off, because Sublette would not run the risk of being long away from camp.

Someone might awake, and if he was missed his absence would excite suspicion in the minds of all.

minds of all.

After going in a laborious manner, sometimes on hands and knees, at others crawling on their stomachs, irritated by the switchings of twigs on the face, which flew as they were bent back, and bleeding from scratches innumerable, Hank reckoned they had traveled a mile and a half.

Suddenly he came to an abrupt halt.

"What is it?" whispered Jack. "Indians?"

"No, Colonel. it's water," was the reply.

"Then we have struck the banks of the river?"

river?"
"That's so.

"That's so.
"I did not know we were so near."
"Nor, I; but the Cheyenne makes a bend here, I reckon. Now we're here, let's hunt for a dug-out.
"If there's Injuns in camp anywhere near, there's sartin to be a canoe or two not far off. Stay you there."
"Right" answered Jack.
He sat down upon the moss-covered trunk of a tree, looking out upon the moonlit river

a tree, looking out upon the moonlit river swiftly rushing down to join the mighty Mis-souri, some hundreds of miles off.

Soon he hoped to see Hunston, receive from him the deeds which would make him a rich man, and return to civilization and happiness.

Man proposes, and God disposes.

Many months had to elapse before he had a chance of realizing these expectations. Months of hardship, exposure, danger, and privation.

Hank Smith was not gone more than ten

When he came back, he said:

When he came back, he said:
"I've found the canoes—two of 'em, made of
birch, not dug-outs, light as a feather. I guess
I'll take the bearing of the spot, so that I can
find it again, in case of need."
"You mean that the canoes will be useful if

we are chased and want to make our escape? said Jack.
"That's just the idea."

"What is the next move?"

"We'll keep on prospectin.' The path twists up to the right, and I fancy I can smell the smoke of a wood-fire."

They kept on in the way indicated by Hank, and re-entered the forest for the space of half

and re-entered and a mile.

Then the hunter stopped again.

He held up his hand to urge extreme caution upon Harkaway, who almost held his breath.

Hank came back a step or two, and whis-

pered:
"There they are. Look at the varmints.
Rise up a little bit."
Raising himself up in the brushwood Jack beheld a sight which made his blood tingle.
For the first time in his life he looked up-

Sitting round a fire were about twenty Sioux,

and amongst them was Sublette, the guide.

In the midst was an Indian nearly six feet three inches in height.

He wore splendid mocassins, richly ornamented with beads and colored quills. His hair was tied up, and had several feathers in it.

By his side lay a rifle of improved shape and make, which had killed many an unwary trav-

In a belt he displayed a pair of pistols and a hunting knife with two edges.

"Mishe-mock-war," whispered Hank.
"Who is he?"

"The Great Bear. I didn't tell that thief Sub-

lette I knew him; but once he went near raisin' my wool. He's a big chief, you bet. Listen!"

Mishe-mock-war stretched out his hand for the pipe which had gone round the circle of

warriors.
Jack had a good opportunity of noticing the
Sioux Indians, who all had their colored blankets drawn closely around them.
A more savage, blood-thirsty, utterly villainous and ferocious set he had never set eyes on.

Sublette was talking earnestly. "Come in the night time," he said, "and take the scalps of the travelers. Captain Villard is with them, and he's your enemy. I have promised to do this thing for my Indian brothers, and so I deliver them into your hands."

The Great Bear smoked slowly and silently for the present a minute.

for the space of a minute.

Then he spoke.

"Our brother says well," he said. "His voice is like music in my ears. We have dug up the hatchet and are on the war-path. The whites must die. My young men are eager for their scalps. It is many moons since my braves have tasted blood, and the hand of the Wanka-

rusa has been heavy upon them."

There was a chorus of approval at this

Jack whispered to Hank:
"Who is the Wankarusa?"
"Nobody knows," answered the same cautious voice.

"How? "For the last twelve months Indians have been found dead in all parts of Dakota; on their foreheads was a mark in the shape of a dagger—thus †. This is the mark of the man who kills the redskins, who has named him

who kills the redskins, who has named him the Wankarusa."

"Why?" asked Jack.

"Because they say he has sworn to wade hip-deep in the blood of the reds; Wankarusa, in their language, signifying 'Hip deep.'"

"Then he has sustained some great injury at their honds"

"Then he has sustained some great injury at their hands."

"Nary doubt -shish! The guide's going to speak agin."

"My brothers," said Sublette, "know my friend with one arm. They have spoken and eaten with him. He is a man, though his skin is white." is white."
"Wagh! he is a man," answered the Great

"He is in the lodges of the Sioux," continued Sublette; "and the medicine men have said that he is to be the mate of Umentucken, the Mountain Lamb, who has lived in the lodges of the Sioux for twice six moons.

A young brave jumped at this, his eyes flashing angrily.
"One-arm is a great chief, but the Young

"One-arm is a great chief, but the Young Snake is much bigger. Umentucken, the Mountain Lamb, will enter no lodge unless she is the Squaw of the Young Snake. If Sublette says she will, he lies."

"That time is far off," interrupted Great Bear. "Young Snake is a brave, who will try to take the scalps of the white men. Masta Sheela (white man), very poor now. Let us hang his hair at our belts."

There was an emphatic grunt of approval, and the young chief, Young Snake, subsided into private life, though it appeared as if he was much concerned about Sublette's remark respecting Umentucken, the Mountain Lamb, whom he had especially devoted in his own mind as an ornament for his wigwam.

Jack remembered the conversation he had entired with Lalvette will be the state of the state

Jack remembered the conversation he had enjoyed with Lyle Leland.

He wondered if the Mountain Lamb, who

had been only twice six moons with the Sioux, which, of course, meant six months, could be the sister whom Lyle mourned as lost. Of Sublette's treachery there was no doubt

Of Sublette's treachery there was no doubt whatever.

He was urging upon his friends, the redskins, immediate murder of the white men.

His conduct was as black and diabolical as his cowardly heart.

The allusion to "One-arm" made Jack think of Hunston, whom he supposed to be in some village of the Sioux.

That Jack had been led into a trap was as plain as daylight.

plain as daylight.

But, providently, he had got wind of the guide's intentions just in time.

The proposed massacre might yet be prevented, and a terrible revenge taken upon the wretch who suggested it.

"Hank," whispered Jack, "let's give it them red hot."
"Not much," replied the hunter. "See hyar,

"Not much," replied the hunter. "See hyar, they outnumber us, and are all armed with modern rifles. If it came to be a case of red-hot fightin,' we might get it as well as they."

"My fingers itch to fire."

"So does mine. You're young at scoutin' or you wouldn't be so anxious. Creep along after me and we'll get outer this."

Jack made no remonstrance, and slowly followed the hunter on the backward track.

"Hold on," said Hank, after they had gone a little way. "Can you see inter their camp?"

"Yes," replied Jack.

"They're a puttin' skins on them, aren't they?"

"It seems as if they were."

"And they've got bones in their hands. The

"It seems as if they were."

"And they've got bones in their hands. The consarned cusses are up to an old dodge."

"What's that?" inquired Jack.

"I'll tell yer when we get a little ways off. Let's strike straight for the perairie, and run up to camp. They'll come by the path we tuck in startin'."

in startin'."

Rising to their feet, the two men with difficulty pushed their way through the junglelike wood, and at length reached the prairie.
Their camp-fire could be distinguished, glimmering like a star some distance off.

"Run," said Hank; "we ain't got no time
at all to lose."

They ran at the top of their speed until they
got quite close to the camp.

got quite close to the camp.
"Now tell me," said Jack, "what the dodge

"Now tell me," said Jack, "what the dodge is?"

"They're a-going to put on wolf-skins, and creep along. Those bones they've got in their hands they'll rattle till they make the noise of wolves snappin' their jaws, which is a common noise, and we shouldn't think nothin' of it."

"The artful beggars!" said Jack. "That would have taken me in."

"And it's taken a lot more'n yer in, Cap," replied Hank. "Yer reckon it's wolves a-gazin' at yer, and don't count it worth while to fire on 'em. All of a suddint up they gets with whoops and yells, and yer's tomyhawked to a man before yer know where yer har's gone ter."

In a short space of time they reached the camp, where all were awake, and anxiously expecting their return.

pecting their return.

"Did you see anything of the asked Captain Villard, anxiously.

"I reckon."

"Are they in force?"

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GEORGE M. COUNCILL, Postmaster.

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"There's only a party of twelve or fifteen, as well as I could count; they'll be here a'most directly. Reckon I'll leave the Colonel to tell yer what's happened along."
"Sublette is a traitor," said Jack. "We came across a band of Indians, and heard him urge them to come and massacre us in our sleep."
"I wish I had some soldiers here," remarked Captain Villard. "If I had entertained any idea that the Indians were going to take the war-path, I wouldn't have quitted my post even to meet you, Lyle."

"I am sorry, sir," answered Lyle Leland, "if I have been the cause of any dereliction of duty on your part."

"Oh, no. I don't suppose I shall get into any trouble at Washington, but it is unfortunate that I should have led you into danger."

"Don't bother about me, uncle," replied Lyle. "I have come out here on a sacred mission, and must have met the Indians sooner or later. Better soon than late, perhaps."

"Let Mr. Harkaway tell us what is really to be expected," said Captain Villard.

Jack related what they had heard, and how the Sioux, under Mishe-mock-war, and instigated by the double-dyed treachery of Sublette, were about to creep upon them in the guise of wolves.

"If that Sublette comes acrost me," said Billy Shoot-dead, "you bet I'll form myself inter a

"If that Sublette comes acrost me," said Billy Shoot-dead, "you bet I'll form myself inter a vigilance committee, and string him up to the first tree."

"I certainly think he has forfeited his life," rejoined the captain; "and we should be justified in taking it, on the principle of self-preservation being the first law of nature." Scarcely had the captain finished speaking than the individual referred to suddenly appeared upon the scarce.

peared upon the scene.

He looked astonished at seeing them all awake, and his cheek seemed to get a shade

awake, and his cheek seemed to get a shade paler.

"Say, boys," he said, "you're stirring early. It isn't sunrise yet."

"It's sunset for you," answered Hank, springing upon him, and grasping him by the throat before he could draw a knife or revolver.

Sublette offered no resistance, which he saw was useless; his hands fell by his side; he allowed them to be bound behind him by Billy Shoot-dead with a piece of cord, and drew a Shoot-dead, with a piece of cord, and drew a deep breath when Hank's fingers quitted their grip of his windpipe.

That something was wrong he quickly perceived.

That something was wrong he quickly perceived.

But he was far from guessing how serious an aspect affairs had assumed for him during his absence.

Note:—This interesting story will be continued in the November number of COMFORT. If your subscription expires this month do not fail to send in your renewal subscription or you will miss the November number, as all old subscriptions are promptly removed on expiration. piration.

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## Love, the Sleuth.

## Hearts vs. Detectives in the "Great Purinton Mill Mystery."

BY HOLMAN F. DAY.

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SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

(Caleb Brett, an aged and prominent citizen of Manafield village drew a considerable sum of money from the bank on a certain foremoon and was seen to enter Purinton's mill on the edge of the village. He did not reappear and later a searching party found his old beaver hat on a slab pile at the foot of a sluice leading from the upper part of the mill where he had entered. It was considered probable that the old man had come to his death by falling down the sluice. The atrange part of the affair was that the body had been removed by persons unknown—admitting the presumption that he was really dead. Several persons were in the mill at or near the time he was seen to enter. His nephew, George Brett, with whom he had been having troubled about the young man's proposed marriage to a girl below him in social standing; Arthur Wing, the village printer and a suitor for the squire's grand-daughter, a young man obnoxious to the squire's grand-daughter, a young man obnoxious to the squire's paniel Purinton, owner of the mill and one who was intending to borrow from the old man that day. After some weeks both George Brett and Arthur Wing were arrested on suspicion of having been concerned in the old man's taking off. Brett was released on small bonds after certain testimony seemed to throw the burden of the matter on Wing. At the hearing granted to Wing before a local trial justice a small boy brought in a note signed by Caleb Brett, apparently, but written by another hand. In the note the squire declared that he was still alive. The note bore such resemblance to a forgery after it had been examined that the justice refused to release Arthur Wing and ordered him committed. He was carried to jail. The detectives on both sides of the case then hunted up the boy who had brought the note. He proved to be the son of "Rubberboot" Higgins, a village ne'er owell. The boy claimed that the note had been given to him in the woods by a man who was disguised. To Detective Order well he stated his suspicion that the unknown man was Purin

#### CHAPTER VI.

"NEPHEW GEORGE, HOW DID YOUR UNCLE'S PAPERS COME TO BE IN YOUR DESK?"

URING the week following the sensational appearance of that mysterious "Caleb Brett note" in the local court room the detectives on both sides of the case nearly spoiled their eyesight. They were studying chirography. Each had a photographed copy of the letter that "Rubberboot" Higgins' boy had handed up to the presiding justices. With this letter Detective Ordwell patiently compared samples of the handsiding justices. With this letter Detective Ord-well patiently compared samples of the hand-writing of Daniel Purinton. The State de-tectives were equally assiduous in striving to find some resemblance between Meander Wing's hand and the writing in the mysterious note. All the parties regretfully decided if comparison showed any resemblance either way that resemblance was too faint to carry the least weight. But they sent each his budget.

way that resemblance was too faint to carry the least weight. But they sent, each his budget, away to chosen experts in the city hoping that professional examination would reveal some hidden likenesses.

The elder Wing now more bowed, more broken, more shambling, pursued Detective Ordwell until the latter rather bridled under the constant espionage of the old man and was nettled by his constant questioning laments.

"It won't do you any good to chase me around town in this manner, Mr. Wing," said the detective. "I know it is hard for you to feel that your son is in jail. The fact that I believe in common with many other people that he is there unjustly doesn't help your feelings very much and I understand it. But I am doing all I can and really you interfere with my work and my thoughts, following me up as you do." you do.

"I suppose so, Mr. Ordwell," replied the old man resignedly and piteously. "I'll try not to bother you any more."

But the old printer couldn't remain in his office. He would stand for a while with composing stick in hand, meditatively poking with blackened finger among the dusty letters in the case and then absent-mindedly would throw back the type he had been sticking and start for the door, shambling along in his slippers. Half way down the street he would seem to recover his mind and would hurry back to the office and resume work shamefacedly.

seem to recover his mind and would hurry back to the office and resume work shamefacedly. But ere another half hour had elapsed he would again be staring from the window.

"While this thing is hangin' fire as it is," said the foreman one day, "I wouldn't try to work if I was you, Mr. Wing. It hain't right for ye to try to. Ye might lose your grip altogether and that would be mighty bad for the boy. He needs ye. Take my advice and lay right off and we'll git along in the office somehow. I'll git in another boy to help the apprentice and we'll worry along first rate till the clouds clear off."

The foreman asked the apprentice if he knew of any available boys in the village and the apprentice said that all the boys were in school

prentice said that all the boys were in school except Chas. Higgins, and as for him he never went to school nowadays. Therefore one day the foreman accosted the scion of Rubberboot Higgins as he was passing the door and after a few moments' conference attached him to the mechanical staff of the Mansfield Mirror.

After the foreman had failed to induce young shine.

Higgins to go after "a round square" and had been sneeringly informed that there "was no sech thing as a type-louse," it was agreed to by the laborers in the office of the Mansield Mirror that Rubberboot Higgins' boy wasn't as green as he looked. And a not inconsiderable evidence of his shrewdness was the fact that he steadily refused to be inveigled into any office what the personality of the strenger who

steadily refused to be inveigled into any office chat about the personality of the stranger who gave the mysterious note to him.

Every day or so one of the state detectives would meet the Higgins boy behind the hotel horse sheds and receive a report as to the latest doings and sayings of Wing the elder. Then the Higgins boy modestly accepted the regular half dollar tip. Detective Ordwell, working away on various suppositions regarding Daniel Purinton, was equally liberal with the Higgins boy.

In the meantime no one seemed to be extracting much real information regarding the Caleb Brett mystery.

Detective Ord well was somewhat crusty when

Meander Wing timidly accosted him one day asking if anything had "come up."

"As I told you before, Mr. Wing," said the detective, "there is nothing to do but wait for the report from the handwring expert. So far as I see the note bears no resemblance to Purinton's handwriting. But we must see what the professor has to say. There's nothing till then."

It was shortly after this conversation that old man Wing, rendered desperate by the delay and the continued suspicion resting on his son, went to the mill resolved to have a talk with Daniel Purinton. He hardly knew what he expected to achieve or what his suspicions were but he was suddenly inflamed with an old man's choler and determination to make

were but he was suddenly inflamed with an old man's choler and determination to make some move.

"Daniel," said he, when the two were seated in a dark corner of the mill, away from chance callers, "I don't want ye to get mad with me but just consider that I'm an old man like yourself and that I have a boy that I think more of than I do of my own life. You and I have always been good friends and I don't believe you want to see me die in sorrow. You haven't got many more years anyway. You don't wont to see a young life ruined, do ye?"

"What are you driving at?" demanded Purinton with some asperity.

"Don't you, so help you God, know anything more about how Cale Brett stepped out?"

"If anyone else but you said that to me, Men," growled Purinton, "I'd cuff his head up to a peak and then knock the peak off. But I reelly do think that you have got kind of daffy over this bus'ness." He regarded Wing with a look wherein indignation and pity mingled. "But you hain't gainsayin' that there are about as many suspicious things against you as against my Arthur," persisted Wing. Then he stood up and his voice broke in a wail. "For God's sake, Dan, for the sake of our old friendship, if you know anything about this case that will help my poor boy out—for the sake of a poor old man, sorrowing and alone, come out like a man and tell it and let the axe fall where it may."

"I can see what ye've got in your mind, Mendell of the sake of the

it may."

"I can see what ye've got in your mind, Meander," said Purinton, "and it hain't in any way complimentary to me because I was in the mill that day waiting to get money from Squire Brett to pay my debts and because I have since paid those debts with money that came from a place that this village don't know about and because you think I might have been the one that paid the torn bill of Brett's into the Mirror office, you have kind of made up your mind that I can tell you more about the mystery. I can hardly blame you, Meander, for I know you are all worked up about the matter. But I am going to hold my temper though you know that most any other man would get up and flam you for insinuating the

matter. But I am going to hold my temper though you know that most any other man would get up and flam you for insinuating the things you have.

"I have known you a long time, Wing," Purinton went on. He placed his knotted hand on the other's worn alpaca sleeve. "And you have knowed me. You never knew me to do a mean act. You never knew me to tell a lie. I swear to you now before High Heaven that I never saw Squire Brett in that mill that day, dead or alive. I never had a cent of his money. I'll tell you privately, Meander, that the money I used to pay off my debts I got of old Hen Hanson. He didn't want me to tell where I got it for he wants to dodge taxes. He gave a discount on interest if I wouldn't tell where I got it. I have given my word and I'm going to keep it even with that old skinflint, till the law drives me to open up. But I'm not going around telling to satisfy public curiosity in this village not by long shot. And I tell you only for reasons that you will understand. Now don't you believe me?"

Wing sat with his head in his hands for a long time and then he answered with a halfgroan. "Yes, Daniel, I can see that I and the others have misjudged you."

Purinton surveyed the melancholy old man with a rather satirical smile. "I can see, Meander, that ye are sort of sorry that I didn't do the thing," he said. "But I can't help that."

"Don't talk that way, Daniel, my old friend," carnet help?"

Meander, that ye are sort of sorry that I didn't do the thing," he said. "But I can't help that."

"Don't talk that way, Daniel, my old friend," expostulated Wing falteringly. "But every way I look and every thing I follow down ends in disappointment and everything is dark before me. Poor Arthur!"

There was silence for a few minutes. Purinton scraped meditatively under his broad thumb nail with a sliver. "Well," he mused aloud, "whatever was done to Cale Brett in that mill was done almighty quick. He wasn't in sight when I got there and I'm almost willing to take my oath that he wasn't on that pile of slabs, either. Of course I didn't pay especial attention when I walked past to go to the flume but if he had been there I'm willing to bet that I would have seen him. And he wasn't in the flume for I turned the water on myself."

"All dark—all dark," murmured Wing rising and making his way to the stairs. "But I still have faith that I shall yet find the man who knows about this terrible thing. And when I find that man I will drag the truth out of his throat with these two hands if I can't get it any other way."

He went shambling up the road in the sunshine.

That very afternoon the town of Mansfield

was treated to a new sensation and had not the affair been in a measure linked with the Brett tragedy folks might have entirely forgotten the latter in their amazement at the newest devel-

Growing from a rumor it became bruited around the town that George Brett's "mill-hand wife" for whose sake most of his present troubles has been incurred—that wife had eloped with Pearson the flashy young correspondent who had been in town for weeks re-

presenting a New York paper.

The flirtation had been marked by the busy-bodies but no one had anticipated such a bodies but no one had anticipated such a screaming sensation as an elopement. The couple had left town so unobtrusively that no one had noticed their departure. But the people of Mansfield Corner were speedily aware that George Brett was engaged in a wild debauch, evidently endeavoring to drown some sort of sorrow and after a time George himself, tottering beside the bar in the hotel, profanely admitted that his wife had flown. He declared that he had told her to go—had driven her from him. But in the next breath he talked vaguely of plots and blackmailing operations and threatened vengeance as soon "as things got cleared up some." He talked long and vehemently along this line to his associates until some of the sharper among them began to wonder what could be behind all his mysterious explosions.

It furthermore became known that young Brett had borrowed at usurious rates, banking on his future, several thousand dollars, and it was hinted that this sum had been turned over to the erring Mrs. Brett just before she left town. It was certain that she had called at the local bank and changed one of the large bills that her husband had a few hours previously taken from the same bank on the money-lender's check.

Please Tell Me

Who Needs My Book.

Detective Ordwell, hearing of these matters, put in a long evening pondering on what it might mean. What had induced George Brett might mean. What had induced George Brett to further distress himself financially in order to give funds to a woman who was about leaving him? The next day the detective went over to the Corner. George Brett, so announced the landlord of the hotel where Brett and his wife had made their homesince their marriage, had gone to his camp in the woods on a fishing trip.

while had made them home woods on a fishing trip.

"Poor George isn't feeling much like 'tendin' to bus'ness these days," said the landlord sympathetically.

"No, I suppose not," assented the detective.
"Came on him rather sudden, I fancy."

"Wal, he came in one afternoon and found his wife and that newspaper snipe goin' over his private papers and the thing kind of come to a head right then and there."

"Well, I must say he treated her squarely," said the detective. "Not many men under circumstances like that would have turned around and given a woman a nice little pot of money."

The landlord looked at the detective with a rather prolonged and chilly stare. "Mebbe the people of this village think that George Brett hain't been showin' much grit in this thing," he said.

I don't know about that," said Ordwell.

he said.

"I don't know about that," said Ordwell.

"But it seemed strange to me that he didn't turn her right out without a cent—a woman who would betray him in that fashion."

"George Brett hain't tellin' all his bus'ness to the people of Mansfield," said the landlord.

"Nor to officers, either. He has his friends to confide in and advise him and I'm one of the friends, I can tell you that. Nothin' leaks through me, but I can tell ye that the folks of this place don't want to judge George Brett by what they see on the outside of this thing."

The detective started to say something more but the hotel man put u! his hand and checked him with a deprecatory snap of his fingers. "I've said all I'm goin' to," he asserted. "The rest of it is George's own bus'ness and when things get around right you'll hear something drop. Not another word, or you'n I'll have trouble." The landlord stumped away into the back regions somewhere. The detective went to the window and meditatively trailed his finger in the dust of the sash.

There was no other person in the hotel office

to the window and meditatively trailed his inger in the dust of the sash.

There was no other person in the hotel office except the weasened little boy of all work who was scattering lumps of wet sawdust over the floor preparatory to sweeping.

The boy came close to him. "Hain't you that detective from over to the village?" he inquired with deep new expressed on his features.

detective from over to the village?" he inquired with deep awe expressed on his features.

"Yes," said Ordwell.

"I like detectives from what I've read about 'em," volunteered the boy. He pulled a ragged nickel novel from his pocket. "This 'ere story is one of the 'Slim Sleuth Series' and I tell you the Slim Sleuth was always on hand to get one out of trouble. The way I reckon it, folks ought to be willing to help detectives when detectives are such good men. Hadn't they?"

"Of course," said the officer good-naturedly, "Well, I'm goin' to tell you all I know that will help you. Mebbe it ain't anything that will help you after all but you can see about it."

"Go ahead, my man. I'm glad to hear anything you know."

"Well, that day that George Brett came in and found a person up there with Mrs. Brett.

I ask you for the name of a friend who needs help—that is all.

Just send me a postal to tell me the book he needs. No money is wanted.

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cost is \$5.50. If it fails, I will pay the druggist myself.

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to see light, so he thought.

to see light, so he thought.

"Is that all you know, youngster?" he demanded but not bluffly.

"Well, I kind of snooped a little after that," the boy admitted, his cheeks reddening. "But I felt so sure that them two was looking over the Squire's papers that when George Brett came in from his store unexpectedly and went upstairs I followed and hid in the next room."

"You heard some things that were said, then?"

"Oh, yes,—they had an awful time jawing

then?"
"Oh, yes,—they had an awful time jawing back and forth. I can't remember half of it. But the idea was George was twitting the reporter with stealing his wife and sneaking after his private property in his desk and he allowed that the wife had told the reporter the things were there. The reporter bluffed him right back and said that the man who had the Squire's private papers in his desk was most likely the man that killed him and that now he should print the story in the paper. George likely the man that killed him and that now he should print the story in the paper. George swore like a maniac and said that the papers had come into hands by mystery and he didn't know anything about how he had got hold of them. The reporter asked him sassy like if he supposed any jury would believe that. Then they had a regular rough and tumble fight all over the floor and the reporter licked. It was awful."

"Did the reporter carry the papers away—do you know about that?" asked the detective breathlessly.

"I like detectives from what I've read about lem". "Outsidered the boy. He pulled a ragged nickel novel from his pocket. "This 'ere story is one of the 'Slim Sleuth Series' and I tell you it the Slim Sleuth was always on hand to get one out of trouble. The way I reckon it, folls ought to be willing to help detectives when detectives are such good men. Hadn't they?" "Of course," said the offliere good-naturedly. "Well, I'm goin' to tell you all I know that will help you. Mebbe it ain't anything that will help you after all but you can see about it." "Go nhead, my man. I'm glad to hear anything you know." "Well, that day that George Brett came in and found a person up there with Mrs. Brett—I was in there once or twice to answer the bell. I carried up ink and some ice water and a bottle of beer. And Pearson gave me a quarter to get a chisel. I reckon that s what he used to break George Brett's desk open with." "Ahal Go on." "Then when I brought up the ice water Mrs. Brett and Pearson were going over some papers and he seemed to be writing down a list of them." "I don't suppose you saw enongh to what kind of papers they were." "I'd didn't see what they were but I heard Pearson say, 'why here's even the document that the Squire's name was scissored from the name that was on the message that the boy brought into the courtroom." "S-sh!' said Mrs. Brett, 'little pitchers have big ears.' That's all they said so that I could hear but. I've been thinkin,' Mister Detective, that they were pulling over the papers that were in the Squire's wallet the day he was killed, or something."

Ordwell, seeking through so many weeks for clues, felt his head buzz at the possibilities suggested by the boy's naive hints. He began

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# DOMESTIC @ **FANCY COOKING**

## BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK,

Daughter of Marion Harland.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR—In conducting this department Mrs. Herrick would be pleased to answer any questions that our readers may ask. It is her desire to please all COMFORT ask. It is her desire to please all COMFORT onto make the loaves too large. Set it in a readers and in order to find out your likes and dislikes can't you write and ask a few questions. By so doing you may give us some hint or suggestion as to how this Household Department should be conducted to suit the greatest number of our readers. Mrs. Herrick's mother, MARION HARLAND, has made herself famous by her rare judgment in household matters, and her daughter is equally gifted in this connection. Address all letters Christine Terhune Herrick, care COMFORT, Augusta Maine.

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## Breads Made of Coarse Meals.



a nation the Ameri-

less bolted flours than in those which have been refined until little is left in them but starch. This is an excellent item in the nutriment of the human being but it is not enough. With the starch should be gluten and the other wholesome elements which are found in the wheat kernel. Even the bran of the wheat contains nutritive salts, and a portion of the bran—not too much—should therefore be left in the flour. in the flour.

Apart from its value as nourishment it is well to give one's family once in a while a change from the common wheat bread. Every well to give one's family once in a while a change from the common wheat bread. Every one craves variety and there are so many good quick breads to be made from the different coarse meals that it is a pity not to know more of them than most persons seem to do. There are houses where one sees hardly anything but wheat bread on the table from one end of the year to the other. There may be muffins, there are pretty sure to be quick biscuit and once in a while raised biscuit, while griddle cakes are often taken as a matter of course. But always they are made of bolted wheat flour.

One of the best kinds of flour to introduce into our kitchens is the whole wheat flour. There are different makes of this, but there is one mill in New England which turns out especially delightful flour and I take pleasure in giving a recipe for loaf bread to be made from this. I ate it first at a farmhouse up in the Berkshire hills, and I do not think it would taste quite so good to me anywhere else. But it can be made in other kitchens and can hardly fail to give gratification anywhere.

As a matter of course, every one should know

taste quite so good to me anywhere else. But it can be made in other kitchens and can hardly fail to give gratification anywhere.

As a matter of course, every one should know how to make corn bread or Johnny cake. But from what I have seen in some places offered as corn bread or corn muffins, I do not wonder that it is not more popular. The corn muffins for which I give a recipe can hardly fail to please every one except a very unreasonable somebody, who would not be pleased with anything. Rye meal used to be well known in New England and the compound of "rye and Injun" bread is frequently met in the books of some years ago,—Mrs. Stowe's especially,—that treat of old times in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Perhaps it is still found on some farmsteads there and further North, but I have never happened to meet it. The nearest approach to it is in the "Boston brown bread" which has won a place of its own in Yankeeland and outside of it.

There are many things besides loaf bread to be made from the whole wheat flour and plenty besides corn bread that corn meal will make.

besides corn bread that corn meal will make. The muffins and biscuit and gems of whole wheat and Graham flour are better, to my mind, wheat and Graham flour are better, to my mind, than those made of white flour and the griddle cakes and flapjacks and loaf corn bread that may be made of Indian meal are worthy of all praise. Akin to these are the gems and muffins and pancakes made of hominy,—a form of the maize that is too little known and appreciated. Oatmeal, too, has its value in making breads, or at least in making a part in them, when mixed with other flour.

Such breads as these are especially valuable

Such breads as these are especially valuable for growing children. Bread made of the coarse meals are more easily digested than those composed only of the fine, much bolted flour, and the salts and nutriment they contain are of benefit to the boys and girls who are making bone and muscle as well as flesh. Some of the breads are of particular use for children suffer-ing from constipation. Graham bread, in-deed, is in some cases almost too laxative and a regular diet of corn bread will often relieve chronic constipation. In hot weather it is sometimes found a trifle too heating, but that is an objection that cannot be brought against

There are certain persons who object strenuously to any change and do not care to eat anything new. But even they are sometimes open to conviction and they should at least have the chance to try whether or not they will like the bread made of other than the bolted flour.

WHOLE WHEAT LOAF BREAD. Mix two teaspoonfuls of baking powder with two quarts of sour milk, put with it two-thirds

WHOLE WHEAT BISCUIT.

Into a pint of whole wheat flour stir a teaspoonful of salt and a heaping teaspoonful of baking powder and chop into it a tablespoonful of mixed cottolene and butter. When the shortening is chopped fine, add to the mixture enough sour milk or cream to make a soft dough. It should be as soft as it can be handled. Turn it out on a floured board, roll it into a sheet about half an inch thick and cut into rounds. Bake in a floured pan.

WHOLE WHEAT WAFERS.

into rounds. Bake in a floured pan.

WHOLE WHEAT WAFERS.

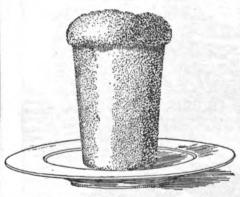
Into a cup of cream, to which you have added three tablespoonfuls of white sugar and a salt-spoonful of salt, stir enough whole wheat flour to make a rather stiff dough. Roll this out into a sheet less than quarter of an inch thick and cut rounds from it with a biscuit cutter. Roll each of these out until no thicker than paper and bake in a floured pan in a quick oven. Keep in a tin box so that they will remain crisp. These are very nice with tea.

WHOLE WHEAT GEMS. WHOLE WHEAT GEMS.
Beat three eggs light and add to them three cups warm milk, a tablespoonful of white sugar and a teaspoonful of salt. Beat in enough whole wheat flour to make a good batter, and at the last put in a tablespoonful of melted butter. Have gem pans ready heated and turn the batter into these. Bake in a very hot oven and eat at once.

EXCELSIOR CORN MUFFINS.

Beat two eggs light, stir into them a cup of milk, a tablespoonful melted butter and four tablespoonfuls white sugar. Sift a heaping teaspoonful of baking powder into a cup of white flour and a cup of corn meal, mixed. Add to this a saltspoonful of salt and stir the flour and meal into the liquid ingredients. Beat well, turn into greased muffin tins and bake.

STEAMED CORN BREAD. Mix two cupfuls corn meal with one of white flour and sift with them a scant teaspoonful of soda, a teaspoonful of salt and two tablespoon-fuls of white sugar. Melt a heaping table-



spoonful of cottolene or lard and put it into two cupfuls of sour milk or buttermilk. Pour this on the prepared flour and meal, and beat very hard for about five minutes. Have ready a Boston brown bread mould very well greased and put the batter into this. Fit on a tight top and set the mould in a kettle of hot water. Be careful that it does not turn over and that the water does not get over the top of the mould. Boil steadily for two hours. Take it from the mould and set it in the oven for five or ten minutes to dry off. Eat while hot.

CORN-MEAL MUSH MUFFINS.

CORN-MEAL MUSH MUFFINS. Make a mush by stirring a cupful of salted corn meal into two cupfuls of boiling milk. Cook this in a double boiler for two hours, stirring often, that it may not lump. Take the



mush from the fire, beat in a heaping table-spoonful of butter, and when this is melted set the mush aside to cool. While it is only set the mush aside to cool. While it is only lukewarm thin it with a cupful of cold milk and when it is stirred smooth whip in three beaten eggs and a third of a cupful of whole wheat flour. Add a teaspoonful of baking powder, beat until you are sure it is well mixed in and bake in muffin tins.

CORN MEAL GRIDDLE CAKES.

Into two cupfuls of corn meal which has been scalded with a quart of boiling milk, beat, when lukewarm, a tablespoonful of molasses, one of lard or cottolene, a teaspoonful of salt and two eggs, whipped light. Add half a cupful of flour, into which has been sifted a scant teaspoonful of baking powder, and thin with milk to the consistency of ordinary griddle cake batter. Bake, if possible, on a soapstone griddle.

HOMINY MUFFINS.
Beat a tablespoonful of lard and one of butbeat a tablespoontul of lard and one of butter into a cuptul of boiled hominy,—the shell hominy. Stir in a teaspoonful of salt and two tablespoonfuls of white sugar and three beaten eggs. When these are well blended put in a cup and a half of milk and lastly, half a cupful of wheat flour into which has been sifted a heaping teaspoonful of baking powder. Bake

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in well greased tins. Rice muffins may be made by the same recipe, substituting boiled rice for the hominy.

Answers to Correspondents.

Mrs. A. W. P. I. Parker, Idaho.—I take pleasure in answering the questions you send. 1. Pot cheese is sometimes known as cottage cheese and the Germans call it, or something very like it, Schmierkause. It is made of thick sour milk. This is heated slowly until the whey separates from the curds. The latter are then put in a thin cloth stretched across an open vessel of some sort, and allowed to drain. They are then chopped and worked smooth with a little butter, cream and salt.

2. Paprika is the Hungarian red pepper. It is not so hot as the cayenne and is nice to use in seasoning. It is sold in tin boxes like mustard or spice. Answers to Correspondents.

seasoning. It is sold in tin boxes like mustard or spice.

3. Parmesan cheese is an Italian cheese, which is sold grated in bottles. It is good to put with macaroni, but when you cannot get it other grated cheese may be used in its place.

4. There are several varieties of salad oil and much that is sold under that name is cotton seed oil, with a little olive oil to flavor it. The Italian salad oil is really no better than the French, although some persons prefer it. It is a matter of taste. I am told there is a good American olive oil on the market.

5. Tarragon vinegar is vinegar in which the herb tarragon has been steeped long enough to flavor the vinegar.

the vinegar.

6. To marinate is to lay the meat or fish to be thus treated for a short time in a mixture of oil and salt or of vinegar and salt, with such seasoning as the recipe indicates. It gives fish the flavor of the marinate mixture, and will sometimes make meat tender as well as season it.

of the marinate mixture, and will sometimes make meat tender as well as season it.

K. B., New Bedford, Ohio.—I would be glad to give the recipe for the cakes if you will tell me more clearly what they are. Your description might apply to a dozen different kinds. What have they inside? Are they plain, or with fruit or other addition?

For chicken filling work a tablespoonful of butter into a cup of fine bread crumbs, season with sweet herbs,—sweet marjoram, summer savory and thyme,—and add pepper and salt at discretion. Never put any water with your stuffing or moisten it in any way expect with the melted butter.

Miss E. E., South Germantown, Wis.—I am sorry your query did not reach me earlier. By the time this appears it would be too late for the recipe you wish to do you any good this year. Remind me of it early next season and I will give it with pleasure.

Mrs. L. C. L., Irene, S. D.—Shampoo the. children's heads with bi-chloride of mercury soap and dry the hair. Then every night, at bed-time, wash the heads with tincture of larkspur and brush the hair well. This is a sure cure. At the end of a week you will have no more trouble. The preparation is a deadly poison, taken internally, but will do no harm applied externally.

Mrs. I. H. H. Barstow, Texas.—I am much obliged for the recipes you send and take pleasure in add-ing them below:

ing them below:

LEMON PIE.

Yolks of 4 eggs, 1 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon butter, 1 and 1-2 pints sweet milk, 1 pint corn bread crumbs. Grated rind and piece of one lemon. When well done spread over the top the whites of the eggs whipped to a stiff froth sweetened with one cup of sugar. Then set in the oven to brown slightly.

PICCALLLY.

2 doz. large cucumbers chopped, 1 doz. green peppers chopped, 1-4 doz. ripe peppers chopped, 1 large head cabbage chopped, 1 peck green tomatoes chopped, 1-2 gallon of onions chopped, 1 pint of salt sprinkled over this; let stand 1 hour, then put in sack and hang up to drip over night.

Put in a kettle 1 gal. vinegar, 1 pt. brown sugar, 1-4 lb. mustard, 1-2 oz. cinnamon, 1 tablespoonful each of mace, allspice, celery seed, and a little horseradish. Cook mess slowly two hours, add mustard last as it thickens it and it is apt to burn. Kraut can be substituted for cabbage.

Rosa M.—Chop one tablespoonful of butter and

Rosa M.—Chop one tablespoonful of butter and lard mixed with one quart of flour, first sifting into this two heaping teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Make a hole in the middle of this and stir in milk enough to make a soft dough. Begin with two cups and let the milk be new and rich if possible. Have the dough as soft as can be handled. Roll into a sheet about half an inch thick, cut into rounds with a biscuit-cutter and bake in a floured pan.

Baking powder is used in the place of cream tartar and soda mixed, and has the same effect as these. The recipe for gems will be given with directions for bread made of other coarse meals in an early issue of this paper.

Fly specks, if new, can sometimes be wiped from frames and furniture with a damp cloth. When they are old, they may have to be scraped off and the spots left retouched. Try equal parts of vinegar and water for the fly specked furniture.

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# Under Love's Spell;

## Or, Who Killed Kathleen O'Neal.

BY MAY AGNES FLEMING.

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CHAPTER I.

CHAPTER I.

HE September sun was setting stormily down there on the coast. A lonely scene and hour. Away to the east, the fishing village of Clontarf nestled under the rocks; to the left, the tall Tudor turrets and peaked gables, rising above the trees of the park, Clontarf Castle reared its hoary head—one of the stateliest and oldest houses in Britain. The only moving things on darkening earth and storm-tossed sea were a girl and a yacht.

The girl stood gazing seaward, making a picture of herself, outlined against the blackening gloaming—a brightly pretty girl, very fair, very youthful, with a thoroughly Irish face. A face for an artist, standing there in vivid relief against black sky and dark sea, the brown hair and picturesque red cloak streaming in the rising wind.

The yacht lay a mile away, a picture in its way, as well as the girl. In golden letters on the stern was the name, "Nora Creina."

The girl looked impatiently at the darkening sky, at the heaving vessel, then glanced behind her with a little, petulant frown.

"How long he is!" she said. "They expected Mr. Gerald this evening, but I don't see why that should keep him. Ah!"

She stopped suddenly, her pretty, sunburned face brightening; for a boat was lowered from the "Nora Creina," and two men rowed rapidly shoreward.

"He will come, then, after all!" she cried in

"He will come, then, after all!" she cried in a joyful, breathless sort of way.

A step came rapidly down the rocky path and

A step came rapidly down the rocky path and a rich, melodious voice rang down the stillness, singing a ringing hunting song.

"A southerly wind and a cloudy sky proclaim it a hunting morning!" chanted the full, rich voice; and then the singer came into view, and stood balancing himself in mid-air, on the topmost peak of a lofty crag, twenty feet over the water.

on the topmost peak of a lofty crag, twenty feet over the water.

He was a tall young man—nay, youth—of scarce one-and-twenty, a "six-foot son of Anak," lithe and long of limb, straight as an arrow, broad-shouldered, deep-chested, goldenhaired and azure-eyed. A magnificent young giant—the wildest dare-devil in the three kingdoms, a mad-headed, hot-brained, reckless young ne'er-do-well, who yet looked at you with eyes as blue and smiling and innocent as the eyes of a month-old babe. He was dressed in the colors of his first and only love—the idol of his heart—his graceful "Nora Creina," there afloat on the waters—white trousers, green jacket, green cap with a gold band set jauntily on his handsome, goldenhead. He stood poised on the dizzy peak, looking seaward with brilliant, cloudless blue eyes.

eyes.

"There you are, my beauty, my darling!" he cried, apostrophizing the trim little bark.

"And if I don't give you a spanking run in the teeth of this gale before morning, I'm not my father's son. We'll make King's Head in four hours, with this stiff breeze. A glorious race before midnight, my darling 'Nora'!"

"'Oh, my Nora Creina, dear,
My charming, bashful Nora Creina!
Beauty lies in many eyes,
But love in yours, my Nora Creina!"

He sung gayly, his voice floating out on the

But love in yours, my Nora Creina!"

He sung gayly, his voice floating out on the breeze to the boat, dancing like the cockleshell it was over the breakers, and answered by the men on board with a hearty Irish cheer. "Lord Rory!"

He had turned to leap down, agile as a cat, never seeing the red cloak and the pretty face so near him, when the girl, starting up, called; and as he turned with a bewildered "Halloo!" called again:

"Lord Roderick!"

"Fore George, it's Kathleen!" He was beside her with a bound. "Standing here like a Wicklow fairy, or a banshee, or a goddess of the storm, or anything else you like. Come to see me off, Kathleen? How polite of you!"

Kathleen tossed her pretty head saucily. She had come to see him off, and colored guiltily as he guessed it.

Kathleen tossed her pretty head saucily. She had come to see him off, and colored guiltily as he guessed it.

"You always were conceited, Lord Rory, and always will be. As if one could not come down to watch the storm rise without coming on your account!"

"Watch the storm rise? By Jove! how romantic the dear little girl's getting! Has quite a Byronic sound, that, 'pon my word, and comes of improving her mind, under my tuition, as she's been doing lately."

He looked a dangerous preceptor for youth, with his laughling eyes and splendid face; and the red light flashed gloriously up in the pretty, sunburned cheeks under his merry gaze.

"So you're going to King's Head tonight, my lord," Kathleen said, making a petulant little mouth. "Well, I dare say, you'll be safe in spite of the storm. 'Any one born to be hanged—' You know the proverb."

"'Hanged, will never be drowned.' Very likely, Miss O'Neal. I won't be the first Desmond who has been hanged for his country's benefit, either, by long odds. We always do come to grief as a rule, and I don't think half a dozen of us ever died decently in our beds. We've been roasted alive in our own strongholds, we've been court-martialed and shot at day-dawn, we've had our heads chopped off like spring chickens, and we've been hanged,

Was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woman was he going to shirk it now, and a woma we've been roasted anve in our own strong-holds, we've been court-martialed and shot at day-dawn, we've had our heads chopped off tike spring chickens, and we've been hanged, drawn, and quartered by the dozen for high treason. I never heard of but one Desmond who was drowned, and he was a pirate, so could expect no better. Yes, Miss Kathleen O'Neal, I'm off for King's Head in my bonny 'Nora Creina,' and I'll take you with me, it you choose, with all the pleasure in life."

"Thank you, Lord Rory! I'm not tired of my life yet. When I feel like suicide, I'll let you know. There's the boat. Good evening to you. I'm going home."

"My boat is on the shore, and my bark is on the sea.' And so you won't come? Well, then, I would recommend you to go home, for standing here in the wind is neither pleasant nor profitable, that I can see. Good-night, Kathleen. If quite convenient, dream of me. Oh! I say, how's the Englishman?"

The girl turned upon him suddenly, her face

The girl turned upon him suddenly, her face reddening, her eyes flashing passionately in the half-light.

"Lord Rory!" she cried. He laughed, bounding like a chamois down

He laughed, bounding like a chamois down the steep crags.

"Then you won't smile on your lover? Poor fellow! how I pity him! My own heart has been broken so often, you see, Kathleen, that I can afford to sympathize with fellow-martyrs. Any messages for King's Head? No? Then, for the second time, good night."

He waved his gold-banded cap courteously in gay salute, this boyish Lord Roderick Desmond, only son of the Earl of Clontarf, and went springing down to the shore, singing again:

again:

'Twas from Kathleen's eyes he flew-Eyes of most unholy blue!'"

Eyes of most unholy blue!"

But for the Kathleen standing on the rocks, she was forgotten ere the passionate, yearning blue eyes were fairly out of his sight.

He sprang into the boat, the men pushed off, and it went dancing lightly over the billows.

And then distance and darkness took him, and Kathleen hid her hot face in her hands, loving, and knowing she loved, as vainly and wildly as that other Kathleen, of whose unholy blue eyes Moore sings, hurled into the lake by flinty-hearted Saint Kevin.

Vainly, indeed, for she was only the daughter of the village pedagogue, and he, ah! the blue blood of the princely Desmonds—kings of old—flowed in his veins, and an earl's coronet awaited him in the future. awaited him in the future.

Night had fallen—black, starless, wild. And through the night and the storm the gallant little "Nora Creina" shot ahead like an arrow, and on her deck, Lord Roderick Desmond stood, scanning the stormy blackness with a powerful night-glass powerful night-glass

the oars, and sent the light skiff shooting to where their white faces gleamed above the hissing waves. Lord Roderick bent over and laid hold of the woman's long, streaming hair. Breathlessly the watchers on board the yacht gazed. There was a moment of inexpressible peril and suspense; then the woman was lifted in the stalwart young arms of Lord Clontarf's son and laid in the bottom of the boat.

But that moment was fatal. The white face of the man vanished, as a huge wave dashed him brutally into its depths. Over the wild, midnight sea one last agonized cry rang out: "Oh, God, save me! save my lnez!" "Back to the yacht, Fitzgerald—back, for our lives!" Lord Roderick shouted. "The man has perished! Back! Give me the oars!" The little boat, urged by those strong, skilled rowers, shot back to the "Nora Creina" as if invisible hands guided it through the tempestuous sea.

They reached the yacht and a great shout of

They reached the yacht, and a great shout of joy and thankfulness rose as the young heroes

They reached the yacht, and a great shout of joy and thankfulness rose as the young heroes passed up the rescued woman and came on board.

The burning ship blazed steadily to the water's edge, then went headlong down, and an awful blackness reigned.

Of all her living crew only this one woman remained to tell the tale.

She lay on the deck where they had placed her, still as one dead. Lord Roderick lifted her in his arms, carried her into the lamplit cabin, and laid her upon a couch.

She was dripping wet, and her hair, long as a mermaid's, clung about her. Her eyes were closed, the face was marble white. Cold and still she lay there before him in a dead swoon.

And the young Lord Roderick stood above her, a brandy-flask in his hand, gazing down on that white, still face. For, in all the one-and-twenty years of his bright, brief life, Earl Clontart's only son had never looked on anything half so lovely as this unknown girl he had saved from death.

### CHAPTER II.

tood, scanning the stormy blackness with a owerful night-glass.

Low there on the picturesque Wicklow coast an October sunset, cloudless and brilliant filled a fallen star, all the west with indescribable glory.



"BACK TO THE YACHT-BACK FOR YOUR LIVES!" LORD RODERICK SHOUTED.

glimmered and glowed. His men were gath-

young leader. And a Desmond never knew fear, and death and Lord Roderick had stood face to face many a time already in his brief one-and-twenty years.

Was he going to shirk it now, and a woman perishing before his eyes? His wild cheer, clear as a bugle blast, echoed cheerily as he sprung into the frail skiff.

"You will come with me, Fitzgerald," he said. "No, my lads; any more of you will be in the way. Now, then, pull with a will."

And the bark sped away over the foamy breakers, as though upheld by fairy hands. The "luck of the Desmonds," traditionary all the country-side over, was with them in their dauntless daring tonight.

"Leap into the sea!" those on board the yacht heard Lord Roderick cry; "we will pick you up. We can go no nearer."

The man on the deck of the burning vessel seized the woman in his arms, and, ere the words were well uttered, leaped overboard into the black, bitter waters. The flaming ship lighted up the storm-lashed ocean for yards around.

They sunk—they rose. Fitzgerald bent to

around.

They sunk—they rose. Fitzgerald bent to

----

And once again, all alone on the wild and solitary shore, Kathleen O'Neal was looking over the boundless sea at that crimson glory in the sky.

the sky.

Far away white sails shone in the offing, and rising and falling airily in its sheltered cove the "Nora Creina" lay at anchor.

Kathleen had sunk down on a bed of seamoss, half lying, half sitting, one round white arm thrown up over a tall rock, her head lying wearily on that arm.

The great, soft blue eyes, so brilliant, so joyous six weeks before, looked blankly over the ocean, with a dull and dreary loneliness inexpressibly sad to see. The pretty, piquant face had lost all its bright bloom, its glad gay smiles and dimples and dimples.

She lay there listlessly and forlornly enough,

on the lay there listlessly and forfornly enough, pale as the surf breaking on the sands below. Only six weeks since that lurid sunset when she had waited impatiently here for her lover, with a heart as bright and as light as a bird's. Now she sat haggard and pale, weary and hopeless; for in six brief weeks the light had faded from pretty Kathleen's life, and her lover was as utterly and entirely lost to her as though the angry wayes of that story night had sweet

angry waves of that stormy night had swept over his golden head forever. Her lover! Yes; hers, by the memory of a thousand words, of a thousand loving smiles, of a thousand tender kisses, of walks, and talks, and sails, and presents, and looks, and whispers whispers.
Only boy-and-girl love, perhaps, but very

sweet and charming to them both, until now—and now the boy-lord had forgotten his low-born love as completely as though she had never existed, and the girl was breaking her heart over it, as girls have done from time immemorial. memorial.

memorial.

"Will she ever love him as I have done?" Kathleen thought, her heart full of hopeless, bitter pain; "half so dearly as I have done? And he did love me a little, before she came between us. Oh, mother of God! keep my soul from the sinful wish that the black waves had swallowed her that night!"

A step came down the shingly strand—a man's step; but the girl never stirred. It was not his. What, then, did it matter if all the world passed before her? All would still be (CONTINUED ON PAGE 24.)

## THE VALUE OF CHARCOAL.

## Few People Know How Useful it is in Preserving Health and Beauty.

Nearly everybody knows that charcoal is the safest and most efficient disinfectant and purifier in nature, but few realize its value when taken into the human system for the same

taken into the human system for the came cleansing purpose.
Charcoal is a remedy that the more you take of it the better; it is not a drug at all, but simply absorbs the gases and impurities always present in the stomach and intestines and carries them out of the system.
Charcoal sweetens the breath after smoking, drinking or after eating onions and other odorous vegetables.

Charcoal sweetens the breath after smoking, drinking or after eating onions and other odorous vegetables.

Charcoal effectually clears and improves the complexion, it whitens the teeth and further acts as a natural and eminently safe cathartic. It absorbs the injurious gases which collect in the stomach and bowels; it disinfects the mouth and throat from the poison of catarrh. All druggists sell charcoal in one form or another, but probably the best charcoal and the most for the money is in Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges; they are composed of the finest powdered Willow charcoal, and other harmless antiseptics in tablet form or rather in the form of large, pleasant tasting lozenges, the charcoal being mixed with honey.

The daily use of these lozenges will soon tell in a much improved condition of the general health, better complexion, sweeter breath and purer blood, and the beauty of it is that no possible harm can result from their continued use, but on the contrary, great benefit.

A Buffalo physician in speaking of the benefits of charcoal, says: "I advise Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges to all patients suffering from gas in stomach and bowels, and to clear the complexion and purify the breath, mouth and throat; I also believe the liver is greatly benefitted by the daily use of them; they cost but twenty-five cents a box at drug stores, and although in some sense a patent preparation, yet I believe I get more and better charcoal in Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges than in any of the ordinary charcoal tablets."









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dirty, contains no sugar of lead, nitrate silver, copperas, or poisons of any kind, but is composed of roots, herbs, barks and flowers. It is NOT A DYE, but a HAIR TONIC and costs of the control of the OZARK HERBS than in all the hair stains and dyes ma Full size package sent by mail, postpaid, for 25 cents. Addr OZARK HERB COMPANY, St. Louis, M

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### The Flowers. Among

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Rexford, who is a recognized authority on all matters pertaining to the garden, will undertake to answer all questions our subscribers may ask, to the best of his ability If there is anything you want to find out about flowers, tell him what it is, and perhaps he can furnish you with the desired information. Address, Eben E. Rexford, care "Comfort" Augusta, Maine.

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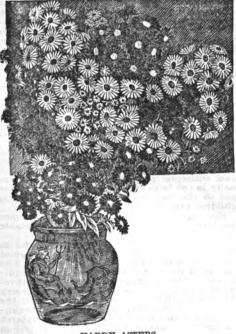
### The Late Bloomers.

The Late Bloomers.

N most collections, there are few plants that can be depended on to give flowers after the first of October. The frosts which characterize the mid-autumnal season have killed the Dahlias, and the Cosmos shows a mass of blackened foliage, and only a stray Pansy or a belated Petunia makes an effort to brighten up the garden. But this dearth of flowers need not be if we are willing to take a little forethought, and plant something that can be depended on to bloom after other flowers have vanished. There are late-flowering plants that will prolong the season of bloom up to the very edge of winter. Why not have them in our garden?

Among the shrubs, there is Hydrangea paniculata grandiffora. Nearly all gardens have a specimen of it, but the beauty of the plant is never fully understood until it is seen growing in groups. Plant from four to eight in a mass, and keep them pruned so that the plants on the outside of the group have low, spreading branches that bring the foliage well down to the ground, and you have something that will indeed be an ornament to your garden. Each spring go over the shrubs and cut them back at least one-third. Then manure the soil well about them. This is all you need do. The bushes will look out for themselves after that, and during the late fall months they will be to the garden what the Snowball is to the spring season. Well-grown plants are almost solid masses of ivory-white flowers, which take on a pink-and-greenish tinge after a little, finally changing to a brown which is not at all unpleasant. This plant is as hardy as it is possible for a plant to be, a rapid grower, and one that can easily be procured in almost any country neighborhood. It can be planted in fall or spring.

The native Aster is one of our best late fall flowers. It is readily domesticated. Cultivation makes a very different thing of it from the dwarfed, ill-shapen plants we see growing in pastures and fence-corners, where cattle have broused on it, or broken it down. It soon becomes strong and v



HARDY ASTERS.

Among all of the desirable ones, I do not think

Among all of the desirable ones, I do not think of any quite so desirable as the Aster.

A good companion for it is the late-flowering Golden Rod. Plant these old friends of highway and hillside together, and they will give you a contrast of color that will delight you with its harmony. Like the Aster, the Golden Rod grows to large size under domestication, and the little root you plant this year will have grown into a great clump in three or four years' time. Don't despise the plants because they are "common." Beauty is beauty, under all conditions, and the "common" flowers are often those which give the most satisfaction. Indeed, they are the ones for the amateur to depend on, for their robust, sturdy vitality admirably adapts them to the uses of those who are quite likely to fail with plants which demand careful treatment. demand careful treatment.

### Two Late Flowering Annuals.

Among the annuals which linger after the Among the annuals which linger after the frosts come, the Aster stands at the head because of its striking and meritorious qualities. That it is a most beautiful flower no one can deny who has seen it growing well. Its wide range of color makes it almost as showy as the Chrysanthemum, and no Chrysanthemum excels it in beauty of form or profusion of bloom. Indeed, of late years, it has become a rather formidable rival of that popular flower, and many are palmed off upon unsuspecting persons for "Mums" of the choicest kind! Some varieties so closely resemble those flowers that the imposition is an easy one to carry through without detection. The Branching Aster, and the Comet varieties are tall and that the imposition is an easy one to carry through without detection. The Branching Aster, and the Comet varieties are tall and stately plants, with flowers borne on such long stalks that decorators find them vastly more effective than the best Chrysanthemums for ornamental work on a large scale. And they

last better than any other flower I know of. Change the water in which they are placed every day, cutting off a bit from the end of each stem in order to expose fresh tissue to the action of the water, and you can keep them looking well for ten days or two weeks.

Ten weeks' stock.—The "Gilly flower" of our grandmothers' day is a plant which used to be seen in every country garden, but of late, like many others of the dear "old-fashioned" flowers, it has been sadly neglected. But the revival of interest in these good old flowers, among those who appreciate real merit, promises to bring it to the front again. There is where it belongs. A plant that has such beautiful and fragrant flowers as this has, and

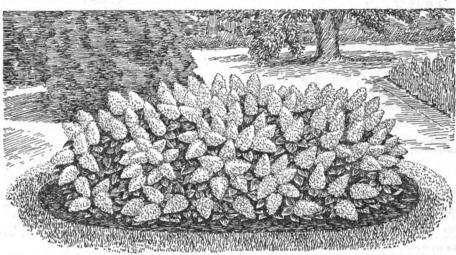
branches to hold them in place. The soil about them must be perfectly drained, as water will kill them if it stands on the surface. Before putting on the leaves, bend the bushes down and cover with three or four inches of sandy soil.

W.S. M.—Shrubs can be transplanted safely in the fall. It can be done any time after the ripening of their foliage. If not done until late in the season, disturb their roots as little as possible. Have the soil in which you set them very mellow so that it can be worked in firmly, about their roots.

Mrs. P. M.—The only really satisfactory winter flowering Fuchsia is the variety called Speciosa. All the others should go into the cellar over winter.

ter.

Amateur.—Your Tuberous Begonias can be left in the pots in which they grew during the summer, or you can pick the tubers out of the soil, wrap them in paper, and keep them in a room where they will be cool, but safe from frost. If you leave them in their pots, simply without water until the soil is dry then set them away in a corner where frost cannot reach them. A cupboard is a good place for them. Gloxinias should receive the same treatment.



GROUP OF HYDRANGEA PANICULATA GRANDIFLORA.

which bears them bravely and cheerfully when the early snows whiten the garden beds in which they grow, ought never to be neglected. In October, it will be necessary to take some of the recently-potted plants into the house. When this is done be careful to keep them away from fire-heat. If you expose them to a high temperature, they will make a rapid, weak growth, which will lower their vitality to such an extent that they will not be likely to recover from it in all winter. Therefore, keep them, if possible, in a temperature that does not go above sixty-five degrees and admit all the fresh air you can. This is trite advice, perhaps, but it is advice that must be given often, in order to fully impress upon the amateur the great importance of it.

Watering must be regulated to suit the needs of the plants, at this season. Those which are not growing freely will require but little, as evaporation will take place slowly. Keep in mind the good old rule—Let the surface of the soil look dry before more is given. It doesn't matter whether it takes one day, or several, to bring this about. Let the looks of the soil govern you.

On no account should fertilizers be given to

soil look dry before more is given. It doesn't matter whether it takes one day, or several, to bring this about. Let the looks of the soil govern you.

On no account should fertilizers be given to plants not making active growth. Dormant plants not only do not need a fertilizer, but they cannot make use of one if it is given. The application of it is a positive injury at such a time because it unnaturally excites the plant which ought to be kept as quiet as possible until it is ready to go to work. Fertilizers are for plants that can assimilate strong food. A plant entirely at rest requires no food at all. Be ever on the lookout for insects. These breed rapidly under the conditions which prevail in the house at this season. In a warm, dry atmosphere the red spider will do a great deal of injury in a very short time. There is only one way in which to keep him within bounds, and that is by the liberal use of water. Shower your plants all over, daily, taking particular pains to see that the water gets to the underside of the leaves. Keep vessels of it on stove or register, that evaporation may be constantly taking place. The more moisture you communicate to the air the better your plants will grow. If the aphis puts in an appearance, as he very likely will, make prompt and energetic use of the Ivory soap infusion heretofore advised. It is easier to keep your plants from becoming infested by insects than it is to rid them after they have been allowed to take possession. Act on the offensive, rather than the defensive. Assume that they will surely come if you do not head them off, and do all you can to make it so unpleasant for them that they will not care to take up their abode in your window-garden. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

### Answers to Correspondents.

Mrs. W. F.—Rose Geraniums require larger pots than the flowering Geraniums, because they are grown for their foliage, and in order to have fine foliage it is necessary to encourage vigorous development of branches. Give rich soil and plenty of root-room.



CHRYSANTHEMUM-FLOWERED ASTER.

Elsie B.—Tea Roses are often wintered at the north, in the garden, but in order to bring them through safely they must have the very best of protection. The ideal covering is one of leaves, six or eight inches deep, with wire netting or evergreen

Fannie S. W.—It is an easy matter to grow plants well in hanging pots or baskets, just as easy as it is to grow them well on the window sill. All you need to do is to make sure that they get all the water they need. Nine out of ten hanging pots that die, fail because they do not get half water enough. Being exposed on all sides, and in a stratum of air of higher temperature than that at the sill, evaporation takes place rapidly, and this must be provided for by frequent and liberal applications of water.

Mrs. H. T.—Bulbs for winter flowering can be potted this month. Give them a rich soil, after potting them, water well, then set in a cool dark place to form roots. Leave them there until you are sure they are well rooted. It generally takes them six weeks or two months to do this part of the work. A cellar is a good place for them or an old shed, if they can be kept from freezing. The most satisfactory plants for forcing are single Tulips, Hyacinths, (both Holland and Roman,) Bermuda Lilies, and Daffodils.

Mrs. S. W. W.—The best way to get Perennial Phlox from seed is to sow that seed as soon as ripe, in the beds among the old plants. If this is done, you will have all the seedlings you care for, but if you gather the seed and keep it over until spring, you will not be likely to get many plants from it. Seedlings can never be depended on to give flowers like those of the parent varieties. You may get some fine varieties from them, and you may not. You have to take the chances if you increase your stock in this manner. If you want any particular variety you must obtain it by division of the root, or from the florist, who propagates choice varieties in the same manner.

Mrs. L. L. D.—The following are all good plants for use in hanging baskets: Moneywort, Othonna,

of the root, or from the Borist, who propagates choice varieties in the same manner.

Mrs. L. L. D.—The following are all good plants for use in hanging baskets: Moneywort, Othonna, Tradescantia, Oxalis, Linuria, Sweet Allysum, and Lobelia. To succeed with them, be sure that the soil never gets dry. This is very important. Nine out of ten failures that occur might have been avoided if more water had been used. Because of being exposed on all sides, and occupying a higher stratum of air than those on the window sill, hanging plants lose a great deal of moisture from evaporation. It is a good plan to dip each plant in a pailful of water and leave it there until it has soaked in all the water it can retain.

Amateur.—Worms in the soil of pot-plants can be driven out or killed by the use of lime water—a piece of perfectly fresh lime as large as a coffeeup dissolved in a pailful of water. Apply enough to each plant to thoroughly saturate all the soil in the pot. Smaller applications are worthless. If one does not remedy the difficulty, repeat the operation. No injury will be done to your plants, as water can hold only a certain amount of lime in suspension—never enough to harm any plant.

Mary W.—When your Chrysanthemums have

pairful of water and leave it there until it has soaked in all the water it can retain.

Amateur—Worms in the soil of pot-plants can be driven out or killed by the use of lime water—appiece of perfectly fresh lime as large as a coffeedup dissolved in a pairful of water. Apply enough to each plant to thoroughly saturate all the soil to each plant to thoroughly saturate all the soil one does not remedy the difficulty, repeat in one does not remedy a certain amount of lime is suspension—never enough to harm any plant.

Mary W—When your Chrysanthemums have completed the flowering season, set the pois containing the roots away in the cellar. The old water than the properties of the containing the roots away in the cellar. The old can be cut away with a piece of the roots attached, and started into independent growth in small potes. The old roots, if plant flowering in the garden. You can grow better plants from your old ones, each season, than from those you buy of the florists, or all the containing the sure to.

Mrs. B. N—One reason why your flowers are ally fine Chrysanthemum, it should be sure to.

Mrs. B. N—One reason why your flowers are ally fine Chrysanthemum after it has flowered save its roots to grow others from the following season. If you do not want the plants, some one is will be sure to.

Mrs. B. N—One reason why your flowers are shortly well as the soil of the containing the sure to.

Mrs. B. N—One reason why your flowers are shortly well as the save it is now and any flowers developed under such conditions will soon fade. I would advise you to grow such plants as the Asplaidsrra. This will not give you flowers, but it has a profusion of bright, rich loss will soon fade. I would advise you to grow such plants as the Asplaidsrra. This will not give you flowers, but it has a profusion of bright, rich loss will be likely to bloom throughout the season, and give you agered deal of pleasure while you are greated and you have consumption is all some profusion of bright, rich loss will be sure to.

Mrs. D.

nary varieties soon become in intensely hot rooms.

Mrs. D. E. R.—I would advise you to put your old Oleander in the garden next spring. There it will be likely to bloom throughout the season, and give you agreat deal of pleasure while you are growing a new one to take its place. If you have room in the cellar for the old plant, do not leave it out to be killed by the winter, but take it up before cold weather comes, crowd its roots into a box, and set it away until spring. I have carried over old plants several years in succession in this way. Each spring, when I planted them out, I cut away a good deal of the old top. New branches soon came to take the place of those removed, and by the middle of summer the plant had renewed itself, and during the latter part of the season it was covered with flowers. We have no shrub that can equal the Oleander in beauty, and it is well worth while to take care of the old plants, year after year, for summer use in the garden.

N. S. F.—You ask if I consider a Geranium more-

N.S. F.—You ask if I consider a Geranium more than a year old worth anything. Yes, I do. For use in the house, in winter, a year-old plant is worth several times as such as a young plant, be-

cause it will have more branches, and the more branches there are the greater the amount of flowering surface. I am well aware that many persons advise discarding Geraniums after they are a year old, but this advice is given because the parties giving it have never tried an old plant properly. If you want a Geranium for winter-flowering, you must not allow it to bloom during the summer. Take one of these old plants—it does not matter if it is two, three, or four years old—cut it back sharply in spring, so that there will be nothing left of it but a mass of stubs instead of branches, re-pot it into a soil of moderate richness, keep it in a pot during the summer, water only sufficiently to keep the soil moist, and pick off every bud that appears. By fall you will have a plant ready to make vigorous growth as soon as you give it encouragement to do so by fertilizing it and giving more water. By the beginning of the year it will be a mass of young growth, and from that time on to spring it will produce flowers constantly, and in great profusion, while a young plant, started in spring from a cutting, will have but two or three branches, and can, of course, give but few flowers, as there can never be more than one cluster at a time on the same branch. Those who give old plants a good trial will never willingly thereafter make use of young plants for winter flowering. I have specimens of Geraniums five and six years old in my greenhouse which are literally covered with flowers winter after winter, and the treatment given them is the one I have outlined above. One reason why so many are prejudiced against old plants for winter is—they have tried to make those which did duty in the garden during the summer blossom on during the winter, and in this attempt they have failed. They lost sight of the fact that few plants can blossom continually. The satisfactory winter-flowering Geranium must always be the one that has not been asked to give flowers during summer.

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## dur Home Workers

### Busy Bees with Thread and with Needle.



it is wise to provide in advance for such articles of wearing apparel as are usually made at home, and which are actual necessities. First in this line come mittens for the children. The Angora mittens seem to be in high

children. The Angora mittens seem to be in high favor, and to make same, knit on medium sized steel needles.

Cast thirty-six stitches on three needles, knit ribbing one and three-fourths inches in length.

Then begin plain knitting, beginning gore for thumb by seaming one stitch, widening the next two stitches to make four; seam next stitch. Increase this gore by widening between the two seams—stitch every third round till there are sixteen stitches.

After widening the last time, knit two rounds, then take off on a string the sixteen stitches, leaving those stitches to be taken up for thumb. Next knit two and one-fourth inches, then narrow at end of every needle for one round, next round without narrowing, then narrow every needle one stitch every round till all are narrowed.

Pick up stitches of thumb, knit two inches, then narrow one stitch on every needle till all are narrowed. narrow one stitch on every needle till all are narrowed.



KNIT BEDROOM SLIPPER.

Bedrooms shoes and slippers are not con-fined to the female members of the family, but are equally desirable and comfortable for

the boys and men.

For the knitted bedroom slipper, use four-fold Germantown, one-half each of two good contrasting colors. Use two steel knitting needles, size No. 14.

needles, size No. 14.

Cast on eighteen stitches and knit across plain. Purl back. Knit across, purl back, knit one, thread over needle, knit one; now tie on the light color, but don't break off the thread of dark color; knit two stitches off light color, then slip two stitches off without knitting them, then knit two, and slip two all across except last two on needle; turn. Leave same two on needle, purl two, slip two, purl two, slip two all across, leave last three on needle, knit across same last row and purl and slip back. Now knit with dark color across plain, thread over needle, before knitting last stitch. Make four rows of dark color. Now knit four rows of light color, same as before, then the stitch. Make four rows of dark color. Now knit four rows of light color, same as before, then the dark color, knit the same way, making two more stitches every second row, till you have about nine rows of light squares, knitting two rows of dark color last; then bind off but eighteen stitches; knit these, widening, till it is long enough to go around the heel and sew on the other side of upper crochet round top same as for a crocheted slipper; put in elastic with a bow of ribbon in front.



CROCHET BEDROOM SLIPPER.

For the crochet bedroom slipper, use eightfold Germantown wool.

Commence by making fifteen chains, make half stitch rib, and widen by three other stitches in every row. Make eighteen rows (or nine ribs); this completes the vamp. To begin sides of foot, take up twelve stitches, rib, make thirty-eight rows (or nineteen ribs). Connect at left side, finish top by making shell, six whole stitches for first row, and seven stitches for second row. Finish front by making bow of ribbon and sewing to yamp.

vamp. The bedroom shoe shown here-

The bedroom shoe shown herewith is crocheted, and if made of pink and gray Germantown, one hank of each, will prove very attractive. Begin with the grey, making a chain of sixteen stitches.

First row — Make seven single crochet into each following chain three single crochet into each stitch, then seven single crochet.

Second row—Plain, single crochet, picking up the back stitch to form the rib.

Third row—Plain, eight single crochet, three single crochet into the ninth stitch, then eight single crochet.

Fourth row—Plain.

Continue like this until you have seventeen

Fourth row—Plain.
Continue like this until you have seventeen ribs (nine grey and eight pink), the last row having twenty-four stitches on each side of center stitch, then pick up twenty-four stitches, and add a chain of sixteen stitches until you have thirty-one ribs (sixteen pink and fitteen grey), then join to the front of the shoe.

NTER isn't far off, and | it was dyed in red Diamond dye and made into a blanket wrap, to which a red cord and tassel



CROCHET BEDROOM SHOE

was easily matched—thus making a pretty, comfortable, and very inexpensive wrapper.

### Beauty Lace.

This pattern is worked short wise. Make a chain of 24 stitches. First row—One treble into twenty-first stitch of chain, two chain, pass over two stitches, one treble into the next, two chain, pass over three stitches, two trebles separated by three chain into the next, two chain pass over three stitches, one treble into the next, \* two chain, pass over to stitches, one treble into the next, repeat from \* once more turn.

Second row-Five chain, one treble into the second treble, two chain, pass over two stitches one treble into the next, two chain, five trebles under three chain, \* two chain, pass over two stitches one treble into the next, repeat from \*

Third row—Five chain, one treble into second treble, two chain, two trebles separated by three chain into center of five trebles \* two chain, one treble into next treble, repeat from \* twice more, repeat the second and third rows twice more.

Eighth row-Fifth chain, one treble into sec-

Eighth row—Fifth chain, one treble into second treble, two chain, one treble into next
treble, two chain, five trebles under three
chain, \*two chain, one treble into next treble,
repeat from \*twice more.
Ninth row—Six chain, one treble into first
treble, two chain, one treble into next treble,
two chain, one treble into next treble,
two chain, one treble into next treble, two
chain, two trebles separated by three chain into the center of five trebles, \*two chain, one
treble into next treble, repeat from \*twice
more.

more. Tenth row-Five chain, one treble into sec-

ond treble, two chain, one treble into next treble, two chain, five trebles under three chain, \* two chain, one treble into next treble, repeat

treble, two chain, five trebles under three chain,

\* two chain, one treble into next treble, repeat
from \* twice more, twenty-two trebles under
six chain, work across the end treble of seventh
row with three singles turn.

Eleventh row—\* Three chain, pass over two
trebles, one treble into each of the next two
stitches, repeat from \* four times more, three
chain, one treble into first stitch of heading, \*
two chain, pass over two stitches, one treble
into next, repeat from some more, two
chain, two trebles separated by three chain into centre of five trebles, \* two chain, one treble
into next treble, repeat from \* twice more, turn.

Twelveth row—Five chain, one treble into
second treble, two chain, one treble into
second treble, two chain, one treble into next
trebles over two trebles, repeat from last \* four
times more, four chain, work across the end
treble of fifth row, with singles, turn.

Thirteenth row—Five chain, four trebles over
three trebles, of last row, repeat from \* four
times more, finish the heading as described for
third row.

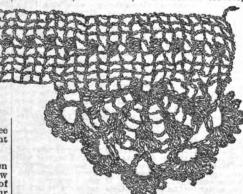
Fourteenth row—Work the heading like second row, five chain, \* six trebles over the
last row, three chain, repeat from \* four times
last row, three chain, repeat from \* four times
of row, five chain, \* six trebles over the
last row, three chain, repeat from \* four times
of the first row chain, \* six trebles over the
last row, three chain, repeat from \* four times
of the first row chain, \* six trebles over the
last row, three chain, repeat from \* four times
of the first row chain, \* six trebles over the
last row, three chain, repeat from \* four times
of the first repeat from \* four times
of the fi

ond row, five chain, \* six trebles over the last row, three chain, repeat from \* four times more, end the scallop with five instead of three chain, work four singles across the end of third

row.

Fifteenth row—Four chain, \* four trebles, two chain and four trebles over six trebles of last row, two chain, repeat from \* four times more at the end of the scallop, work four instead of two chain, work down the heading as described for third row.

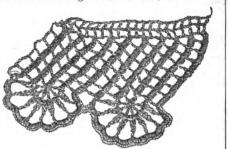
Sixteenth row—Work across the heading like second row, three chain one treble into first of four trebles, four chain, \* two double trebles,



BEAUTY LACE.

six chain and two double trebles under two

one double into center of two next trebles, two chain, repeat from \* four times more, work across the heading like the third row.



FAN BAR LACE

Eighteenth row-Like the second row. Rineteenth row—Like the third row.
Repeat from the second row for the length

required.

Made out of No 40 white thread, it is very pretty for anything that has to visit the laundry often.

### Fan Bar Lace.

Ch 28, turn, miss 7, a treble in next, ch 3, a treble in 4ch repeat twice making 2 more open

Second row-3 doubles under 3 ch, 1 on treble, continue to end of row. Repeat these two rows 3 times so that you have 4 rows of open spaces then make alternately 1 treble, 2 ch, six

spaces then make alternately 1 treble, 2 ch, six times in the last double of previous row, fasten, turn 1 double on treble 2 under 2 ch, go up the entire row making doubles.

Ninth row—Ch 7, a treble in first double ch 3, miss 3, a treble in next, repeat and make 3 more open spaces, ch 2, thread over needle twice, make a joined double treble in 2 doubles, ch 5, make 5 more spikes (joined double trebles), fasten, turn, make 8 doubles under 5 ch; continue making doubles all the way up and repeat from 1st row.

For the heading make 2 rows of open spaces of 1 treble and 2 ch.

### Star Wheel.

Begin wheel with 8 chain, join. First row—3 ch, which counts as a double, 24 dc over center ch, join to top of 3 ch with a sl

st. Third row—4 ch, 1 dc in same place, 2ch, 1 dc in 3d st of last row, 1 ch, 1 dc in same place, 2 ch, 2 dc with 1 ch between in 6th dc of last row, next in 9th st, and so on until there are 8 groups of doubles with 2 ch between.

Third row—3 dc on top of each group of twos of last row, with 3 ch between each.

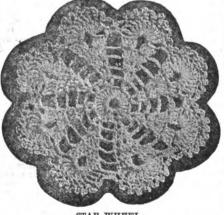
Fourth row—4 dc on each group of 3 dc of

Fourth row—4 dc on each group of 3 dc of last row, with 4 ch between each group.

Fifth row—6 dc on each group of 4 dc in last row, with 4 ch between.

Sixth row—4 dc, 2 ch, and 4 dc on top of each group of 6 dc in last row with 5 ch between each group.

group of 6 dc in last row with 5 cn between each group.
Seventh row—10 tr, which are made by throwing thread around needle twice, and working off 2 at a time, over the 3 ch of last row, 3 singles over 5 ch; repeat around wheel.
Eighth row—4 ch, fasten with sl st between every tr of last row, repeat around scallop, 2 singles on 3 singles; finish other scallops in same way.



STAR WHEEL.

Each row is begun with 3 ch, which counts as a tr, and end of row is joined to top of 3 ch, with a sl st, as described in 1st row.

### Crochet Edging.

Commence with the rosettes in the center. Make a chain of 6 stitches, join \* under the ch, work 1 d, 1-2 tr, 3 tr, 1-2 tr, repeat from \* 3 times more, break cotton and fasten. Make as many of these rosettes as are required for

as many of these rosettes as are required for the length. For your rosette, commence with heading side.

1st Row—1 tr in 4th stitch of scallop of rosette, ch 7, 1 d in center of next scallop, ch 7, 1 tr in side next scallop, ch 4, take another rosette and repeat from beginning.

2nd Bow—1 d, tr in 1st tr of last row, ch 6, 1 d, in 6th of ch 7, ch 2, 1 d, in 2nd of next ch 7, ch 6, 1 d, tr in next tr, ch 3 Repeat from beginning of row.

3rd Row—1 tr in a stitch, 1 ch, skip 1, repeat far edge on the other side of rosette, work:

far edge on the other side of rosette, work:

1st Row—1 tr in the same stitch, the tr of
last row was worked in.ch 4, 1 tr in side of next scallop of rosette, ch 9, 1 tr in side of next scallop, ch 4, 1 tr in same stitch, the treble of last row was worked in, ch 4, 1 d, in center of ch 5 (see design) ch 4. Repeat from beginning

2d Row .- 1 tr in tr of last row, ch 5, 1 half tr



3d Row.—1sc in the 2 first stitches of last row, \*ch61d in center of ch5, repeat from \* 4 times more, 1sc into each of 2 next stitches. Repeat from the beginning of the row.

Repeat from the beginning of the row.

CROCHET SHELL EDGING.

1st Row—\*1 tr into a stitch, ch 2, skip 2; repeat from \*6 times more, turn; ch 7, skip 4, 1 din next turn; under the chain work 6 d, ch 3, 6 d, skip 2, 1 tr into next 2 ch, skip 2, 1 tr in next, turn; work 2 tr in each 7 first stitches of last row, ch 3, skip 1, 2 tr into each of the 7 next stitches, skip 4, 1 d in next, 1 sc in each of next 5 stitches, turn; ch 2, skip 1, 1 tr in next, \*ch, 3, skip 1, tr in next, repeat from \* twice more ch 3, skip 1, into top stitch of scallop work 2 tr separated by ch 5, ch 3, skip 1, 1 tr in next, \*ch 3, skip 2, 1 tr in next, repeat from \* twice more, ch 3, skip 2, 1 tr in next, repeat from \* twice more, ch 3, skip 2, 1 tr in next, repeat from stwice more, ch 3, skip 2, 1 tr in next, repeat from last \* 8 times more, then repeat from first.

For the edge. 1 tr in 1st stitch of scallop, \*ch 6, 1 d in 3rd, ch 2, 1 d in center of next ch between tr; repeat from \* ten times more; (at the top of scallop do not pass over any stitches between the trebles) ch 4, 1 d in center of foundation between the scallops, ch 4. Repeat from beginning of the row. On the other side of foundation chain work one double into each chain.

### A Dainty Economical Table.

Bessie Burt writes that she recently made a

Bessie Burt writes that she recently made a very proty table with very little expense. A square pine table served for the foundation; over the top tack two thicknesses of double-faced, white Canton fiannel; then one thickness finished neatly with a hem, was tacked around the four sides. Now cut a square of silesia to fit the top, and cover with dotted white Swiss; box penough to escape the floor, fit it over the covered table and you will have a charming addition to your room. A great advantage in using white is, that it can be laundered frequently, and when fresh always looks as dainty as if new.

## Few People Realize

The Danger in That Common Disease, Catarrh.

Because catarrhal diseases are so common and because catarrh is not rapidly fatal, people too often overlook and neglect it until some incurable ailment develops as a result of the neglect. The inflamed condition of the membrane of the nose and throat makes a fertile soil for the germs of Pneumonia and Consumption, in fact catarrhal pneumonia and catarrhal consumption are the most common forms of these dreaded diseases which annually cause more than one quarter of the deaths in this country. Remedies for catarrh are almost as numerous as catarrh sufferers but very few have any actual merit as a cure, the only good derived being simply a temporary relief.

There is, however, a very effective remedy recently discovered which is rapidly becoming famous for its great value in relieving and permanently curing all forms of catarrhal diseases, whether located in the head, throat, lungs or stomach.

This new catarrh cure is principally composed.

stomach.

This new catarrh cure is principally composed of a gum derived from the Eucolyptus tree, and this gum possesses extraordinary healing and antiseptic properties. It is taken internally in the form of a lozenge or tablet, pleasant to the taste and so harmless that little children take them with safety and benefit.

Eucolyptus oil and the bark are sometimes used but are not so convenient nor so palatable as the gum.

Eucolyptus oil and the bark are sometimes used but are not so convenient nor so palatable as the gum.

Undoubtedly the best quality is found in Stuart's Catarrh Tablets which may be found in any drug store and any catarrh sufferer who has tried douches, inhalers and liquid medicines, will be surprised at the rapid improvement after a few days' use of Stuart's Catarrh Tablets which are composed of the gum of the Eucolyptus tree, combined with the other antiseptics which destroy the germs of catarrh in the blood and expel the catarrhal poison from the system.

Dr. Ramsdell in speaking of Catarrh and its cure says: "After many experiments I have given up the idea of curing catarrh by the use of inhalers, washes, salves or liquid medicines. I have always had the best results from Stuart's Catarrh Tablets; the red gum and other valuable antiseptics contained in these tablets/make them, in my opinion, far superior to any of the numerous catarrh remedies so extensively advertised. The fact that Stuart's Catarrh Tablets are sold in drug stores, under protection of a trademark, should not prejudice conscientious physicians against them because their undoubted merit and harmless character make them a remedy which every catarrh sufferer may use with perfect safety and the prospect of a permanent cure.

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# Fashions for Fall.

## What Women Wear @ How to Make It.

New York, October, 1902.

LTHOUGH the full fall fashions are not yet out in all their glory, there is enough in view to indicate pretty plainly that taste in dress has not reached a quieter tone than the sumings forth. Dressmakers and tailors are it have things and the stores have put mer brings forth. mer brings forth. Dressmakers and tailors are busy with new things and the stores have put away the numerous articles they had on view largely during September for school girl wear, and have substituted displays for women and children, for the little ones these days are almost as much creatures of fashion as the grown-ups.

At this season of the year when long coats At this season of the year when long coats are too warm for general wear, short reefers are quite comfortable garments for little people when the mornings and evenings are cool enough to require them. Sometimes the reefers, or short jackets, are made of pique or linen and braided, or the braid put on in rows; feather stitching is a pretty finish also, for the useful little wraps. French flannel or serge makes a nice light weight reefer without any lining, and the seams bound with narrow ribbons. These jackets are closed in front with large pearl buttons, and a cape collar extends over the shoulders. over the shoulders.

To make a reefer for a child two years old, it will take one and one-half yards of material, twenty-seven inches wide.

The new pin dotted wool goods ranks next to the new miroir velvet. The dotted wool fabrics are especially suited to the school girl; being so fine and soft, they can be made with all the numerous tuckings that are now the rage. Sometimes a plain color is used with this dotted material stitched on in hands with silk the

Sometimes a plain color is used with this dotted material, stitched on in bands with silk the color of the dots; for instance, a plain navy blue ground with red dots and bands of red stitched with blue is quite an attraction, and becoming to either blonde or brunette.

Both old and young wear with grace similar styles. All the family frocks run to the blouse effects, and the skirts are all designed on the order of middle effects; that is, all the trimming runs midway between the waist line and the hem on the bottom of the skirt. Only tiny girls' skirts are trimmed directly on the bottom. Fashion says, woman is to wel-Only tiny girls' skirts are trimmed directly on the bottom. Fashion says, woman is to wel-come the colored and the tinted pongees and flannels in the form of pajamas. No more soft flowing night gowns for girls of all ages, but pajamas. These are fine for children in their infancy, but what say the dainty misses of such a fashion freak?

As the leaves begin to fall, so does the vivid fashionable color green begin to fall in enthu-

As the leaves begin to fall, so does the vivid fashionable color green begin to fall in enthusiasm. No more profuse green color for a while. When the green craze first reached New York it was almost impossible to meet the demand for green veils. But now the green spots are gently gliding from our view.

The most modest veil often matches the hat and the costume in color. White veils barred with black are worn, but to many persons they are unbecoming.

A dainty and lovely late fancy appears in the negligee costume, a pretty dressing sack and skirt to match, and the very dainty effect is what every woman will like. A suit of this kind is quite attractive made of white pongee and trimmed with the very dark Arabian lace and black velvet ribbon; the sack reaches to the waist line in the back, but comes to a point in the front; bell shaped sleeves and broad collar trimmed with the lace and the collar is fastened with a bow of black velvet ribbon. The skirt is gored but the back width is gathered a little full on to a tiny yoke, and a ruffle of lace finishes the bottom of the skirt; also the beading and velvet as a heading for the ruffle of lace.

A most useful and charming blouse for autumn wear is made of two yards of white Indian head. The fronts are stamped in any elaborate pattern and braided in coronation braid and finished with French knots of heavy thread (white, number twenty.) The cost of the braid is twenty-five cents and the two yards of Indian head will be only twenty cents, so with your time and an expenditure of fifty cents you have one of the most useful and pretty blouses. It may be worn with tailormade suit or without.

The lace mania goes on. The combination of two laces seems to lead; black and white, used together in various wars.

cente you have one of the most useful and pretty blouses. It may be worn with tailor-made suit or without.

The lace mania goes on. The combination of two laces seems to lead; black and white, used together in various ways. All-over white lace has a pretty effect when put over black, and black lace used for the finishing of the garment. Collars and cuffs of lace will be much worn on velvet. Cover the velvet collar and cuffs with either black or white lace, or both. Deep lace collars are worn. Heavy lace appliqued with cloth is used on tailor-made suits. Laces strapped with cloth will also be in vogue. Many gowns are made without trimming except a deep lace collar. Small jackets of very heavy lace, both in black and white are made and worn with many costumes, producing a pretty and dressy effect. The old-time lace sack with sleeves, worn by our ancestors will, no doubt, soon appear on some upto-date gowns of the present day. The wool laces which are dyed to match the gowns are to appear soon in the line of laces already so popular. These are also seen in white and ecru, some of them with flashes of very bright colors which make a striking trimming.

Plaid dresses for half grown girls are made on the bias with a seam down the front.

The only trimming on a young child's skirt is a row of feather-stitching above the hem, done in very heavy silk embroidery.

Plain colors in material will be much in vogue for the coming season; browns of all shades, greens, dark reds, old rose and a goodly share of blues. Flannel also is a favorite material and will be much in evidence.

A dainty frock for a two year old is made of white albathors trimmed with baby satin ribbon.

Boys' suits look best when worn with black or white leather bets

bon.

Boys' suits look best when worn with black

or white leather belts.

For a school girl, the best belt is one of the same material as the gown and stiffened with a belt tape ribbon.

All walking skirts and outing skirts of every kind of material are made up without linings, and the gored skirt with a wide flare at the bottom seems to be a popular one, also the plaited skirt, but in this one, in order to avoid the thickness about the hips the skirt is plaited

With great effort on the part of women, the tailor-made suit which is being turned out now with a small sweep will be over-ruled and hereafter cut short.

after cut short.

The combination of one smooth and one rough material will appear in our Fall outing and walking costumes, and the blue, brown and gray mixtures will be in vogue.

Our foreign sisters seem to have exhausted wools, silks, cottons and linens and similar material by introducing on the tailor suits soft leathers, which are found in almost any color and shade. These are used as bands, pipings, collars and cuffs, as well as belts. Some of the pipings on the sombre wool goods are in orange leather. A suit of brown wool trimmed with bands of the same goods, stitched with orange silk and pipings of orange leather and a belt of leather is a pleasing reality. It is worn with a hat of all brown. Any of the new tailor designs can be used in making this suit of brown.

"FIFTH AVENUE."

### Answers to Fashion Inquirers.

Answers to Fashion Inquirers.

Mrs. Helen R., Ripley, O.—You can content yourself with the present style as there will be little change. (2) Be careful in fitting the child, see that the armholes of the dress are exactly in the right place; if placed too far front it will produce a stooped effect of the shoulders; have the back of the waist fit perfectly tight allowing much fullness in the front. It is as much the fault of the fitting of the garment as the figure of the child. (3) The night-dresses with worn out lace yokes can be made into plain white aprons and skirts for small girls. This accumulation of muslin and cambric "left-overs" will furnish many other usefuls, as night pillow cases for baby's crib, etc.

Katy Did, Ozark, Mo.—Stockings are certainly

night pillow cases for baby's crib, etc.

Katy Did, Ozark, Mo.—Stockings are certainly well worth considering. If too small, they soon wear out, and if too large they injure the feet, and all new stockings should be well darned, that is run well on the wrong side in the heels and the toes before ever wearing them, and this manner of treatment insures double wear. This should be done with soft darning cotton and by all means childrens stockings should receive this treatment. Silk stockings should be darned with silk thread, yet a very pretty darning can be made with soft cotton floss the color of the stockings.

Miss Alice B. Ashland, Ky.—Lace applique is

cotton floss the color of the stockings.

Miss Alice B., Ashland, Ky.—Lace applique is used more than ever as trimming; and sleeves are growing larger. (2) On a blouse for a dressy occasion the collar is the same as the trimming used on the blouse. The separate ribbon and stock are used more on the simple waists which are worn with the tailor made suits. There is a great deal of hand work on the waists of the present day; feather stitching, old time cross stitching, and many other stitches of past ages, and all can be done at home. Braiding also is in vogue and never loses its hold on fashion. The combination braids are the up-to-date trimming; for instance in a red, white and silver braid, the three being joined together by catch stitching.

Mrs. R. M., Canton, Ohio.—As to belts, they are

getner by catch stitching.

Mrs. R. M., Canton, Ohio.—As to belts, they are numerous in style and any kind are worn; it all depends on the figure of the wearer; a stout person should avoid a belt of different color from her gown as it makes the waist appear shorter. Belts with wide buckles in the back are much worn and as the belt gets narrow toward the front quite a small buckle fastens it.

small buckle fastens it.

Miss Mary S., Parkersburg, Va.—A morning gown is what you need made of solid blue linen, cut in strips and put together with bands of white linen, and made in the most simple way; no trimming, using only the bands of both blue and white linen stitched together, then cut out. Use the blue for one stripe and the white for the other; this can be worn very late in the fall.

worn very late in the fall.

Mrs. Martha K., Vernon, Texas.—The deep shaped berthas in all manner of fabrics are much worn and tucks of every kind are the favorite trimming. One pretty finish of the tuckings is to outline each tuck with a tiny fold of a contrasting color, for instance, a blue tucked blouse can be outlined with delicate pink folds, and a green one with folds of black, and so on making a simple and quite an attractive bodice.

Mother, Avalon, N. Y.—Black and white Shepherd's plaid will make a very pretty serviceable dress for a child; vest and collar and the belt can be made of white cloth and trimmed with black braid, two widths of the braid may be used, one very wide the other quite narrow. If desired large

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Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

pearl buttons also can be used with pretty effect.

pearl buttons also can be used with pretty effect.

School Miss, Tucker, Utah.—The most useful petticoats are made of gingham or plain chambray, a ruffle on the bottom edged with tiny white braid or buttonholed in the same color as the skirt. (2) Make the flannel petticoat with a deep yoke of muslin; gore the widths of flannel and putthen on the yoke plain. (3) Wear with the cloth tailor made suit a dainty blouse of soft silk. Every thing for a school girl must be dainty, and made in the simplest manner. (4) Use the combination braid on sailor suit in this way; take a wide blue braid, then the white braid half as wide as the blue, and silver, half as wide as the white. This is particularly striking and something new and pleasing.

Miss Julia M., Silverlake, Wis.—You can make

ularly striking and something new and pleasing.

Miss Julia M., Silverlake, Wis.—You can make collars innumerable. One can be made of the corners of a fine embroidered handkerchief. Cut off three corners as large as you like, overlay each just a little and sew to the band; another may be made of white lawn with a hem of French knots in black or any color. Another can be made of ecru linen by turning the hem up on the right side and holding in place with tiny French knots of white. A pretty one of thin Swiss muslin can be designed simply with a hem and tiny tucks.



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## Jeth's Crowd

in the Cobb's Corner Postof-fice, "Writ out" by the Boy Behind the Counter.

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Postmaster looked up from his newspaper

and pulled his spees to the tip end of his nose. "Temp'runce seems to be gittin' into the fall campaign in great shape this year," said he.

he.

"It's the same old dobble-dingle of the feather-foot politicians," declared Ches. Stuttivant, clearing his throat with a self-sufficient "Blorhoo-o-o!"
"Don't think they

"Don't think they mean what they are sayin', hey?"
"When a man goes to

talkin' temp'runce I commence to inquire if he hain't a candidate for office. 'Tain't no

way to stop drinkin'—this politician way of doin' it hain't."

"The only way to stop drinkin' that I knows of jest at the present time," broke in Perk Woodrow, "will be to turn Mis' Welthy Runnells of our neighborhood loose on 'em. She's our great, practical, git-up-and-git-there temperance reformer jest at the present writin'."

"Hadn't heered," said the Postmaster.

"Wal, she's jest gittin' well loosened up in her gait," said Perk. "Her first crack hes dropped kind of flat but she's up with second wind."

Then Perk went on to relate the recent sensational doings in the Twin Tree district. It was this way:

was this way:

was this way:

Miss Welthy Ann Runnells, spinster, lives down there. At first she perked her nose and flouted the efforts of Carrie Nation of Kansas. But when she saw the masher's work commended in her monthly denominational paper, "The Home Treasury and Intelligencer," Miss Welthy changed her mind. She always allows the Treasury to make up her mind on all matthe Treasury to make up her mind on all mat-

the Treasury to make up her mind on all matters mundane.
"I reckin I have wronged a good and true woman in my thoughts," meditated Welthy Ann as she wrinkled her brows against the heat and took her bi-weekly tin of cream o' tantar biscuit from the oven, "I s'pose I reelly ought to do suthin' to show her that I am in sympathy with her movement. I might send her a new hatchet, perhaps!"

But, re-perusing the Intelligencer that afternoon, Miss Runnells noted that enthusiastic sympathizers in various parts of the

But, re-perusing the Intelligencer that afternoon, Miss Runnells noted that enthusiastic sympathizers in various parts of the United States had already sent the Kansas "hatcheter" several tons of the weapons. Miss Runnells tried to think of other ways of assisting but from all she could gather the woman out west seemed to be entirely capable of going it alone. But Welthy Ann's favorite apothegm is: "A way is always opened."

That afternoon Mrs. Ez. Rabb dropped in at the back door with her apron over her head. In the course of conversation the caller said: "They do tell me that it's a sight, the way old Hussey is runnin' that store of his lately. Them as know talk it right out and say that he is peddlin' out old cider to nigh about whos'ever wants it. I heerd that he sold some to Mel. Briggses' boys and they went home pritty well set up. An' I heerd that Mis' Tet. Spooner had to go down an' jest beg old Hussey not to sell any more cider to her husband. You could hear her all over the neighborhood talkin' to the old fool for you know he is so dratted deef that he couldn't hear Gab'rel's trump ten feet away. If he sold hard cider to kin o' mine I'd go in an' chop him the way that woman out in Kansas somewheres has been doin' to them

that he couldn't hear Gab'rel's trump ten feet away. If he sold hard cider to kin o' mine I'd go in an' chop him the way that woman out in Kansas somewheres has been doin' to them rummies. I'd learn him!"

Now that gave Welthy Ann Runnells an idea. She thought the matter over after her caller "had traipsed back home." Said she to herself: "I'm jest a lone old maid with no kin nigher'n second cousins an' if I should git my etarnal head cuffed off it would only be my own lookout. An' further'n that, I hain't afraid of any old deef Hussey that ever poured Janawarry molasses through a tunnel. An' if the Dickdale Banner of Freedom has a piece about how I smashed Hussey's place, I swan, I'll mark the paper and send it out west to that Nation woman to show her that her sisters in the east are holdin' up her hands while the battle goes on." A red spot flickered dimly on either of Miss Welthy's faded cheeks as she thought on the matter. Then she put her strictly Gothic bonnet on her severely Gothic head and arose in her Gothic angularity and took the hatchet with which she had self-reliantly chopped kindlings for many a year. Hussey's store was the village emporium. Miss Runnells had always done her trading there and was on the best terms with the old man who owned it.

"I must start right in on him, pitch hot,"

Miss Runnells had always done her trading there and was on the best terms with the old man who owned it.

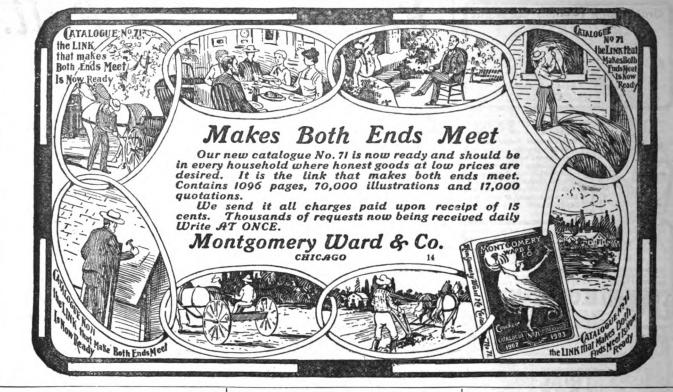
"I must start right in on him, pitch hot," said Miss Welthy to herself "for if I git to talkin' with him I shall be sociable the first thing I know. He's allus took my eggs and paid a good price for 'em and—well, I jest mustn't git to soft'nin', that's all. I have got my bounden duty to perform."

She was humming under her breath rather harshly when she entered the store. "Dare to be a Dan'yel, dare to stand alone." The usual crowd of old codgers was sitting back of the stove, tunking their canes upon the floor and holding endless discussions over nothing. Hussey was weighing two pounds of tenpenny nails and had his eyes down close to the scale beam while he gingerly nicked the weight along the notches.

Miss Welthy advanced to the counter. "Mister Hussey," she said as bravely as she could.

The old man was so absorbed in finding the right hat he did not notice.

The old man was so absorbed in finding the right nick that he did not notice her presence. Besides, he was very deaf.
"Mister Hussey!" she called more sharply. Miss Runnells was ordinarily very mild but now her tartness aroused the interest of the contingent back of the stove.



"Reckin' Ike must have giv' her some squiggly cheese," suggested one of the old men humorously.

When she had called his name a third time

Hussey slowly straightened up, holding to his back.
"Them blame old eyes of mine are gitting"

"Them blame old eyes of mine are gittin' duller'n a bush scythe in swale grass," he said. "Afternoon, Miss Welthy," he added with cheery greeting. "I'll 'tend to ye jest as soon as I git these nails done up."

Miss Runnells poked her chin forward belligerently. "Ye'll 'tend to me right now," she snapped. Then she pulled her hatchet from under her shawl. "I've come as an avenger," she cried.

under her shawl. "I've come as an avenger," she cried.
"Hay?" queried Uncle Hussey with his hand hollowed at his ear.
"This hatchet is an avenger."
"'Hatchet to lend yer?' Why, I don't want to borry no hatchet, Miss Welthy."
Spinster Runnells took full breath and shouted, "I'm goin' to hatchet your place."
"Hay?"
"I'm goin' to hatchet—"
Uncle Hussey looked at the weapon critically. "Match it?" he repeated; "no, I'm 'fraid I can't, Miss Welthy. I'm gittin' low on hatchets."
"Where is that mis'able cider barrel?"

"Where is that mis'able cider barrel?" screamed Miss Runnells. She was white and

her voice was trembling.
"Hay?" cried Uncle Hussey, noticing her emotion now and expressing great bewilderment in the bland features above his frosty whisker fringe.

"Where is that tank of Satan—that cider bar-l, that—"

rel, that—"
The spinster

rel, that—"
The spinster was now so excited that her voice nearly failed her and the old man could not understand. She licked her dry lips with her tongue and tried again. She grasped the store keeper by the lapel of his jumper and drew him toward her across the counter.
"Where is that cider barrel?"
"Tried to quarrel? Why,

"Where is that cider barrel?"
"Tried to quarrel? Why, Miss Welthy, ye know I've never had no trouble with ye in all my life, an' I don't want to have, neither."
"I hain't talkin' about no quarrel. I want to know where that hellbroth is, that—"

Uncle Hussey's jaw dropped and he gaped forward in his effort to understand. His brows were wrinkled in perplexity. He stared around the store and gazed on the astonished old men behind the stove as if seeking aid from them. One of them came doddering up with his cane. "What is Miss Runnells sayin' of?" Uncle Hussey asked in the stuffy tones of the deaf. "I can't git head nor tail of it."
The old man got close up to the store keeper and bellowed in his ear. "Miss Runnells wants to know where the cider barrel—CIDER barrel is. Reckin she wants to buy some cider—some CIDER."
"Ah-h! Ow-w-w!" cried Uncle Hussey with light beaming over his countenance. "Cider—

"Ah-h! Ow-w-w!" cried Uncle Hussey with light beaming over his countenance. "Cider—cider? Yas, I've got some cider, sech as it is. But it harder'n tunket, Miss Welthy, an, I reelly don't believe ye'd want it. I did hav' some reel good sweet cider a while ago but the air got into it an' sp'iled it."
"Show me that cider," demanded the spinster, gripping her hatchet.
Uncle Hussey looked blankly at the other man. "What she say, Jeff?" he asked.
Jeff took in a big breath. "She's bound to hav' some of it," he roared. But he added in lower tones, turning to Miss Runnells. "But land, mum, it'll lay ye out stiffer'n a poker. "Tain't fit for wimmen to drink."
"I didn't s'pose ye was in any ways took to'ards hard cider," said Uncle Hussey reproachfully. "But if ye're reelly set on havin's some I'll 'commodate ye."
"I' don't want to drink it," Miss Welthy screamed.
"That's right—I never did think it, of ye." "Ah-h! Ow-w-w!" cried Uncle Hussey with

"If don't want to drink it," Miss Welthy screamed.

"That's-right—I never did think it of ye," assented Uncle Hussey pityingly. "But wimmen folks is queer critters. P'raps Doc. Adams ordered it for ye?" he suggested. Miss Runnells made no answer. Her breath was exhausted and most of her courage, too. The store keeper lighted a stubby and malodorous candle and started for the cellar stairs. Miss Welthy followed at his heels. He protested that there was no occasion for her coming along. She insisted greatly to the astonishment of Uncle Hussey and the old codgers who as yet had not the least idea as to what it all meant. So Uncle Hussey tottered on ahead and Miss Runnells followed, gathering her skirts around her Gothic form and braving the dangers of the shaking and gloomy stairway.

"These old maids is consarned suspicious critters," philosophized one of the old men.

"Seems to be bound that she don't git kairosene ile instid o' hard cider." But breaking on the laugh that greeted this sally came strange and disquieting noises from down cellar. Tunk! tunk! tunk! there

noises from down cellar.

Tunk! tunk! tunk! there sounded a hollow beating of the hatchet on a cask. Over all swelled the protesting tones of Uncle Hussey.

"Hi there—hay there, Miss Welthy, what the nation ye doin' to my cider barre!"

Tunk! tunkity, tunk! went on the spasmodic chopping.

"Ding swat ye, Miss Welthy, ye're poundin' the head of it right in."

Then there was the sound of a spilt and swoosh and the despairing wail of the store keeper. "Ye've done it! Ye've done it an' didn't I say ye would?"

The next moment Miss Welthy Ann Runnells came bouncing up the dark stairs. With her nose high in the air, holding the dripping hatchet in her trembling hand, her cheeks fiaming, she marched past the astonished old loafers who looked after her with gaping mouths. Behind her puffed and spluttered Uncle Hussey. He waited back in the gloom of the stairway, the flaring candle casting its yellow light against his goggling eyes, framed in their steel bowed spectacles.

of the stairway, the flaring candle casting its yellow light against his goggling eyes, framed in their steel bowed spectacles.

"Has she gone?" he gasped huskily.

"Went streakin' it through here like the mill tail o' Tophet," ejaculated an old man.

"Do you boys hav' any idee what she has done?"

"Saounded like she was breakin' up haouse-keep-

"Saounded like she was breakin' up haouse-keepin' down there."

"Wal, s'r, she took that 'ere hatchet o' heer'n an' she paounded in the head o' that 'ere cider barrel an' ev'ry blame drop of it has run aout. Now don't it beat the nation what possessed her to do that?"

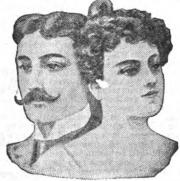
"I've hear'n tell," suggested one of the old men,

gested one of the old men, "that all them Runnellses git loony long about her time o' life. Mis' Hi. Jephson, she that was a Runnells, took her own life some years ago."

## **Ladies Cure** Tobacco Habit

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"Didn't she say nothin' when she was a-doin' it?" asked one of the party.

"Wal, I asked her over an' over what she was a-tryin' to do an' she kep' sayin' suthin' that I couldn't ketch very well. I can't hear an' that 'ere hatchet was racketin' away all the whol', contin'yal time. 'Twas suthin' about cancers or Kansas or can't sass me, or suthin' I dunno what. But land sakes, I hain't never sassed her in all my born days. An' she kep' a-sayin' that she didn't care a nation 'bout what she done—or suthin' like that. I sh'd sartin' say she's gone plum off'n her hooks."

The old men looked at one another. None of them had heard about the crusade in Kansas or of the redoubtable Carrie Nation, or if they ever had known of the affair it had been forgotten in the more engrossing local topics of Dickvale.

"Reckin Welthy better be tooken care of 'fore she kills some of the neighbors' said Lof'

Dickvale.

"Reckin Welthy better be tooken care of 'fore she kills some of the neighbors," said Jeff Denslow at last. "I'll speak to the s'lec'man about it when I go 'long home. I swow it's too bad, for she's allus been a dretful good hand in sickness—dretful neighborly."

"What can ye expect of an old maid with only a cat and few feather-legged Brahma hens," growled Uncle Hussey, opening his ledger. Then he charged "one cider barrel" to the estate of Welthy Ann Runnells, for he already reckoned her as good as in the insane asylum. asylum

And thus flat fell the temperance crusade in e "Twin Tree" district at Cobb's Corner.





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PREE

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Blackfish Oil.

HE most expensive oil used for lubricating purposes is worth \$60 a gallon. It comes from the blackfish and the porpoise and its high price is due to the fact that only a very small quantity can be taken from each fish. It is known as "head oil" and is taken from the under jaw and the peculiar fatty growth on the rostrum of the skull just back of the blow hole. The oil is used almost exclusively for lubricating watches, and it owes its peculiar value to the fact that it never is affected in the slightest by changes in temperature. It is also very lasting in quality, one application in five years being enough to keep a watch running smoothly. Of late years the blackfish and porpoise have become quite scarce, so much so that their oil has trebled in value. After rendering the oil in its crude state the buyer tests it in various ways in order to be sure of the quality and to eliminate any objectionable ingredient that it may contain. It is then placed in bottles and bleached, a process requiring some skill and knowledge of the properties of the oil. It then finds a ready market among watch manufacturers.

AN INTERESTING DEVELOPMENT.

It is interesting to note the immense development of the Cash Buyers' Union whose advertising appears in these columns year in and year out. The Cash Buyers' Union has made a specialty of selling high grade sewing machines, direct from its factory at less than half the price at which similar standard machines are sold under the old plan. Women who sew will be interested in the proposition they offer, and should write for their illustrated, free catalogue, containing all styles of machines, attachments and samples of work.

### How the Blind Read.

N the Perkins Institute for the Blind in South Boston, there is operated a printing office for making books for the blind. Instead of using ordinary type with ink the characters used are embossed, and the blind person is able after a little practice to read what is written rapidly and accurately. Two methods are used in the

read what is written rapidly and accurately. Two methods are used in the printing of books here. In one the type used that resembles ordinary type and characters are produced in relief resembling ordinary printed letters. By the other system dots are embossed upon the paper in different combinations and positions to represent different letters. This last way is known as the Braille system and is the invention of a Frenchman. The work not only in this institution but in others over the country is being rapidly developed so that some relief from absolute dependence on others in reading and studying pendence on others in reading and studying seems to be promised those afflicted with blindness.



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### The Home Finder.

Notice. Many of those applying for information to this column ask us to advertise their property for them by calling the attention of home seekers to their possessions. We cannot do this except at the usual advertising rates. We can only refer seekers to persons in authority who will furnish information in detail for the benefit of their respective states and neighborhoods.

this except at the usual advertissing rates. We can only mention in detail from it is authority who will furnish information in detail from the benefit of their respective states and neighborhoods.

Hazel Eyes, Mashattan, Kans.—Tampa is a city of about sixteen thousand people on the west coast of Florida, and is one of the best towns in the state. We can not give you prices of real estate. If you will write to G. D. Ackerly, G. P. A., J. T. & K. W. Railway, Jacksonville, asking for such information as you require he will give it to you. Make your questions definite so he will know what you want to know and can tell you. Also write to Editor The Courier-Informant, Bartow, Fla., for copies of his paper, telling him what you want to know. Bartow is in the country back of Tampa and it is rich in an agricultural way.

L. A. Moore, Philomath, Ore.—What Comfort's correspondent said of Western Oregon applied especially to the coast country. We are glad to correct any false impression that may have resulted, and take pleasure in making your announcement that grain and fruit in your section of the state, especially fruit, are good producers and that fine crops of prunes are raised every year. We know of the beautiful apples that come from Oregon and are pleased to know they grow about Philomath. We give your address in full so that if any one who reads Comfort wishes to write to you he can do so, and we heartily recommend Oregon to all home seekers because we believe it is one of the choice states of this Union.

Dr. M. O. Perkins, Beaumont, Texas, writes for the benefit of "E. L.," Esterell, Mo., who inquired in Comfort about poultry raising in Texas, that land can be bought reasonably in the neighborhood of that town to make market gardening and poultry raising pay big. Dr. Perkins has no land to sell, and he has been living in Texas for twenty-two years, having come there from Ohio, and he is well informed and is disinterested. "E. L." or any other inquirer writing to him will have full attention of the right kind and

desire.

Miss Hattie H., Caldwell, N. Y.-Write to Mr. Dan O'Connell, Station Agent, Barrytown, N. Y. and to J. H. Shaw, Fairfax, Va., for information concerning violet farms. We have two letters for you, but cannot forward as your full name was not given.

Dan O'Connell, Station Agent, Barrytown, N. Y., and to J. H. Shaw, Fairfax, Va., for information concerning violet farms. We have two letters for you, but cannot forward as your full name was not given.

Don Carlos, Independence, Iowa.—Unless you have money and can talk Spanish we would not advise you to go to Mexico to go into farming or oranching. You can do much better in the United States unless you have unlimited capital. If you want to try farming on other than your native soil you had better go to Cuba. We do not recommend it to you, but there is a better chance there for a man with \$3,000 to \$5,000 than there is in Mexico.

Grover, Milwaukee, Wis.—You would probably do well in any thriving southern town if you will open a grocery store and run it with northern energy and plenty of advertising in the local newspapers. As a rule the retail grocer in southern towns is disposed to be rather careless and to wait for business rather than to hustle after it. You should go pretty well south where the northern influence is not felt, asi it is in those states on the border. We do not know your politics, but whatever they are keep them in the background. You are not going south to become a statesman, but to make money as a strictly business man. Make a trip through the section that you think you would like best, and learn about it from actual observation.

Mrs. D. McD., Toledo, Ohio.—We would advise against your coming to New York City to open a boarding house. Bents are extravagantly high, houses of 14 to 16 rooms, two miles from the shopping district, bringing from \$1,000 to \$3,500 a year, and all provisions and serving hire costing heavily. It is not always quite so hard as it is just now, but New York is a very expensive place and unless you are fortunate in getting an established business, or in having capital sufficient to enable you to open a house that will command the highest class of boarders you will be pretty sure to lose everything you put into it.

N. K. M., Merton, Wis.—You could not find a more bea

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MARRY 10,000 are very additions to MARRY BEAUTH STANDARD (OR. CLUB, Sig. E, Chleago, III.

## What Goes Up

MUST COME DOWN.

Nothing is more certain than that the use of

Nothing is more certain than that the use of so called tonics, stimulants and medicines, which depend upon alcohol for their effect, is injurious to health in the long run.

What goes up must come down and the elevation of spirits, the temporary exhilaration resulting from a dose of medicine containing alcohol, will certainly be followed in a few hours by a corresponding depression to relieve which another dose must be taken.

In other words, many liquid patent medicines derive their effect entirely from the alcohol they contain.

hol they contain.

Alcohol, and medicines containing it, are temporary stimulants and not in any sense a true tonic. In fact it is doubtful if any medicines or drug is a real tonic.

cines or drug is a real tonic.

A true tonic is something which will renew, replenish, build up the exhausted nervous system and wasted tissues of the body, something that will enrich the blood and endow it with the proper proportions of red and white corpuscles which prevent or destroy disease germs. This is what a real tonic should do and no drug or alcoholic stimulant will do it.

The only true tonic in nature is wholesome food, thoroughly digested. Every particle of nervous energy, every minute muscle, fibre and drop of blood is created daily from the food we digest.

digest.

The mere eating of food has little to do with the repair of waste tissue but the perfect digestion of the food eaten has everything to do with it.

The reason so few people have perfect digestion is because from wrong habits of living the stomach has gradually lost the power to secrete the gastric juice, peptones and acids in sufficient quantity.

To cure indigestion and stomach troubles it is necessary to take after meals some harmless.

To cure indigestion and stomach troubles it is necessary to take after meals some harmless preparation which will supply the natural peptone and diastase which every weak stomach lacks, and probably the best preparation of this character is Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets which may be found in every drug store and which contain in pleasant palatable form the wholesome peptone and diastase which nature requires for prompt digestion.

One or two of these excellent tablets taken after meals will prevent souring, fermentation and acidity and insure complete digestion and assimilation.

and acidity and insure complete digestion and assimilation.
Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are equally valable for little children as for adults, as they contain nothing harmful or stimulating but only the natural digestives.

One of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets will digest 1,800 grains of meat, eggs or other wholesome food, and they are in every sense a genuine tonic because they bring about in the only natural way a restorative of nerve power, a building up of lost tissue and appetite, in the only way it can be done by the digestion and assimilation of wholesome food.

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Comfort's Home Lawyer.

Mrs. R. L. G.—According to the facts stated in your letter your father sold the property mentioned therein as far back as 1882. Since that time you have taken no steps to recover such rights, if any, as you may have had therein. As a rule, uninterrupted and peaceable possession of property for so long a time is of itself evidence of ownership and will cure all technical defects in the title. I am of the opinion that you have waited too long and have thereby lost such rights as possibly you may have had.

H. E. K.—It is the duty of every citizen or resident of a place to conduct himself or herself in a quiet and orderly manner and in such way as not to trespass on the rights of others. Any undue noise or disturbance in the public highway may be considered as an infraction of the peace and quiet of the community and may be punished accordingly. The punishment rests largely in the discretion of the magistrate before whom the offender is brought.

and quiet of the community and may be punished accordingly. The punishment rests largely in the discretion of the magistrate before whom the offender is brought.

W. M. A.—A minor has no standing in law and any contract, as a rule, which he may make is void. This rule however is subject to many exceptions. Thus, a minor may make a valid contract for necessaries of life etc. In case he contracts a bill for such items as are necessary for his subsistence, according to his station in life, his parent or guardian would be liable to pay them. Any note made payable to a minor, if based on a valid consideration, may be collected by his parent or guardian.

E. S.—If you will write to Hon. Thorvald Solberg, Register of Copyrights, Washington, D. C., he will mail you, without charge of any kind, a pamphlet fully describing the method of applying for a copyright. Do not send to the "Patent Office" as stated in your letter, but as herein directed. You ask what is meant by "The Royalty System." In case you turn your production over to a publisher, who issues the same for you and pays you a percentage on the receipts received, you would be receiving a "royalty." This is the usual method pursued by authors of both music and literature

No. 49.—The chances are that the land of which you speak has long since been sold and resold for taxes, and if so, the parties who bought it may have acquired a valid tax title by this time. The only way to make sure is to have the matter looked up from the records at the County seat where the property is located. If you will write to the editor of this column, giving a full description of the land and its exact location, he will be glad to investigate further for you.

J. A. X.—If your term of hiring is by the year, your employer will have to pay you anything as you agreed to work for a year. You had better carry out the terms and conditions of your contract.

Inquirer.—A marriage between first cousins is valid in many of the States of the Union: we cannot undertake

contract.

Inquirer.—A marriage between first cousins is valid in many of the States of the Union; we cannot undertake to look up the statutes of every State in order to give a list of the states permitting such marriage, but if you will write us in what State you wish to get married, we will advise you as to whether a marriage between coustins is valid there. Send us a self-addressed stamped envelope and the information will be sent you by return mail

ope and the information will be sent you by return mail C. D.—See answer to J. A. X. in this column.

J. R. M.—In case the party who signed your name without your consent should return to the State, you can certainly see to it that he is prosecuted for forgery.

R. W. H.—Your landlord must abide by the terms of his contract. If he agreed to let you live in his house in consideration of your wife's teaching his daughter, you certainly need pay no rent. If however he insists on payment of rent and you pay it, your wife can recover a reasonable price for her music lessons

G. F. C. In the case you put. C. should certainly not

G. F. C. In the case you put, C. should certainly put the fence back in its proper position and put A's property in the same condition in which it was before he tres-passed upon it.

passed upon it.

K. L. B.—We know of no law that will permit another person to take water from your well without your permission and against your protest.

B. F. C.—If the party who made the contract with you refuses now to carry it out, you should take immediate steps to recover the property of which he took possession. Demand it back of him and if he refuses, you must bring an action at law to recover it.

M. E. D.—Any company that issues stock must be in-corporated. It is not necessary that it be incorporated in the state where the property is located and where its principal office is. It may be incorporated under the laws of any other state. Many of the largest corporations in the country are incorporated under the laws of other states than where their principal place of business is located.

F. J. D.—No one has a right to use his property in such a way as to trespass on his neighbors legal rights. The ordinances of most towns provide the distance at which barns can be built from another's property. What the ordinances of your place provide, we have no means of ascertaining. Ask your town clerk. If the party who proposes to erect the barn is acting illegally, you can stop him from building by sueing out an injunction to prevent him from progressing with the work.

Miss E. V. H.—According to the facts stated in your letter, you have no interest in the farm in question. The title to property can only be tied up for three generations. The deed made by your mother seems to have been valid and probably passed a good title to the purchaser.

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### Manners and Looks.

"Virtue itself offends, when coupled with forbidding manners."-Bishop Middleton.

Tommy's Girl, Newberg, Ore.—Ordinarily the gentleman gives the lady his left arm, although he may do as he pleases. The theory is that if he has his right arm free he can better protect her if necessary. (2) Pie should be eaten with a fork. We suppose if one puts milk on his pie, as some do, a spoon might be necessary. (3) We believe the "jig" is not danced except as an entertainment to those who want to see it. It is proper enough, and might be classed as a professional dance. At least we so understand the "jig," though it may have a different meaning in Oregon.

Kandahar, Mexico, Wis.—The very best recipe for a brown tan is to let it wear off. It is a good healthy sign, and your beauty will not suffer by letting it remain on awhile. Besides, at this season it is quite fashionable.

Rose, Kell, Ills.—A girl of fourteen should wear

son it is quite fashionable.

Rose, Kell, Ills.—A girl of fourteen should wear her dress about to her shoe-tops, or a little above if she is not a large girl. (2) It is not the custom in the best society for girls to wear boys' rings, or the reverse, but such things are frequently done. We do not recommend it. (3) In view of the fact that you might marry one of your stepbrothers, we should say that you should not permit any more kissing from them than any other men of your acquaintance, although the rule might be relaxed somewhat if you had grown up together from childhood as brother and sister. (4) Engaged couples only may kiss with entire propriety.

J. G. H., Orbisonia, Pa.—Certainly not. (2) The lady may write to the man at his request, if she wants to, but it is customary for the man to write first. (3) We think the lady should invite a caller to call again, but some very well bred people do not do so. It seems to be rather an unwelcome parting to have a guest go away without a world wishing to see him again.

Perplexed One, Minneapolis, Minn.—We should think-they could tall ware to the search.

wishing to see him again.

Perplexed One, Minneapolis, Minn.—We should think they could tell you in Minneapolis what was the proper costume for such an occasion. In our opinion you could very appropriately wear any of the white wool stuffs that are made for Winter wear. We think white would be preferable to any color, but you would probably find it more expensive than the dark stuffs. Nun's veiling, albatross, cashmere and serge are the names of the white goods.

Lenore, Galesburg, Ills.—A red nose is something that you must talk to your doctor about. (2) Yes. (3) Five feet eight inches is unusually tall for a girl of fifteen, and 138 pounds is not too heavy for that height. You are not "fat" by fifty pounds at least.

Loretta, Newport, R. I.—Do not give the young man your picture unless you are very good friends and you have every confidence in him. (2) We believe it is customary in college towns for the girls to wear the boys' class pins. There cannot be any serious harm in it. (3) Sixteen-year-old girls should wear their dresses fully down to their shoetops, or even longer, depending somewhat upon the size of the girl and the height of the shoe top. We might make a better gauge by saying to the ankle bone.

might make a better gauge by saying to the ankle bone.

Two Little Crackers, Mossy Head, Fla.—It is not a matter of good taste or bad for the young man to drive home from church at night at a very slow gait. It is a matter of sentiment. Most young people like it. If you do not, you should tell the young man to drive fast. (2) We should think the arrival of a young niece was a matter of congratulation from a young man to the young lady who was the aunt. Just what reply she should make is not down in the books. You must make one for yourself. (3) The rule is for the man not to walk between two ladies. However, if they want to take his arms, there is no other way. The rule may be made to suit the conditions. (4) We believe it is the custom of engaged couples of any and all kinds of society to kiss when they want to. (4) A kiss "under the mistletce" might be excused as one of the extravagances of the holiday season. Still even this kind of kissing is frowned upon by proper people.

Be and D., Indianapolis, Ind.—Customs vary. In some places young men and women go boating at night; in some they do not, unless accompanied by a chaperone. If no one objects to your going alone with a young man, then you may go. (2) A girl of eighteen should wear to a wedding a very simple gown of white, unless she has come out in society, as some girls of 18 do. Then she may dress as elaborately as she can afford. (3) There is no rule but the lady's wish as to how often a gentleman should call on her. Her parents, however, are to be consulted.

be consulted.

Country Girl, Waterville, Kans.—Olives are eaten from the fingers, and bread is taken with the fingers. Never with a fork. (2) When a lady takes a man home with her, she opens the door and leads the way in, but he should shut the door, unless he has been there previously and knows what to do and where to go. (3) The gentleman's address is New York City.

New York City.

Elinor, St. Ilmo, Ills.—To prevent hair from falling out use the following tonic: Phenic acid, two grams; tincture vomica, seven and one-half grams; tincture of red cinchona, thirty grams; tincture of cantharides, two grams; cologne, one-hundred and eighty grams; sweet almond oil, sixty grams. Apply to the roots of the hair with a soft sponge once or twice a day.

Blair Sisters Clyde, Ohio,—There is no more

or twice a day.

Blair Sisters, Clyde, Ohio.—There is no more harm in dancing than there is in the usual games played at parties. (2) Blonde. (3) Damon and Pythias, Saul and Jonathan, Washington and Ladayette, Bertram and Bruce, Clyde and Cameron, Duncan and Douglass, Eric and Ethelbert, and many, many others would be good names for twin boys. (3) One plate of ice cream is the usual amount eaten by one lady at a party, but if she wanted more it would not be very improper for her to take it. to take it.

Inquisitive, Canandaigua, N. Y.—It is a little early yet to say what will be the prevailing color this Winter. A new shade just showing itself is "burnt orange," a reddish yellow, which will have a run for a time no doubt, and then disappear. Green is yet popular, and blue promises to be much worn. (2) If you and the other young lady intend to quarrel about which one of you should write to the other first, possibly you had better not write at all. It is as much one's place as the other to write first.

to write first.

Watter and Charley, Gallup, Ohio.—If the other girl's "gentleman friend" asks another girl to go home with him she may accept his company as far as the rules of etiquette are concerned. Personally she may decide the question as she pleases. But why do you say "gentleman friend?" That is bad form. Simply say "friend", or better still call the man by name and those who are interested will know the rest. (2) It is too late to go "buggy riding" after a party. But why not say "driving" instead of "buggy riding"? (3) There is no rule by which a gentleman asks a lady for her company. The plainest and simplest way is best. (4) Girls of seventeen are not usually in society, where it would be necessary to accept gentlemen's company. If they are, it is quite proper.

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common, though some very nice people have fallen into the habit of it. (7) Do not permit the man to squeeze your arm. He is trying to be familiar with you and you cannot permit that under any circumstances. A well-bred man will not do it unless he is encouraged to do so.

White Page Charm C. (2)

White Rose, Sharp, S. C.—The lady always takes the gentleman's arm. (2) One time is too often. Don't do it at all unless you are engaged. (3) Wear your hair in the most becoming way.

your hair in the most becoming way.

Giggler, Sun, Kans.—It may be proper enough, but it is not customary for a young lady to ask a man to go home with her. Except, of course, it becomes necessary for her to do so. (2) Yes. (3) "Done up" hair is not quite appropriate for fourteen year old girls. (4) A girl at a boarding school should wear to a supper, and at all times, the very simplest and prettiest things she can afford. "Sweet simplicity" should be a study with her, as much as books are.

Lara, Eulonia, S. C.—A gentleman should not take a lady's arm unless it is necessary for him to do so to help her along. He should offer her his arm.

do so to help her along. He should offer her his arm.

E. M. B., Oakville, Iowa.—It is not exactly wrong for young ladies and gentlemen who are not acquainted, to talk over the telephone, but, unless it is a necessity to do so, on business or otherwise, it is not done any more than the same persons would talk on the street or elsewhere. (2) A "good, sensible girl of sixteen" will not keep company with a young man of twenty, therefore we need not tell you she is too young. She may know the young man and be very nice to him, but she will wait, if she is a "good, sensible" girl until she is twenty before she "keeps company" with him. (3) We can not make out what kind of stains you want a remedy for.

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home with him she may accept his company as far as the rules of etiquette are concerned. Personally she may decide the question as she pleases. But why do you say "gentleman friend?" That is bad form. Simply say "friend", or better still call the man by name and those who are interested will know the rest. (2) It is too late to go "buggy riding" after a party. But why not say "driving" instead of "buggy riding"? (3) There is no rule by which a gentleman asks a lady for her company. The plainest and simplest way is best. (4) Girls of seventeen are not usually in society, where it would be necessary to accept gentlemen's company. It they are, it is quite proper.

Blue Eyes, New York, N. Y.—Ask him to come again if you wish, or not as you choose. In this case it does not appear that he is anxious to come, though he may be diffident. Better ask him. (2) The taking of arms is not as customary as formerly, but still it is done. (3) Girls of seventeen and past should wear their hair up, though many girls of 17 still wear it in a braid down their backs. (5) A girl of seventeen if full size should wear her dresses very nearly, if not quite, as long as if she were a woman. (6) Winking is simply vulgar and

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## Talks With Girls.

### Conducted by Cousin Marion.

In order that each cousin may be answered in this column, no cousin must ask more than three questions in one month.

The melancholy days have not yet come, and though it is October, the month when the poet says they begin, let us keep our spirits up and show him that we have no melancholy days. We may have our troubles, but we can be brave and smile although our hearts are sore. So let us smile when we may, spring or autumn; and now to work, which is not half as bad as being idle.

Idle.

The first cousin to come to my hand is Fidelis of Nashville, Tenn., who has a "steady" who will not speak of love or marriage though he has been attentive for two years, and she wants to know what to do. It is usually best to wait in such cases. But it will often bring matters to a settlement if the girl neglects the man a little, and talks to him judiciously about other men who are seeking her hand. Then if he doesn't speak up, drop him. He is too stupid to be an agreeable husband anyway.

G. B. C. D. Afton. Minn.—All the New York

G. B. C. D., Afton, Minn.—All the New York papers of the latter part of March for several days contained more or less about Miss Gladys Deacon, but I can not give you exact dates. The Herald, World, Journal, morning and evening editions, contained pictures of her.

contained pictures of her.

A. S. H., Bellows Falls, Vt.—The address of the gentleman is simply New York City. Or you might add "Waldorf Astoria Hotel."

Psyche, Mexico, Mo.—If the engagement is a positive one, you may write to him as often as you please. For such a long engagement it is probably best not to give the ring until within a few months of your marriage, but that is a matter to determine between you.

M. and S., Angleton, Texas.—Girls of sixteen still

of your marriage, but that is a matter to determine between you.

M. and S., Angleton, Texas.—Girls of sixteen still in school should not "keep company" with a man of twenty-eight or any other age. Books before beaus. (2) Send some friend to the young man who will not return your notes and pictures and demand them. (3) If a young man tries to kiss you tell him pleasantly and good naturedly, as a sister would talk to him, what you think of such familiarity and ask him if he thinks it is quite the nice and proper thing for a girl to do. Reason with him a little while and he will become ashamed of himself and probably fall in love with you, really and truly. Then it would be different.

Magnolia, Grandin, Fla.—If the young man says he knows you love him, even though you have not said so, you will have to answer him as best you can, providing he is right. If he is wrong, you can let him see very quickly how mistaken he is. (2) The young man cannot claim your exclusive attention unless he is engaged to you. Do as you please about your company until he asks you to be his wife.

his wife.

Wilhelmine, Marion, S. D.—I do not wish to crush your idol, but if you are wise you will not trust the your gan until he says definitely that he wants you to marry him. He is evidently a firt and simply wants to get you in love with him for his own sport. He showed that when he was willing to say he was engaged to you so he could kiss you. He is the kind that will bear watching.

Innocent, Canandaigua, N. Y.—Do what you can to show your friend that she is risking her reputation by associating with a disreputable man, and if she will not listen to you, let her go her way. You have your own good name to protect and can not risk it by keeping her as your friend.

Trixy, Lee, N. D.—A girl whom you had never

Trisy, Lee, N. D.—A girl whom you had never met who would call attention to your hat as that one did, is simply an "Indian," and ought to go out and live in the wilds. She is hopelessly badmannered. All you can do is to feel sorry for her.

Missouri Girl, Clifton Hill, Mo.—Ask your mother the questions you have asked me. Mothers know best what to tell fifteen year old girls about their

Silverhair, Waukomis, Okla.—When ayoung man winks at a girl he means to see if she has no better manners than he has. Don't notice him. He ought to be herded with the cattle. (2) The waist swing dance is too familiar and common. Don't permit it. (3) The lady speaks first.

Dimple, Paducah, Ky.—A scarf pin is always acceptable, or a match safe, or cigar cutter, in silver; or a postage stamp case, or a silver tipped cane, or any one of a dozen things in silver for men, that are pretty, useful and inexpensive, will make a present for a young man on his twenty-first birthday.

Hazel Eves. Redding Col.

present for a young man on his twenty-first birthday.

Hazel Eyes, Redding, Cal.—Yes. (2) Eleven years older is not too much older. (3) If you know the man is a flirt, you had better not listen to him. He will treat you as he treats other girls. Sure. (4) Yes. (5) Let him go to the other girl if he wants to. (6) No. (7) No harm and no especial good.

E. E. W.—Ypsilanti, Mich:—There is no way of getting your book before the public except through the publishers, and their judgment must be taken. Send your Mss. to them, and if they want it they will take it. Some firms publish books if the authors will pay from \$200 to \$300 and become partners, as it were, in the venture. If your book should be a good seller, you would make more this way than on royalty. Write to the Abbey Press, New York City. If you do not want to pay, then keep on sending it around. There are no publishers who print books for beginners on the chances.

Elinor, St. Elmo, Ill.—The address of the young

Elinor, St. Elmo, Ill.—The address of the young

lady is New York City. She is about thirty years old. (2) The supply of "authors' work of real merit" does not exceed the demand. It does not equal it, the publishers say.

Ping, Manistee, Mich.—To the best of my belief there is no state in which a minor can marry without the consent of parents or guardian. You are very foolish to think of defying your parents at your age and marrying, no matter how worthy the man is. If he is really worthy he will not permit you to do anything so rash.

Lady Blanche, Killbuck, O.—You are just the

Lady Blanche, Killbuck, O.—You are just the right age (21) to be most attractive, and if you will be polite and pleasant to people, men and women, with always a little word of praise or kindly inquiry, you will have plenty of attention and plenty of friends.

Californian, Los Angeles, Cal.—The French words, "tete-a-tete" are pronounced "tate ah tate," though you need not bring the "ah" out very distinctly.

(2). Not wrong exactly, but better not done.

Claribel, Bieber, Cal.—There is no objection as far as I see. It is rather a personal matter to be settled in your own mind. (2) Plain gold for a wedding ring; solitaire diamond for an engagement.

ment.

Blue Eyes, Cleveland, Ohio.—Under the circumstances of under the circumstances of under the circumstances of under the circumstances of under the circumstances of the cir

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A half million! That's what your heart forces through A half million! your body every 24 hours. It works day and night, never resting. Is it any wonder with the way people excite, abuse and neglect their hearts, that 69 in every 100 are wrong or strange if yours is? If you aren't sure about it, or even if you KNOW you have a settled heart disease in which doctors if you know you have a settled heart disease in which doctors and remedies have failed, why don't you ask our advice and help? We have made Heart and Nerve Diseases—which almost always go together—our life study. We treat them upon new principles and with a new remedy, and we fail in only one case in more than two hundred. To fully prove the virtue of our remedy, to show that it is different from anything else and will do for you just what it has for thousands of other sufferers, we will send FREE A BOTTLE OF

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in his church, and you bring them up as you please. His love cannot be what he says it is, if he will let a mere church ordinance separate you from him forever. The religion that will do that is a hideous deformity.

Wild Rose, Louisville, Ky.—Engaged couples are not governed by the usual rules, and a man may call as often as the girl wants him to. (2.) No. (3) Whatever I may think of first cousins marrying is not counted. The law is against it. (4) It is not improper to sit on the porch summer evenings with young men, if they don't sit too long, 10.30 to 11, say, is quitting time.

II, say, is quitting time.

Virginia, Titus, Pa.—Love powders, so called, are made to sell and catch silly people with, and are usually harmless. In some cases they are rank poison. Let them absolutely alone. (2) Kissing games are out of fashion among really civilized

people. (3) Fourteen-year-old girls may wear their hair in a braid down their backs or in any way that is becoming. Dresses to their shoe tops, or very near.

Croquette, Chula Depot, Va.—Quite improper I should say. (2) The man is too sensitive. If he loves you he will defer to your wishes and wait your pleasure. Treat him indifferently. (3) You may ask your friend to call on you at the house where you are visiting.

C. B. L., Garnet, Wis .- June 8th, 1875, fell on Sun-

There, dears, all your questions are answered except those on Manners and Looks and you will find answers in the column under that heading. May you get good out of all of them.

By by, now, till we meet again. COUSIN MARION.



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### Comfort's Palmistry Club.

Birthmark" is the title under the first palm I shall read this time. It indicates the hand of a lady, being distinctly feminine

lady, being distinctly feminine in every way. She is gentle, refined and womanly, but nervous and somewhat timid; loves to depend upon others and to be cared for, though she has the courage to look out for herself if it is necessary. A little more perseverance and self-reliance, however, would help her to get on in the world and make life easier for her. I would advise her to cultivate the habit of thinking and deciding for herself more than she naturally does. ciding for herself more than she naturally does.
She has improved somewhat in this particular,
however, since she was sixteen years old. Her
health is in the



main good al-though she was a delicate child, and delicate child, and she will not be very long-lived unless she takes particularly good care of herself at the age of forty-five to fifty. She is romantic in her tastes and fond of fiction and poetry. fiction and poetry. If she should write she would learn to

If she should write she would learn to excel in these lines; the only trouble being in her lack of "stick-to-a-tiv-ness;" that is, she would give up trying and not be willing to "keep everlastingly at it," as one must to succeed. She has a good fate line which shows that she can be successful and her line of Apollo or riches is good. She will see a good deal of trouble, however, and will always have the opposition of relatives to her various undertakings. Especially is this true before the age of thirty. She will marry not far from the age of twenty-five and there will come some decided change in her life about thirty. I do not think her marriage will last over ten years, and she will outlive her husband. She has always been a favorite with the opposite sex and will be as long as she lives, as she is good company and has a great deal of tact; she will know how to manage a man without seeming to do so, a great gift to woman and one of the best lubricators for the machinery of married life.

"E. Judy" has a good feminine hand also. She has great faith in her own ability and will always have the courage of her convictions, even to overdoing it. She

always have the even to over-doing it. She has the quality as much over-developed as the last subject had it lacking. It will be well for this one to seek advice from those competent those competent to advise her, and to take heed to what they tell her. She is not so nervous as the previous subject, either, and hav-ing a good head-line will be able



line will be able to take things
calmly and philosophically. In fact, I think she is one that can be relied on to "keep cool" in the face of any danger and she has much courage and self-reliance. She will never bear children and I do not think she will marry. If she does, the affair will not last long and she will be happier alone. She will outlive her husband, if she marries, but she will not live to be fifty. At or near the age of thirty she will be protected from some danger to her life, either from illness or some outside force. She will have an opportunity for second marriage either from illness or some outside force. She will have an opportunity for second marriage about the age of forty and she will do well to take it, as I see happiness there; but she will not live many years afterward anyway. She is very ambitious and will realize some of her dreams. She is of a practical turn, rather than romantic, and will be a valuable, helpful member of the community in which she lives. She, too, will be popular with the opposite sex and will have several affairs of the heart, and several offers of marriage. But she will be sensible about them and will not accept unless she sees that it will be best, or feels that it will be so. On the whole, this is a fortunate hand and although she will not have a remarkably long life it will be a reasonably happy one; in other life it will be a reasonably happy one; in other words she will know how to get the most out

"Mrs. Mattingly" sends a drawing which she says is perfect and I will read it, though no drawing is absolutely correct as I have often

The fine lines and "worry lines" do not show



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the courage to do whatever she chooses, in spite of public opinion. She married early in life and makes a good wife, as near as I can judge although the marriage lines do not appear at all under the little finger, as they should, and as they probably do in the hand itself. I am very much inclined to agree with Cheiro that it is never safe to read a drawing, on the ground that the little lines that do not seem important enough to draw, will often change the entire reading. This subject will have exceptionally good health and will live to be very old. She will accumulate money and will be well off in her old age.

"Libbie" sends some excellent impressions

the courage to do whatever she chooses, in spite of public opinion. She married early in life and makes a good wife, as near as I can judge although the marriage lines do not appear at all under the little finger, as they should, and as they probably do in the hand itself. I am very much inclined to agree with Cheiro that it is never safe to read a drawing, on the ground that the little lines that do not seem important enough to draw, will often change the entire reading. This subject will have exceptionally good health and will live to be very old. She will accumulate money and will be well off in her old age.

"Libbie" sends some excellent impressions of both hands all treated with fixatif so that they did not rub at all. That is always best. Her hands show a life crossed by both good and ill. She was not a very strong child, and her early life was given up to others, but later on she comes out from their influence and learns to stand alone, although not without some opposition. She had an early love-affair, that caused her some trouble, but she outgrew it and lives to know that it is better so. She is a favorite with the other sex but is always cool-headed and does not throw herself away for love as many women do. She marries not far from twenty-five and her married life is happy and successful. After she is fifty they "strike it rich" and although she is well off before, she will find plenty of wealth and the fame that goes with it after she is fifty. Indeed, after thirty-five everything tends toward money-getting and she will find herself steadily improving in circumstances from that time onward. There is a break in the life line about a "close call" at that time from which she will secape and then will live out her days either in a foreign land or in a distant part of her own country. She will travel about a great deal, alcountry. She will travel about a great deal, al-

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may be if she wishes to. Decidedly the easier and pleasant-er part of her life comes after the age of thirty. She has so much good sense that she needs no advice from me so I will only say: Be careful of the health Be between the ages of fifty and sixty.



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## Astrological Calendar.



HE New Moon, to which we look for indications for November, is a partial eclipse of the Sun which falls on the 31st day of October, at a few minutes past three o'clock in the morning, Washington Time. A figure for that time, at our seat of government, shows the last degrees of the celestial sign Virgo rising with the 20th degree of Gemini on Mercury is therefore the nearly on the cusp of the 2nd house in benevolent aspect with Herschel in the 3rd house, though squared by Saturn in the 42nd house, though squared by Saturn in the 4th house. The eclipse falls in the 2nd house only six degrees from Venus and infavorable aspect with Mars in the 12th house and with Neptune in the 10th house. This figure indicates an unusual degree of excitement in the political affairs of the nation; unusual harmony between the governed classes and public authorities and popula enthusiasm in election matters, endorsing an aggressive attitude of the national authorities in international matters, though there will be much treachery and deceit in political wire-working, especially in treating the great financial questions, and much bitterness and invective against all combinations of capital in industrial matters and great criticism of methods and plans of expenditure of the public money. Schools and hotels will prosper and places of amusement give profit to the management as well as the artist.

At the full Moon, which occurs on the 15th of the month, the great benefic Jupiter will be just rising and the Sun, Mercury and Venus will be in the 9th house. This indicates a good degree of prosperity to the masses of the people and the subordination of the governed to the governing classes. Mars in the 7th points to some unrest or turmoil in the western regions of our country or possessions. There will be some trouble in prisons or the reformatory institutions of the country, either in the nature of disease or violent outbreak among inmaters. Saturn in the 4th points to some unusually severe cold weather for the season, especially in the fir

CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER, 1902.

NOVEMBER 1—Saturday. Improve this day vigorously for the transaction of business concerning lands and houses; deal with plumbers, plasterers glaziers, gardeners, farmers, contractors, and builders and the classes generally who are engaged in the laborious and dirty avocations. Do not take the day, however, for any kind of a speculation in commercial circles nor make any beginning of magnitude-in trade.

2—Sunday. Peculiar sentiments and odd expressions will be observed in the extemporaneous discourse of today; contentions and quarrels are to be especially guarded against; thieves will be active at this time and many of them come to grief; let all be guarded against fires.

3—Monday. Give preference to the forenoon for the most important engagements; do not deal in fancy goods nor engage in works of decoration or adornment; the late afternoon and evening encourage the literary avocations; do correspondence and attend to matters of account; mental efforts will be more satisfactory in the evening. CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER, 1902.

goods nor engage in works of decoration or adornment; the late atternoon and evening encourage the literary avocations; do correspondence and attend to matters of account; mental efforts will be more satisfactory in the evening.

4—Tuesday. Enter into no engagements relating to real estate or buildings; have no dealings with miners, agriculturists, or traders in agricultural products; make no contracts with printers, publishers, press-writers, or elderly persons in any walk in life.

5—Wednesday. A superior day, especially for the fine arts; deal in fancy goods and engage in works of decoration or adornment; choose the time also for chemical experiments and for urging all the mechanical pursuits; deal with cutlers, surgeons, tailors and military men; use the middle hours of the day for making applications for favor or advantage from officers of great corporations, public officials or from thine employer.

6—Thursday. Contention and discord will be easy of birth on this day and it will be wise if the beginning of long journeys be postponed for a short season; have extreme caution in all thy business engagements; do not sign any writings of importance, nor engage any help; embarrassments are likely to come to editors, authors, booksellers, publishers, printers, mathematicians, civil engineers, surveyors, lawyers and judges; correspondence goes wrong or gives little ultimate satisfaction and if very important is best postponed; the judgment will prove faulty and all mental productions of the day are best laid aside for future consideration and revision; thieves and swindlers are active and fires are to be guarded against. These suggestions are peculiarly appropriate for persons born about the lith of January or April or the 18th of July or 17th of October, of past years. Nervous troubles will be aggravated and mental afflictions rendered more acute.

7—Friday. Commercial men will find this one of their active and favorable days, though the time is not so favorable for the elegant occupations or the fine arts; give

forenoon, but posspone writings and varieties the afternoon.

11—Tuesday. Give preference to the early hours for transactions pertaining to houses and lands, though do not expect to make marked progress in any of the elegant pursuits during the day generally in which money favors are not easily obtained.

12—Weduesday. Begin this day early and urge all manner of business to the utmost; buy goods for trade, broass accommodations and have important deal-

namer of business to the utmost; buy goods for trade, seek money accommodations and have important dealings with banks, judges, lawyers and persons of wealth and prominence.

13—Thursday. One of the unfavorable days of the month; begin no important undertaking; have no transaction in real estate or with persons engaged in the dirty avocations; keep out of all kinds of disputes and controversies in the atternoon.

14—Friday. Have caution in all thy business engagements on this day; sign no papers of importance; travel not nor engage any help; financial annoyances arise just at this time to editors, authors, booksellers, publishers and the intellectual classes generally, especially if born about the 26th of January or April or the 30th of July or October, of past years; to such persons correspondence goes wrong, gives little ultimate satisfaction and if very important is best postponed until a more fitting season.

15—Saturday. Make no engagement towards wed-

more fitting season.

15 - Saturday. Make no engagement towards wedlock, nor expect much success in the elegant pursuits
or from dealings in dry goods or fancy or ornamental
wares; ask no favor from thine employer nor seek any
advantage from public officials; the afternoon is more
favorable and encourages all engagements towards real

advantage from puons and engagements towards real favorable and encourages all engagements towards real estate improvement.

16—Sunday. An especially fortunate Sabbath day, inducing mental activity and promoting pulpit eloquence and the enjoyment of literary productions.

17—Monday. Usurers have here a day of profit and advantage and thou shouldst be wary with thy purse, indulging not in any speculation, nor in signing any writing obligating thyself; it is best to give the time to routine matters alone.

18—Tuesday. The very early and very late hours are the best ones of the day—the latter being particularly favorable for mental efforts and appreciation of literary productions; the middle hours are mischievous for success or profit from any of the elegant avocations.

19 Wednesday. Use the forenoon for undertakings concerned with machinery; deal with cutlers, surgeons,

chemists, bakers, barbers, tailors, tanners, carpenters and military men; urge all the elegant pursuits, but have no transactions relating to houses or lands, or their use

no transactions relating to houses or lands, or their use or improvement.

20—Thursday. Keep a bridle upon the tongue during the forenoon when thou shouldst be deliberate in all thine undertakings; do not make purchases for trade nor speculate in stocks during this day; keep watch of the purse and practice economy as to personal gratifications.

21—Friday. Conditions during the first half of this day are generally unfavorable and discourage the making of contracts of a commercial nature; do no correspondence of magnitude nor expect any success in the literary undertakings; the afternoon is more favorable and encourages dealings with large corporations, public officials and persons noted for eccentricity of habits or dress.

clais and persons noted for eccentrative of hands dress.

22—Saturday. The middle hours of the day are the best and should be given preference for the great undertakings in life; do not seek promotion in office or any favor from thy superior in the early part of the day nor be surprised if thine undertakings lag during the after-

best and should be given preference for the great undertakings in life; do not seek promotion in office or any favor from thy superior in the early part of the day nor be surprised if thine undertakings lag during the afternoon.

23—Sunday. Avoid rashness of word or act and be not easily moved to wrath; the mind is especially active and religious discourse will be earnest and aggressive; have dealings with the aged in the evening.

24—Monday. An excellent day, in which important enterprises will be well begun, especially if they pertain to the elegant occupations or polite arts; the day is particularly fortunate for the purchase or sale of wearing apparel and all fancy and ornamental goods.

25—Tuesday. Bright and prosperous are the conditions of this day and REGULUS advises his commercial and literary friends to urge their business to the very utmost, giving preferences, so far as may be, to the foremon hours; travel, employ help, sign writings, employ lawyers, buy goods for trade, adjust accounts and do most important correspondence; as the evening hours approach make no application for favor nor expect much advantage or satisfaction from social engagements or from musical or theatrical entertainments.

26—Wedneaday. The very early hours of the day are the best, but as the forenoon advances do not ask any favors of thy landlord or of real estate men generally; nor should much benefit be expected from dealings with contractors or any persons engaged in the dirty avocations in life; indecision and forgetfulness will be common faults and melancholy will affect the minds of many just at this time. Use the middle hours of this day to the utmost, but in the afternoon unusual caution will be required to avoid money losses; do not make any investment of means in speculative ventures; do not buy any goods for trade or begin any transactions with moneyed men or banking institutions, and practice economy in dispensing thy worldly goods in any direction.

28—Friday. Improve the forenoon for dealing in metals, machinery,

FREE TO EVERY LADY.

A safe, simple home treatment that cured me after years of suffering with uterine troubles, displacements, leucorrhœa, etc., sent free to ladies with full instructions how to use it. Address Mrs. L. D. Hudnut, South Bend, Ind.

sleeps and cries like a real live baby, and is nearly one-half yard tall. A big and lovely beauty doll with movable bisque head, long natural curly hair, pearly teeth, sleeping eyes, fancy colored lace trimmed dress, hat, real tan shoes, open work (red, blue or black) stockings, underwear, etc., dressed complete from top to toe. GIRLS, do you desire to receive this big and handsome Talking and Sleeping Doll Baby free of all Cost, for a little work after school hours? If so, write us at once and we will mail you twenty last selling and useful articles for ladies' and gentlemen's wear, to dispose of at only ten cents each. When sold, remit us the money (\$2.00) and we will forward to your address, by mail, postage prepaid, carefully packed in strong corrugated mailing boxes, this wonderful, mechanical, Talking and Sleeping Doll, as described in this advertisement. Order twenty articles at once and address, SP 6 TALKING DOLL WORKS, ALKING DOLL BUILDING, BRIDGEWATER, EXTRA PRESENT.—This handsomely engraved Aluminum Silver Bracelet, together with a pretty Doll Chatelaine, are all given free as Extra Presents (in addition to the doll) for making prompt remittance Sleeps SOLID SILVER Latest Wonder of the doll makers' art ALUMINUM BRACELET. NO MONEY WANTED—Not a cent from your own pocket, as we deliver post office, without costing you a cent for charges, etc.—PLEASE REMEMBER THIS.

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If ruptured write to Dr. W. S. Rice, 1019 Main St., Adams, N. Y., and he will send free a trial of his wonderful method. Whether skeptical or not get this free method and try the remarkable invention that cures without pain, danger, operation or detention from work. Write to-day. Don't wait.

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From cradle to grave—past, present and future correctly treated and success assured in love and business. Mysteries revealed, My horoscopes are wonderful diviners; send date of birth and stamp, and I will send you, entirely free, a horoscope of your life, or if you send too. I will also send a description of son you should love, and my wonderful magnetic file of the twenty of the predictions. Only the twenty of the twenty of the twenty of the predictions. Only the twenty of true predictions. Only thirty years old, I have made over \$100,000. I may make you equally successful if you heed my advice. Address: Prof. N. F. Astro, Box 3693, Philadelphia, Pa.



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We will give these Two SOLID GOLD had Rings, one set with large Garnet and three Pearls, one with Ruby and two Brilliants, FREE to any one that will sell 12 of our Gold Plate Enameled Brooches, set with different colored stones at 10 cents each, and sends us the S1.20. No money required until brooches are sold. We take back all not sold. Address Howard Mfg. Co., Providence, R.L.

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Each one of the three lines of figures IN THE CENTRE OF THIS ADVER. TISEMENT spells the name of a great city in the United Statea. This is a brand new puzzle and can be solved with a little study as follows: There are twenty-six letters in the alphabet, and we have used figures in spelling the cities instead of letters. Letter A is number 1, B number 2, C number 3, etc., throughout the entire alphabet, IF YOU CAN SPELL OUT THESE THREE CITIES YOU MAY SHAKE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY SHAKE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY SHAKE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY SHAKE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY SHAKE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY SHAKE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY SHAKE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000.00 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY SHAKE IN THE WE SHAKE IN

YOU

always plenty of good opportunities for clever, brainy people who are always alert and ready to grasp a real good thing. We have built up our enormous business by being alert and liberal in our GRAND GOLD FREE DISTRIBUTIONS.

We are continually offering our readers RARE AND UNUSUAL prizes. This special contest we consider one of the greatest offers ever made. Do not delay in giving this matter your immediate attention, and if you can spell out the three cities send your answer at once. \$1,000.00 REWARD will be paid to any one who can prove that in the many Free Cash Contests we have conducted in the past years, we did not do exactly as we agreed. We have a big capital, and anyone can easily ascertain about our financial condition. To pay out these big gold cash prizes is a pleasure to us. We intend to have the largest circulation of our high-class one-dollar magazine in the world. In this progressive age publishers find that they must be liberal in giving away prizes of great sums of money. It is the only successful way to get your magazine talked about. For instance, if you should solve the peculiar way we have of spelling the names of the three cities, and we should hand you a sum of money as a free prize, you would never stop talking about our magazine, now, would you? We POSITIVELY CLAIM that these three lines of figures, by our plan, do actually spell the names of the recities and that a qever, brainy person, who can think and will patiently endeavor to solve how it is done, will be amply rewarded by sharing in our \$1,000.00 in Gold Free Offer. Of our greatest to do some work and give it the time and attention it deserves. USE YOUR BRAINS. If you are successful, and as it does not cost you one cent to solve and as it does not cost you one cent to solve and as it does not cost you one cent to solve and as it does not cost you one cent to solve and as it does not cost you one cent to solve and as it does not cost you one cent to solve and as it does not cost you one cent to solve and as it does not cost you

**PUZZLE?** 

and answer this splendid Free Money Offer, it will be very foolish for you to pass it by. In all fairness give it some of your leisure with the course of Fallure is S FOR ENERGEFIC AND THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE, and the Cause of Fallure is IAOK OF INTEREST AND LAZINESS. So, dear reader, do not pass this advertisement without trying hard to make A SOLUTION OF THE THEE LINES OF FIGURES PRINTED IN THE CENTRE OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT. We suggest that you carefully read this offer several times before giving up the idea of solving the puzzle. The harder it seems the more patience and determination you should have. Courage and determination with many of the PRIZES OF LIFE. Your share in OUR FREE Upon your own energy and brains. Don't He harder it seems the more patience and determination with many of the PRIZES OF LIFE. Your share in OUR FREE Upon your own energy and brains. Don't THIS PERPLEXING PUZZLE. Many of the people we have recently sent large letters, profusely thanking us for our prompt and honest dealings, and saying that if we had not so strongly urged them to try to win they would not have been the happy recipients of a large sum of money for only a few hours' effort. It always pays to give attention to our grand and liberal offers. OUR BIG CASH PRIZES have gladdened the hearts of many persons who needed the money. If you need money you will give attention to this special offer this very minute. If you solve it, write us immediately.

| 14| 7 | 20| 15| 14|

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# **New Life to Weak Men.**

Old Men Made Young Again-Weak Men Find Old-Time Strength and Power of Youth.

### TRIAL PACKAGE MAILED FREE.

To the men who have tried every known remedy to revive their waning power or lost manhood, and have given up in despair, the following message comes as a most blessed promise. This new discovery restores all men



### Chief of Staff, State Medical Institute.

who suffer with any form of sexual weakness, resulting from youthful folly, premature loss of strength and memory, weak back or varico-cele. It gives the warmth, strength and development just where it is needed, and cures at once all the ills and troubles that come of years of misuse of the functions, for it has been an absolute success in all cases. A simple request to the State Medical Institute, 1934 Elektron Building, Ft. Wayne, Ind., will bring you one of these free trial packages, in a plain wrapper, without any marks to identify its contents or where it comes from. The Institute has had so many inquiries from men who are unable to leave the property their business to be treated. leave home or their business to be treated, that it has perfected this splendid home treatment and sends it in free trial packages to all parts of the world to show just how easy and simple it is to be cured at home of any sexual weakness when this marvelous new sexual discovery is employed. The Institute makes no restrictions and any man who writes will receive by mail a free trial of this wonderful remedy absolutely free. Those who write need have no fear of any publicity, as the State Medical Institute is an old established Institution, incorporated by the State for 50 years.

# **Blood Poison Cured Free**

## The Remedy is Sent Absolutely Free to Every Man or Woman Sending Name and Address.

A celebrated Indiana Physician has discovered the most wonderful cure for Blood Poison ever known. It quickly cures all such indications as mucous patches in the mouth, sore throat, copper colored spots, ulcerations on the body and in hundreds of cases where the hair and eyebrows had fallen out and the whole skin was a mass of boils, pimples and ulcers. this wonderful specific has completely changed the whole body into a clean, perfect condition of physical health.

William McGrath, 48 Guilford St., Buffalo, N. Y., says: "I am a well man to-day where a year ago I was a total wreck. Several doctors had failed to cure me of blood poison. I was rid of my sores and my skin became smooth and natural in two weeks, and after completing the treatment there was not a sore or pimple on my body, and to-day I am absolutely well. I give you permission to use my name and I will

answer all inquiries from suffering men." Every railroad running into Ft. Wayne brings scores of sufferers seeking this new and marvelous cure and to enable those who cannot travel to realize what a truly marvelous work the doctor is accomplishing they will send free to every sufferer a free trial package of the remedy so that everyone can cure themselves in the privacy of their own home. This is the only known treatment that cures this most terrible of all diseases. Address the State Medical Institute, 3905 Elektron Building, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Do not hesitate to write at once and the free trial package will be sent sealed in plain package.

### The Family Doctor.

omany inquiries are received by COMFORT concerning the health of the family that a column will be devoted to answering them. The remedies and advice here given are intended only for simple cases; serious cases should be referred to physicians, not to us. Address The Family Doctor. Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

O. S. B., Van Wert, Ohio.—"Yellow janders," as it is sometimes called, though "jaundice" is the proper term, is a disease that requires a physician's attention, ordinarily, but in a less pronounced form, when it is a little more than an aggravated attack of biliousness, it may be self-treated, and this rather as a prevention than a cure. To begin with, you should take regular exercise in the open air and eat plain, nourishing and easily digestible food, and do not eat too much. Digestible food is such as you can digest, which you may know only by trying, and can not be known any other way, because what may be digestible food to one person is not to another. As a medicine which is also a remedy for liver trouble and dropsy get the following prescription filled at your druggist's: Eightounces infusion of dandelion; one-half ounce extract of dandelion; two drachms carbonate of soda; six drachms tartrate of potassa; eight drachms tincture of rhubarb; one and one-half ounces tincture of henbane. Dose, atablespoonful every two hours. This may be just what you need, but if it is not, you can not do better than put yourself in a physician's care and do what he tells you.

yourself in a physician's care and do what he tells you.

Pleased Subscriber, Crestline, Ohio.—Enlargement of the glands of the neck is too serious a matter to be treated through a column of this kind. Consult your physician. (2) Not knowing of the causes of your red and rough skin, it is rather difficult to prescribe. Diet and exercise, with judicious washing are always of good effect. Some of the advertised medicines for cutaneous affections are excellent. A glycerine varnish left on the face over night may produce good results. It is made of four parts of yolk of egg, (by weight), rubbed in a mortar with five parts of glycerine. This applied to the skin makes a coating which protects it from the irritating effects of the air. It is readily washed off. (3) The use of hair removers is not recommended. As they are frequently used, however, we give you one which is said to be very effective, and no more harmful than any of the others: Sulphydrate of soda, one hundred grains; chalk, three hundred grains. Make into a thin paste with water and apply to hairy part. After a few moments scrape off with a blunt edged knife. The mixture destroys the hair and the knife scrapes it off. It is effective but is not permanent.

H. K. L., Franklin, Ky.—First keep your boy awayfrom gun powder. Since it is too late for that ad-

H. K. L., Franklin, Ky.—First keep your boy away from gun powder. Since it is too late for that advice, you may find the following of benefit in removing the discolorations: Smear the scorched surface with glycerine applied on a feather, then apply cotton wadding and cover with oiled silk. This remedy has been known to remove all discolorations from a powder-burned face that was almost solid blue.

Mrs. D. O. F., Jackson, Wyo.—Oil of brown paper is an oid-fashioned remedy for burns, which used to be considered very good. It is made by dipping thick brown paper into the best salad (olive) oil and burning the paper on a plate and catching the oil. Apply to the burn and keep protected from the air.

Old Man, Mauston, Wis.—There are several simple remedies for running sores on the legs. One is to wash them in brandy and apply elder leaves, changing twice a day. This is said to dry them up effectually. Another remedy is to poultice with rotten apples. These are for local applications; with them you should take a good dose of Epsom or other salts every morning before breakfast, and diet yourself.

Smoker Bockdale Pa—The capter or plears in

Smoker, Rockdale, Pa.—The canker or ulcers in your mouth are no doubt the result of too much tobacco. Smoke less, and a wash of carbolic acid or permanganate of potash will prove effective in removing them. Put one part of acid or permanganate to one hundred parts of water. Do not swallow any of the wash. Both are poison if taken internally.

swallow any of the wash. Both are poison if taken internally.

Hoosier, Shoals, Ind.—There is no better remedy for ague than quinine, but in your neighborhood, possibly you need something more vigorous. An excellent remedy, and what is said to be a cure, as far as the person and not the locality are concerned, is compounded as follows: To five teaspoonfuls of water, add fifty drops tincture gelseminum and ten grains of quinine. Shake well before using and administer one teaspoonful in a wineglass of sugar and water every two hours. This medicine may affect your head and eyesight and make you weak, but these symptoms will pass away if you discontinue the use of the medicine, and you will be in very fair condition, if not entirely relieved. These directions must be followed carefully as gelseminum is dangerous if used after its effects have become apparent.

Mother, Santiago, Mo.—A simple and safe vermifuge is powdered iron rust. It expels the worms and acts as a tonic and strengthener. From ten to forty grains may be given to a child from five to seven years old, and a quarter of an ounce to an adult. Give it in molasses or in beer, and follow it with an aperient.

Guardian, Wilton, Maine.—Whooping cough is not dangerous, except in extreme cases, if properly

It with an aperient.

Guardian, Wilton, Maine.—Whooping cough is not dangerous, except in extreme cases, if properly attended to. A safe remedy is composed of one scruple carbonate of potassa; one grain cochineal dissolved in six ounces of water sweetened with sugar. Dose: one teaspoonful three times a day for children of four years and upwards, and half as much for younger children. To be taken before meals.

meals.

Farmer, Waterloo, Ala.—Lockjaw is a disease resulting from microbes, and these are especially numerous and dangerous in the ground, ordinary loam. A nail that has lain in the earth about the house or stable will, if run into the flesh, almost invariably produce lockjaw in man or beast. There is no sure cure for it, but a remedy which may prevent it, and will certainly greatly relieve it, is warm turpentine poured directly into the wound wherever it may be located. Of course a physician should be called at once. Never wait a moment, thinking it will amount to nothing, if you wound yourself in any way with iron or other hard substance that has been lying in the ground. And if you have any cut places or other open wounds on your hands or feet, be careful how you get earth into them.

into them.

Lady, Versailles, Conn.—An effective remedy for ordinary sick stomach and vomiting is made by mixing twenty-four drops creosote, one drachm each white sugar and gum arabic with three ounces of water. Take a teaspoonful every two hours of water. Take a tea until vomiting ceases.

until vomiting ceases.

Cardemon, Napoleon, Ohio.—We have given above a remedy for ague, but your case seems to be beyond the reach of medicine, and there is no relief for you except to remove to some part of the country where ague does not exist. There are such places in Ohio, and in every state in the Union—plenty of them. In fact, ague districts in this country are the exception, not the rule. You will never be well where you are, and the sooner you get away the better will be your chances for ultimate recovery.

J. K., Overbrook, Kans.—Vours is a simple control.

J. K., Overbrook, Kans.—Yours is a simple case of overwork. You may think that you can work as you say you do, and be well, but you can not, and you will either have to rest or die. It is entirely with you, and if you think it is better to kill yourself trying to make more money, than it is to live and enjoy a smaller amount, we have no further advice to give.



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SEND US \$1.00 deposit, state if the \$4.35 give length of barrel and gauge desired, and we will send this guaranteed long distance single barrel shotgan C.O. D., by express, subject to examination, you to pay the express agent pert gun makers, every part and plece fitted per feet and reinforced so it cannot shoot loose or shaky, strong rigid steel frame built extra solid to withstand the use of any NITRO 
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The above list is selected from thousands of names arranged alphabetically in a little book entitled "COMFORT'S LIST OF HEIRS." The names represent persons who have either been advertised for in a daily newspaper in the United States or Great Britain as heirs to money or property or in whose names there stands unclaimed estates in the British Court of Chancery.

### FORTUNES ARE WAITING FOR PEOPLE TO CLAIM THEM.

Thousands of persons living in the United States, and in fact all over the world, have been and are being advertised for to claim money or property, and very large amounts are awaiting the claims of the persons advertised for, or their Next-of-Kin Heirs and Legal Representatives. As these advertisements in most cases appear but once or twice and in one or two papers only, they are never seen by the persons interested, who are in consequence entirely ignorant that they are entitled to any money or property. COMFORT has already on file thousands of these advertisements, and the names of persons so advertised for will be found in "COMFORT'S LIST OF HEIRS."

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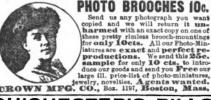
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### A Game of Confidence

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HENRY DOBBINS

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HEN the police court reporter of the great city mewspaper slipped around into the cell room of the police station he did it with the hope that he might find something to write about for his readers the ning of the hard benches, with one exception. This exception was a sharp-eyed man evidently not long a prisoner and waiting for some friend to come to his rescue with bail. He was peering through the bars in an eager, curious kind of a way.

"Ah," said the reporter in the same tone he would have used if he had found a new dollar in the street, "how are you? What are you dody in merel" to be bailed out," he replied.

The prisoner eyed him as if he were some one trying to catch him napping.

"I beg your pardon," said the reporter with mock apologies. "I didn't know whether you were in for something or merely because you only looked like you ought to be."

The prisoner began to laughso immoderately that the prisoners near him trying to sleep on their hard beds were disturbed and rose on their elbows to swear at the laughter.

"By low," he went on after a minute, "that he had been to be a supprised it to the them to be a supprised of the cell," he added as he sat down on his bench. "You see I can't very well invite you to come in and sit here with me, but I'll tell, you how it was. You're a reporter, of course."

The reporter admitted the mild impeachment. "You can't help being what you are any more than I can help being what you are any more than I can help being what you are any more than I can help being what you are any more than I can help being what you are any more than I can help being what you are any more than I can help being what you are any more than I can help being what you are any more than I can help being what you are any more than I can help being what you are any more than the supprised of the course

"As you know, Philadelphia is a mighty nice place for prayer meetings and matters of that kind, so my partner and me lit out for the Pennsylvania depot and grabbed the first train we could, holding on to the carpet bag which we had wrapped up in a newspaper. We emptied it as soon as we got a chance and stuck the money which was done up in bundles in our pockets. If his wife's photo was there we didn't see it, but we did see some packages of the rankest smelling stuff I ever stuck nose to, that I suppose he put in to preserve the money with. I know it made us sick and sickened half the people in the car but we didn't dare give ourselves away by examining the bundles, and we couldn't throw the precious money out of the window. We just had to stick to it and keep mum till we got to Jersey City where we dropped off the train before it had stopped, and slipped around to a quiet place where we could divide our find and scatter for safety. The plan we had laid out was all right, but when it come to the division part of it would not work at all. My partner was agreeable and so was I, but Fill be roasted if there was anything for us to to a quiet place where we could divide our find and scatter for safety. The plan we had laid out was all right, but when it come to the division part of it would not work at all. My partner was agreeable and so was I, but I'll be roasted if there was anything for us to divide. The foxyy old hayseed had worked us instead of us working him, and he not only got his supper and a whole lot of drinks at our expense, but he had insulted us besides, for the bundles that we thought had money in them, had brown paper that had been soaked to some the force of the bundles that we thought had money in them, had brown paper that had been soaked to some the force of the solution of the bundles that we thought had money in the bundles that we thought had been soaked to some the force of the solution of the bundles that we thought had money in them, had brown paper that had been soaked to some the force of the solution of t

in the worst smelling stuff I ever stuck my nose to, and in one of them was a note in ong red letters which said: 'When you fish for hayseed get the right kind of bait.' We just looked at each other, and we was that sore if we had that old shark and deceiver there we would have done him up to the Queen's taste, and his bones never would have fertilized the soil of Pennsylvania. See?"

"What became of him and his real money?" inquired the reporter, who saw quite clearly. "How do I know?" laughed the prisoner. "When a man in my business loses a good thing he don't usually go 'round trying to discover who has found it, does he?"

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## Love Stories! Stories of Mystery!! Stories of Adventure!!!

## Or Who Killed Kathleen O'Neal.

By May Agnes Fleming.

This is one of the most interesting stories we have ever read. It commences in the October number of COMFORT, and we are certain that those who once commence to read it will be the commence to read it will be the commence to read it will be seen that the opening chapter to the opening chapter to the last. month's instalment appears. It is a story of We predict that this will be one of the most prairies and tells of the adventure of the hero venture of "Tom and Florence" will be equally love, murder and intrigue.

### Under Love's Spell, A Girl's Vengeance; Or, The Crime at Hazel Hall.

By Etta W. Pierce.

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### Jack Harkaway Out West Among the Indians. Or the Fortunes of a Young

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## Successful Paul, Street Merchant.

By Horatio Alger, Jr.

interested in the fortunes of "Successful Paul."

## Some Special Articles Which Will Appear in Early Numbers.

### THE MACHINERY OF CONGRESS.

BY WALDON FAWCETT.

This is a most interesting article by a well known magazine writer. Mr. Fawcett compares the United States Senate and the House of Representatives to small rival towns. Each has a bank, a post office, fire and police departments, electric lighting systems, restaurants, barber shops, libraries and other necessities of a modern community. The article gives an inside account of the doings of Congress and contains much that will be new to our readers. The article is illustrated from photographs.

### UNCLE SAM'S SEED DISTRIBUTION.

By Our Washington Correspondent.

Almost all rural residents in the United States are deeply interested in the great free distribution of flower and vegetable seeds made each year from Washington under the direction of the United States Department of Agriculture. Only those, however, who have visited the Department in Washington appreciate the vastness of this enterprise. This article is illustrated by photographs showing the ingenious machines each of which fill and seal seventy envelopes a minute.

## Forestry as a Profession for Young Men.

BY GIFFORD PINCHOT.

A new career open to American youth is that of forestry. The Department of Agriculture at Washington has organized a Bureau of Forestry, and one of the greatest difficulties it has to contend with is the scarcity of men suitably trained to fill the position. Mr. Pinchot, who has written this article especially for COMFORT, is the greatest authority on forestry in this country. When only twenty-seven years old he laid out Vanderbilt's famous park at Biltmore.

### Opportunities in Cuba for the American Farmer. BY ALBERT G. ROBINSON.

Mr. Robinson is one of the few Americans who know Cuba almost as well as their native land. He has visited Cuba when the country was prosperous and when it was poor. In this article he shows the opportunities for the American farmer in a land where there are no long cold winters, where the farmer needs no woodpile, and where there are no paths to shovel on cold winter mornings and no milking to be done with half frozen fingers.

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A Writing Tablet without End.

A Labor and Money Saver.

For Scholars, Business Men, Bankers, in fact every human being no matter what he or she is doing has some use for a writing table. Comfort offers this article on its merits, and they are so many that you will at once appreciate its value. It is useful in so many ways that but a few will be mentioned, others will suggest themselves.

THE DANGEROUS SLATE. So many instances of fatal results from the use of slates and slate pencils that the use of the old-fashioned slate has been forbidden in a great many States and in other States they have been abolished from the schools. Ordinary tablets of writing paper suitable for school work are an endless expense to the parent of one or more scholars, but to assist in education they must be provided, for where is the parent who will have an ignorant child when in these days of plenty most every necessity to assist in learning can be secured reasonably?

will have an ignorant child when in these days of plenty most evereasonably?

EDUCATE AND SAVE. Here's where we hope to appeal to our readers. A COMFORT Writing Tablet like our illustration containing one roll of paper eight inches long and two inches in diameter is sufficient for one year as the tablet does not allow waste and only the required amount of paper is used.) The tablet itself is absolutely indestructible, will go through a school boy row and come out on top sound and whole.

EARN AND OWN FOR YOURSELF. The bright boy or girl don't live who has not got the "get up and get" to secure enough subscribers to COMFORT before school to earn one of these "COMFORT" Writing Tablets, and where is the scholar who would not prefer to have one of these New Idea Tablets, earned by their own hands, than an ordinary block of paper bought at the store.

by their own hands, than an ordinary block of paper bought as the store.

But scholars are not the only ones among our readers needing this useful and economical tablet. Think of having it near a telephone, in the kitchen for grocery memorandum, around factories, lumber mills and railroads. Its usefulness and great convenience suggest its use to all of us. Where they tories, lumber mills and railroads. Its usefulness and great convenience suggest its use to all of us. Where they are in use they are very popular. We want you to have one and to have it NOW. Our fliustration gives some idea of its appearance and it is so very simple that a child five years old can use it as well as older persons. The tablets are made of hard wood and the metal parts are nickeled steel. We send each tablet well packed in a box, prepaying all expense for express or postage through to your home under the following introductory offer:

Club Offer Practude of only four yearly subscribers to Comport at 25c. each we send one comsame rate we will send tablet and two rolls of paper. A year's supply of paper and the tablet will last forever. We will furnish additional rolls as you require them. One roll for one new yearly subscriber to Comport.

Address COMPORT, Augusta, Maine.

PNEUMATIC RAPID-FIRE RIFLE.



using shot that can be obtained anywhere at a trifling expense, also shoots darts making it desirable for outdoor target practice or parlor amusement or it-can be used in any part of the house with perfect safety, making a practical and entertaining form of evening amusement for the boys and girls as well as older folks. There is no smoke, odor or dust from this gun, it is endorsed by army officers as the best mechanical rifle ever produced and the possession of one of our accurate shooting air rifles makes a boy manly and affords him an excellent means of successfully competing with his chums for marksman's honors as well as teaching him the use of a rifle. Remember this is a combination gun, so your boy should have one be he old or young. If he is sick in the house he can shoot darts and keep out of mischief or go into the woods for game and get robust and healthy besides.

SPECIAL. Send at once for sample copies of our big monthly and subscribtion blanks and canvass amoghe the neighbors. For a club of four year, subscribers at the popular price of 25c. each, \$1.00 in all, we wins send one of these King Pneumatic Rifles as a present, all charges paid, guaranteeing absolute satisfaction.

Remember the above is a real gun nearly three feet long. It looks like a gun and shoots like a gun.

## THE "LIGHTNING" CAN OPENER



HOW TO GET ONE. We are anxious to have our magazine COMFORT go into a lot of new homes that people unfamiliar will learn how which of a Comfort its monthly visit will be to them. As an introductory price we will send it one year for 25c. Send us only one yearly subscriber to COMFORT and we will reward you with a Lightning Can Opener for so doing.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Is A Most Marvelous Invention. Its

is A most Marvelous Invention. Its answers to your questions are quickly given. Its replies to Love, Business and Troubles are immediate and accurate. It is so arranged that it will forecast your future and tell you what you want to know if you but ask it. Being constructed on strictly scientific principles the adjustable horn acts as a medium of speech. You talk to it as though it was alive and its answers are revealed to you as though of the same breath. The action of your lips and your voice bring about startling and magical response. As an oracle or simple entertainer there is nothing like it. Your friends will all be delighted with you in its power to please as well as to inform you all about matters that you have before been unable to have answered. It is a money or you can act as our agent and sell the Magic Fortune Teller to others. If you desire to know if Fortune or Misfortune is lurking about you, if you are to marry or not, if yoy and pleasure is to be your lot through life, or if you will gain what you least expect, or anything else that now puzzles you, just direct your thought and conversation to this Magic Fortune Teller and beautifully made, handsomely nickeled. Being ao entirely new invention we want to

versation to this Magic Fortune Teller there is nothing to get out of order and they will last a life time. Being an entirely new invention we want to introduce quickly and therefore offer them FREE. We will send one as a sample securely packed in a box all charges paid, if you secure but one new 25c. trial year subscription to our monthly. We enter the subscription you send for your friend for a whole year and send the Fortune Teller to you as a free reward.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

## HIGH GRADE NINE RIB MANDOLIN.



There is no musical instrument giving more delightful strains of soft, sweet music than a Mandolin. This is particularly so of this instrument we offer, in fact it is made so well and thoroughly that the factory could not continue on the meager profits. The materials entering into the make up of this instrument are all first quality, selected prepared woods, two kinds, Mahogany and Maple, in two colors, carefully put together with a fancy inlay between each strip and around sound hole, imitation tortoise shell guard plate, rosew ad finger board, inlaid pearl positions, nickle tail piece and trimmings, eight strings together with tortoise shell picker, green bag and instruction book, a complete outfit that is bound to delight. This mandolin embodies the perfect and ingenious form of an original instrument brought to this country many years ago, its perfect shape is an exact copy art is covered by several patents. This you should consider as you can not get the same pure sweet resonance from instruments of inferior make and it is just these things that go to make a Mandolin attractive.

For a club of only 10 yearly trial subscribers to our magazine at 25c. each per year we will send our magazine to each a whole year and give you one of the mandolins as a free reward for your effort.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Given as a Free Reward for a Club of Only 10 New Subscribers.

### A GREAT WINTER'S GAME.

## THE POPULAR GAME OF TABLE TENNIS

also called Wick-Waff and Ping-Pong, has the favor this season and every one everywhere is playing morning, noon and night. Parties are in order and the fascination for the game catches the average person of any age. The game is played on any size table, a dining table is most suitable, and the outfit consists of a net, two rackets and balls. The young people and old people all want to play and become experts. It can be played in the house, on the veranda or on the grass. Any place is desirable where a suitable table can be placed with plenty of light. There is something indescribably fascinating about the game, and thousands play who never cared for or would play Tennis. Next winter Table Tennis will be the only home amusement. Even now the rich people who have their own private billiard rooms have these Table Tennis Sets and are playing the game on their Billiard or Pool Table and find great amusement and pleasure. Every one in the cities is playing and talking "Ping-Pong." You want to be up to date and have a set in the home to entertain your visitors with. We have several sets to offer, one for the young people or beginners, the other for more advanced players and older persons.

GLUB OFFER. For a club of only four yearly subwe will send, all charges prepaid, one complete Table Tennis Set. For a club of three yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each, we will send prepaid the complete Juvenile Set.

A light grade regulation.

A Tournament Set. A high grade regula-tion Table Tennis Set with rubber covered "professional" bats and full length net of proper height with adjustable holders to fit any table. A regular \$3.00 store set packed in a wooden box with hinged cover and brass fastener, stained with green, an ornament in any house. For this set we require a club of 9 yearly subscribers to COMFORT at 25c. each, \$2.25. This includes the express charges to all points.

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

## 20th Century MUSICAL WONDER.

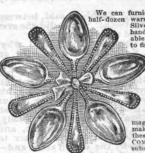


With little practice any one can produce the most charming music on this latest of musical wonders The Magic Harmonophoue. It is a complete Orchestra and Pull Brass Band all in one. It is a delightful instrument to play upon. Every one knows what the large horn used on a Phonograph is for, it is to increase, modulate,

doors so that a light voice can be carried fully a mile and distinctly understood. The same principle has been used in producing the Harmonophone. We take the very best quality and sweetest toned Harmonica that is made and attach it to the Nickle Metai "Phone?" which is so arranged that the notes coming from the Harmonica are carried around the bell of the Phone which produces the most melodious notes that can emerge from a Silver Nickle hora. Any one who can play a common mouth organ can operate this great wonder and by manipulating the hand over the mouth of the Phone the most startling and beautiful effects can be produced. The single, double and triple "tongueing" feat is delightfully performed when the Harmonophone is used and with each instrument we send special instructions how to get perfect results and teach you how to play to perfection any familiar air in a highly original and brillant manner. You can get so much music from this instrument that you can give concerts, play for company or turnisa dance music even for the whole crowd and as the mouth organs can be detached from the Phone they will last a lifetime and you can thus play in several different keys by only having one Phone.

SPECIAL OFFEER. If you will send us a club of only two trial 25c. yearly subscriptions, we will send our magazine one year to each and the Harmonophone and full instructions to you postpaid in a strong wood box.

## **FREE Silver Spoons.**



SPECIAL OFFER. year to the address and to you we will senu as a spoons. Address Spoons. For a club of two you can earn a dozen Spoons. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

### Heroes Are Made of Good Stuff SO IS THIS

## ALL METAL HERO KNIFE.



SPECIAL. Send only one 25c. yearly subscription to this monthly magazine and we will send one Knife to you as a free premium.

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

### Under Love's Spell.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

desolation, since he was not there.

"Give you good-even, my pretty Kathleen," said a soft, low voice that Kathleen knew well, and a whiff of scented cigar-smoke puffed in her face. "On my life, you make a very charming picture, my dear. I never wished I were an artist until this moment. Come here to see the sun go down, eh? Ah, well!" with a lazy sigh. "Neat thing in the way of sunsets, too. How's the dear old dad?"

Kathleen rose up with a bound, flushing rosy red, and dropping an embarrassed little courtesy. A tall man stood before her—a gentlemanly looking personage of thirty or thereabouts, well dressed, well looking, with a shadowy resemblance in his light-blue eyes and fair hair to the gold-haired, azure-eyed darling of her heart. He was not one hundredth part so handsome, but he vaguely resembled Lord Roderick Desmond, and was that young lordling's third cousin—the penniless son of a penniless younger brother, and a barrister at law, of Lincoln's Inn, London.

He looked much more like an Englishman than an Irish Desmond, with his carefully trained side-whiskers, his slow, languid voice, and his affectation of utter indifference to all things under the sun.

"Mr. Gerald!" Kathleen cried; "you here! I

than an Irish Desmond, with his carefully trained side-whiskers, his slow, languid voice, and his affectation of utter indifference to all things under the sun.

"Mr. Gerald!" Kathleen cried; "you here! I didn't know—I thought you were—"

"At home, as I should be—very likely. But hard work all summer has used me up, and I've taken a run over to Clontart to freshen for the autumn and winter campaign. 'Men must work and women must weep'; and they avail themselves of their prerogative, the dear, moist creatures, to the full, I must say, equally at weddings and deaths. You don't know the song of the 'Three Fishers,' I dare say, Kathleen, but you look as though you had gone in for the weeping business yourself, of late. Six weeks ago I saw you as blooming as one of your own Irish roses; now a belle of five seasons could hardly look more chalky and haggard than my wild, fresh Wicklow rosebud. Is it speedy consumption, Kathie, or a more fatal disease—crossed in love?"

He took the cigar from between his lips and bent toward her, a keenly knowing look in his small, light-blue eyes.

He and little Kathleen knew each other well—from the days when he, atall, hobbledehoylof sixteen, had been "coached" by old O'Neal, a decayed gentleman and a thorough classical scholar,—and had romped with the prettiest four-year-old fairy in the county.

Old O'Neal had been proud of his clever pupil; and Gerald Desmond was a regular visitor at the cottage of his old preceptor during his flying visits to Clontarf.

He had seen Rory and Kathleen together more times than he could count, and he had pulled his long, blonde whiskers and smiled sardonically at Rory's boyish devotion and Kathleen's innocent blushes.

He bent over Kathleen now, and saw the red blood rising to the low, fair brow, and the hot mist that filled the soft blue eyes.

"Rory hasn't been to the cottage for the past six weeks, I dare swear," he said, carelessly. "He is taken up by night and by day, sleeping and waking, body and soul, with that dark-eyed donna from old Castil

and waking, body and soul, with that darkeyed donna from old Castile. Seen her yet,
Kathleen?"

He could see the tempestuous heaving of
Kathleen's breast, the passionate cloud of jealousy that darkened her whole fair face.

"Yes; I have seen her—again and again and
again!"

"And she is beautiful as one's dreams of the
angels, eh? She is lovely as an houri, and—you
hate her as Old Nick hates holy water!"

"Mr. Gerald! I?"

"You, Kathleen—for this reason: Rory has
gone mad for her. Ah, what an impetuous,
hot-headed, reckless, hare-brained fellow that
is! On my word, it takes my breath away only
to think of him! And impetuosity is so very
pronounced, and in such excessive bad style!
But he is madly in love; and really the Senorita
d'Alvarez is very well worth loving—supposing
that anything is worth getting the steam up to
such a pitch here below. She's a royal beauty;
she's the heiress of a millionaire, with shares
and bonds, and consols and coupons, and
castles in Spain and bank stock in England.
Only it would be such an infinite deal of
trouble, I would fall in love with her and marry
her myself."

"I wish you would," Kathleen said, between
her clinched, pearly teeth. "Why did she ever
leave Spain? Why did she ever come—"

"Here—between you and Rory? Ah! why,
indeed? You see, Kathie, the don married an
English woman, rich beyond all telling, and
beautiful as—her daughter. Donna Inez has
spent her whole life in a Spanish convent, in
Valadana, I believe, and Don Pedro and his
English donna went in for high life in our
modern Vanity Fair—Paris. Then the English
lady dies, and the Spanish papa waxes lonely,
goes to the convent, claims his daughter, and
starts with her for England, to present her to
her English relatives by the distaff side, and—
the ship catches fire off the Irish coast, and the
crew take to the boats, and the two passengers
are forgotten in the hubbub, and Master Rory
and his yacht arrive in the nick of time to
bear off the shrieking beauty from the devouring flames—a modern St. George and th

Dragom. You've not read many novels in your life-time, my Kathleen, and you're all the better for it; but if you had, you wouldn't need me to tell you the sequel to this delightful romance. The curtain invariably falls, after a score or two of such tremendous sensations, on the crowning folly of man—marriage."

"Marriage!" Kathleen repeated, her breath coming short and quick—"marriage, Mr. Gerald! Will Lord Roderick marry her?"

"I think it extremely likely. As I said, he is in a state of utter imbecility about her, and she—well, those impassioned, tall, black-eyed, dark-skinned, fiery-blooded southrons are generally the very devil either to love or hate. And Rory's thews and sinews, his six foot of stature, his yellow locks and his blue eyes have made their mark already. The lady's good-looking, as you know, Kathleen, and Donna De Castilia is susceptible. In spite of papa's recent death, and her trailing crape and sables, she looks graciously already on the future Earl of Clontarf. Yes, Miss O'Neal, I think I will be called upon to draw up the marriage settlements for my lordly cousin before the world wags twelve months longer."

She was tearing up the turf with a flerce, suppressed excitement that must find vent somehow. Gerald Desmond glanced at her askance.

"And if I were you, Kathleen, I would take

"And if I were you, Kathleen, I would take the initiative, I would marry Morgan out of

TRADE MARK

Gives 9 E

Swansons' "5-DROP5" is an external and internal remedy that cures all diseases of the blood, nerves and muscles. Applied externally it stops all pain as if by magic. Taken internally it kills all germs of disease, purifies the blood, stimulates the heart action and builds up the entire system to a strong, healthy condition. Those who are nervous, weak or wasting in strength and vitality will find quick relief by the use of "5-DROPS." It is the greatest remedy ever discovered for sleeplessness and all nervous ailments. "5-DROPS" is a health-restoring, life-giving blood purifier, tonic and nerve builder that fortifies the whole system and enables it to successfully resist an attack of disease. Thousands of people who were in the clutches of some terrible disease and whose case had been pronounced incurable by physicians, have found early relief from pain and have been restored to a perfect state of health by this marvelous remedy. "5-DROPS" will cure indigestion. "5-DROPS" builds up a weak stomach with walls strong as steel. "5-DROPS" cures backache and makes kidney trouble disappear. You will not suffer from Scrofula, Eczema or other skin eruptions if you use "5-DROPS." The worst cases of Rheumatism and Neuralgia are cured by "5-DROPS." It is the best remedy in the world for Headache, Toothache and Earache. No other remedy will cure a cough or cold so quickly as "5-DROPS." Catarrh and Asthma sufferers will find relief and a cure by the use of this most remarkable remedy. Every person should keep a bottle of "5-DROPS" on hand ready for use in case of emergency. It will prevent suffering and save doctor's bills.

"5-DROPS" is a household remedy that is needed in every home in the land. No other medicine can take the place of "5-DROPS," because nothing else can do its work.

You may be well today, but stricken tomorrow. Get a bottle of "5-DROPS" at once, so as to be ready in case of an attack of disease.

TO-DRUPS' NEVER FAILS TO CURE RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, Kidney Trouble, Lumbago, Sciatica, Bout, Asthma, Catarrh, Nervousness, Nervous and Neuralgio Headache, Toothache, Earache, Heart Weakness, Paralysis, Greeping Numbness, Sleeplessness, Scrofula, Eczema, and all Blood Diseases. Best remedy in the world for Coughs, Colds, Sore RHEUMATISM. SWANSON'S "5-DROPS" cures Rheumatism. Swanson's "5-DROPS" cures Rheumatism in any of its forms or stages of development. Applied externally it affords instant relief from pain. Taken internally it rick the blood, tissues and joints of the uric acid and other poisonous matter, which are the causes of the disease. It never fails to cure Rheumatism, Sciatica or Lumbago. It has effected more cures of the above named ailments than all other remedies combined. It has never failed to cure even the most obstinate cases.

NEURALGIA. Neuralgic Pains cease at once when "S-DDODG" to the carly relief and effectually cures.

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NEURALGIA. Neuralgic Pains cease at once when "5-DROP5" is used. Nothing else ever discovered will afford such early relief or effect a cure so quickly. In neuralgia the nerves are inflamed, they throb and shoot from congestion and arrested circulation. "5-DROPS" hastens circulation, quiets the nerves and the pain stops.

KIDNEY TROUBLE. Liver Complaint and Kidney Trouble can be cured by "5-DROPS," It is the most effectual remedy ever discovered for these diseases. A single dose will give immediate results. It goes direct to the spot. It keeps the livercells properly at work. It restores the kidneys to their normal condition by removing the acids which are the cause of the trouble.

ACHES AND PAINS. All bodily Aches and Pains stop immediately when "5-DROPS" is used. "5-DROPS" applied externally stops those awful backaches, removes instantly the inflammation caused by sprains or bruises and quickly affords relief to those who are suffering from Nervous or Neuralgic Headaches. It is the greatest pain killer ever discovered.

All that is required to keep in perfect health is to have the disease germs destroyed, the blood purified and the nerves and muscles strengthened to normal condition. That is what "5-DROPS" does, and that is the reason why it will give immediate relief and cure so many different diseases. A test of "5-DROPS" will prove all that we claim, and the trial bottle costs you nothing.

"Gateway to Health" will be mailed to you at once, postpaid, free of charge. Here is an opportunity to test the best household remedy in the world without expense to you.

Certainly nothing can be fairer than this. Write today.

NOTE.—Large Size Bottle "5-DROPS" (300 Doses) will be sent prepaid to any address for \$1.00. If it is not obtainable in your town, order from us direct. AGENTS WANTED.

THE "SWANSON PILL" CURES CONSTIPATION.

SWANSON PILL" CURES CONSTIPATION.

An ideal cathartic pill that cures constipation, stomach troubles, heart-burn, belching, fullness and distress after eating, etc. Causes a natural, healthy action of Bowels, Kidneys and Liver.

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Best remedy in the world for Piles, Burns, Scalds, Boils, Running Sores, Abscesses, Ulcers, Wounds, Ring Worm, Eczema, Acne, Scalp Humors, etc. Gives quick relief in all cases of skin disease.

COUGHS, COLDS, LA GRIPPE. To Cure Colds Crippe and Bronchitis use "5-DROPS." It cures La Grippe by immediately destroying the germs which cause the disease. "5-DROPS" taken at bedtime and in the morning before breakfast will relieve and cure the most severe cough. It will break up a cold quicker than any other medicine.

PRICE OF PILLS, PREPAID BY MAIL, 25 CENTS PER BOX.

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NOTICE—Swanson's "5-DROPS" is a household remedy that every family should have, and we advise our readers to take advantage of the liberal offer made by SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO., and secure A TRIAL BOTTLE FREE OF CHARGE. Cut out the coupon and write them at once.

"Mr. Gerald!"

"Mr. Gerald!"

She turned upon him, her pale cheeks flushing, her eyes flashing in the twilight.

"Don't flare up, you little Celtic pythoness!
Yes, I would. Morgan's an Englishman and an attorney—heinous crimes both, in your eyes and your father's; but for all that, you can't do better. He's well to do; he'll make a lady of you, or a lady on a small scale, and no one need ever apply to you that nasty little word, jilted!"

"Gerald Desmond! How dare you?"

"She turned upon him, her pale cheeks flushing her eyes flashing in the twilight.

"Don't flare up, you little Celtic pythoness!
Yes, I would. Morgan's an Englishman and the service you of the service yourself, or you, or a lady on a small scale, and no one need ever apply to you that nasty little word, jilted!"

"Gerald Desmond! How dare you?"
Gerald Desmond shrugged his shoulders, and smiled. He rarely laughed.

"Coming the tragic muse, eh? Pray, don't excite yourself, my dear. I'm talking like a father to you. I met Morgan down there be yant, as they say here, and he begged me most pitcously to put in a good word for him. You've lost Lord Roderick, you see; and I give you my word, Kathleen, I thought at one time his little flirtation would have ended seriously. But he has gone down beyond hope before the Spanish eyes of the Castilian beauty, and your cake's dough. Marry Morgan, like a good ogirl, and live happy forever after."

She clutched a handful of grass, and flung it passionately over the rocks.

She clutched a handful of grass, and flung it passionately over the rocks.

"Horgan! I hate him!"

"Poor fellow!" said Morgan's intercessor, plaintively. "But per home the seed the passionately over the rocks and states are thousand deaths, I would impring the tragic and the property of the seating of the passionately over the rocks and the seating of the passionately over the rocks.

"Horgan! I hate him!"

"Poor fellow!" said Morgan's intercessor, plaintively. "But you'll marry some one, some time, you know, Kathleen. It's woma's destiny, the end and aim of her whole lifemarriage."

"Horgan! I hate him!"

"Poor fellow!" said Morgan's intercessor, plaintively. "Grant and aim of her whole lifemarriage."

"Horgan! I hate him!"

"Poor fellow!" said Morgan's intercessor, plaintively. "Grant and sellow him and the grant and princess. They will go to make me the passion of the property of the seating of the passion of the passi

bans."
"What do you mean?"
"Why this, little one: the donns is as proud as the deuce—all these high and mighty Spanish beauties are—and as jealous as the devil.
Go up to the castle, insist on an interview, tell her Rory is yours, not hers, that your claim to him is beyond dispute. So it is, you know; he has been courting you ever since he was three feet high. Tell her he loves you

still, and is only after her doubloons. By Jove! Kathleen, she'll drop him like a hot potato."
"Mr. Gerald!"

"Lord Roderick Desmond and Donna Inez," said Gerald Desmond. "Has he asked her already to be his wife? It would be very like him, impetuous that he is; and very like her, passionate and impulsive, to say yes. Well, good night, Kathleen, and pleasant dreams."

He touched his hat carelessly and turned away, humming an old song as he went:

(TRADE MARK)

"'Thou hast learned to love another, Thou hast broken every vow—'"

and each word went through the girl's heart like a knife. Where he had left her, she crouched down, her face hidden in her hands, with the low, dumb moan of a stricken ani-

mal.

Gerald Desmond walked slowly homeward, in the silvery light of the moon, to Clontarf Castle. His pale face was at all times fixedly calm, but his light, cold eyes gleamed with an evil gleam. For he coveted this Spanish beauty with his whole soul, for her rare loveliness, that had fired his cold blood, for her great wealth, that maddened him with covet-

ness, that nad hered his great wealth, that maddened him with covetous desire.

With such a prize as this Spanish princess for a wife there was no eminence in the kingdom that he, with his shrewd brain and crafty cleverness, might not attain.

He hated and envied his cousin, with a bitter and terrible envy, all the more deadly from being so closely hidden; but he had never in his whole life before hated him so vindictively as he did tonight.

"I have hated you in secret for many a year you shallow-brained, mad-headed fool!" he said, with a gleam of devilish malignity in his light eyes; "the time has come to act now. Woo your black-eyed bride—win her if you can. If you ever lead her to the altar, if you ever slip the wedding-circlet on her finger, then 'exite me down an ass!' I love lnez d'Alvarez, and mine she shall be—mine! I have said it, and we Desmonds keep our word. When her wedding-day comes, unlikely as it looks it, and we Desmonds keep our word. When her wedding-day comes, unlikely as it looks now, I will stand at the altar by her side, and you will be—where,—Lord Roderick?"

NOTE:—This interesting story will be con-tinued in the November number of COMFORT. If your subscription expires this month do not fail to send in your renewal subscription or you will miss the November number, as all old subscriptions are now promptly removed on expira-



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